

## Opening Act 2

*Night. Captain discovered singing. Buttercup seated, gazing sentimentally at him. Guinan lurking in the shadows.*

Song: Captain – Fair Moon to Thee I Sing.

**Buttercup:** How Sweetly he carols forth his melody to the unconscious moon! Of whom is he thinking? Of some high-born beauty? It may be! Who is poor Little Buttercup that she should expect his glance to fall on one so lowly! And yet if he knew- if he only knew!

**Captain:** Ah Little Buttercup, still on board? That is not quite right, little one. It would have been more respectable to have beamed down before dusk.

**Buttercup:** True, dear Captain – but the recollection of your sad pale face seemed to chain me to the bridge. I would fain see you smile before I go.

**Captain:** There *(he gives a false smile. Buttercup exits) (Guinan emerges from the shadows)* Ah! Guinan, I fear it will be long before I recover my accustomed cheerfulness, for misfortunes crowd upon me, and all my old friends seemed to have turned against me!

**Guinan:** Do not say 'all', Captain. That were unjust to one at least.

**Captain:** True for she is staunch to me. *(Aside)* If ever I gave my heart again, it would be to such an one as she. *(Aloud)* I am touched to the heart by her innocent regard for me, and were we differently situated, I think I could have returned it. But as it is, I fear I can never be more to her than a friend.

**Guinan:** I understand! You hold aloof from her because you are a Starfleet Captain and she is a lowly interstellar trader. But take care! You forget I am have wisdom garnered from my centuries of life and I can read destinies.

**Captain:** Destinies?

**Guinan:** There is a change in store for you!

**Captain:** A change?

**Guinan:** Aye, Captain – be prepared!

Scene continues with Duet – Captain & Guinan - 'Things are Seldom What They Seem'