



Casablanca

Sequence II

Hiding

- * Laszlo and Carl appear in Rick's. They had to flee the resistance meeting, and Laszlo is hurt.
- * Rick makes an excuse to get Carl alone, and asks him to take Ilsa home.
- * Carl is surprised to see her standing in the shadows, but agrees to do as Rick asks.
- * We can contrast this with the scene in which Rick asked Sacha to take Yvonne home. He did the right thing then, but only because he is a decent man. This time, he loves the woman he is sending away.

Appearance versus Reality

- * Rick comes down to the bar to talk to Laszlo.
- * Rick's reflection shows him surrounded by all the paraphernalia of a barman. Is this the real Rick?
- * Laszlo is not fooled by Rick's veneer of cynicism. He, like Capt. Renault, believes that Rick is a better man than he lets on.
- * Laszlo tells Rick that everyone has their destiny and that we cannot escape that which is in store for us.

Sacrifice

- * Laszlo knows there is something between Rick and Ilsa.
- * He nobly asks Rick to ensure she is taken away safely.
- * Laszlo is willing to sacrifice his freedom and his marriage for the woman he loves.
- * The police arrive and arrest Laszlo.
- * 'It seems that destiny has taken a hand.'
- * Rick is cynical and tough once more.
- * Have Laszlo's words touched him at all?

A Bargain

- * The following morning, Rick goes to Capt. Renault to ask that Laszlo be released.
- * He argues that Laszlo's detention is not legal in Unoccupied France.
- * Capt. Renault warns Rick not to help Laszlo escape.
- * 'What makes you think I'd stick my neck out for Laszlo?' This is the old, cynical Rick, but we wonder now if it is the real Rick.
- * Renault is suspicious. He remembers the bet, he knows Rick doesn't like Strasser, and he knows Rick has the letters of transit.
- * Rick admits he does, but says he wants to use them to go to America with Ilsa.
- * Rick tells Renault that if he guarantees his and Ilsa's safe escape from Casablanca, he - Rick - will arrange for him to be able to arrest Laszlo on a serious charge.
- * Renault is pleased at the thought.
- * 'Germany.. Vichy, would be very grateful.'

Preparing to Leave

- * Rick is in *The Blue Parrot* arranging to sell it to Ferrari.
- * Rick insists that his employees are kept on and well paid. He tries to get a raise for Sam, but Ferrari sees through him.
- * Rick appears noble and decent here, while Ferrari's corrupt and seedy side is once again highlighted. He took some of Rick's consignment of cigarettes when the last shipment arrived. Also, he swats a fly again as Rick leaves. This symbolises the ruthless way he deals with anyone who crosses him.