

SCENE 2

(MORTICIA'S BOUDOIR)

(Revealing GOMEZ, fencing with LURCH, who holds his foil absolutely still while GOMEZ swipes at it extravagantly.)

GOMEZ

Fight sir, fight like a man! Feel the kiss of my Spanish steel! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Foiled again!

(GOMEZ strikes LURCH's sword down.

LURCH pokes GOMEZ with it.)

Oww! Damn your lightning reflexes!

(GOMEZ retains his sword. MORTICIA enters with a bouquet of yellow flowers.)

MORTICIA

Gomez, look.

GOMEZ

Ugh! Flowers! Who would send something so tasteless?

MORTICIA

(reads the card)

"The most precious gift there is,
More goody-licious than gold,
Is that blessing we call friendship,
Whether new or very old."

GOMEZ

"Goody-licious?" Who talks like this?

(MORTICIA removes the flowers from the stems, During--)

MORTICIA

The Beinekes. Wednesday's friend Lucas and his parents. They're coming for dinner tonight.

GOMEZ

Lucas?

MORTICIA

Yes.

GOMEZ

But Lucas is a boy's name.

MORTICIA

Yes.

GOMEZ

Wednesday has a friend who's a boy?

(They both look at Lurch. Finally--)

MORTICIA

It's nothing, darling. Puppy love.

(hands Lurch the stems)

Put these in water.

(WEDNESDAY enters, carrying her crossbow and a goose with an arrow sticking out of it.)

WEDNESDAY

Mom, Dad, I shot dinner.

MORTICIA

(taking it)

Oh, Wednesday, that's lovely. Wherever did you find it?

WEDNESDAY

Petting zoo.

MORTICIA

Thank you, dear. Come, Lurch - we'll whip up something really special. And this time, we'll actually cook it.

(shares a laugh with Lurch)

Oh, Gomez - *guests for dinner!* Fresh meat!

(They exit. WEDNESDAY looks nervously after them.)

WEDNESDAY

Daddy, I have something very important to tell you.

GOMEZ

What?

WEDNESDAY

Can you keep a secret?

(WEDNESDAY produces a ring from around her neck.)

GOMEZ

Of course.

WEDNESDAY

Look.

GOMEZ

If I didn't know any better I'd say that looked like an engagement ring.

(she just looks at him)

What are you saying?

WEDNESDAY

Oh daddy, Lucas wants to marry me!

GOMEZ

What?!

WEDNESDAY

Lucas Beineke loves me and he wants to marry me.

GOMEZ

Do you want to marry him?

WEDNESDAY

Yes. I think so.

GOMEZ

You think so?

WEDNESDAY

Well, I've never even met his parents, and he's never met mine, and - I just need to be sure.

GOMEZ

That he's the one?

WEDNESDAY

That the families can get along. I mean, he has to know what he's getting into.

GOMEZ

What are you saying?

WEDNESDAY

I'm saying we're who we are, and they're from Ohio.

GOMEZ

(slicing the air with his sword)

Ohio? A swing state!

WEDNESDAY

That's what I mean.

GOMEZ

You're right, this is important. Let's go tell your mother.

WEDNESDAY

No.

GOMEZ

No? But we have to tell your mother -

WEDNESDAY

Daddy, please! She'll ask a lot of embarrassing questions and wreck the whole thing.

GOMEZ

You don't want me to tell your mother you're getting married?

WEDNESDAY

After dinner and we're all friends, then we'll tell her.

GOMEZ

But I've never kept anything from your mother.

WEDNESDAY

(getting desperate)

Daddy, please!

GOMEZ

But—

WEDNESDAY

If you love me.