

D'Artagnan Sides:

11.

(PLANCHET runs off.)

START:

TREVILLE (cont.)

What do you want, boy?

D'ARTAGNAN

I have come, monsieur, to join the King's musketeers.

TREVILLE

Oh, you have, have you...? All right, let's see it.

D'ARTAGNAN

See what, monsieur?

TREVILLE

Your letter of introduction. I don't see anyone without a letter of introduction.

D'ARTAGNAN

Yes, of course – but I don't have one. It was stolen.

TREVILLE

Stolen.

D'ARTAGNAN

Oui, monsieur. You see, there was this man in the street...

TREVILLE

Planchet!

(No response. TREVILLE crosses to the door and opens it.)

Planchet!

(He looks around.)

Where is that man?

D'ARTAGNAN

You sent him away, monsieur.

TREVILLE

How the devil did you get in here? I don't see anyone without a letter of introduction!

D'ARTAGNAN

Yes, monsieur, and I had one, I swear...

TREVILLE

Get out!

D'ARTAGNAN

... a letter written by my father, Monsieur D'Artagnan.

(TREVILLE stops suddenly.)

TREVILLE

D'Artagnan? You say your father was Monsieur D'Artagnan?

D'ARTAGNAN

Oui, monsieur.

TREVILLE

From which province?

D'ARTAGNAN

From Gascony, monsieur – like yourself.

TREVILLE

D'Artagnan – my old friend and playmate... And you claim to be young D'Artagnan, his son?

D'ARTAGNAN

I claim it because it is true.

TREVILLE

And what proof do you have of this birthright?

D'ARTAGNAN

This potion I keep about my neck... My father made it from the herbs of our region.

(He pulls a vial from around his neck where it had been hanging from a leather cord. He hands it to TREVILLE who uncorks it and sniffs.)

TREVILLE

Ah, the smells of home. What is this potion's purpose?

D'ARTAGNAN

It miraculously heals any wound that doesn't reach the heart.

TREVILLE

Still, you might have purchased this off a gypsy, for all I know.

(He hands it back.)

What else?

(D'ARTAGNAN pulls out his wallet.)

D'ARTAGNAN

My wallet. That design there is my family crest.

(He hands it to TREVILLE, who holds it up to study it.)

TREVILLE

Easy enough to copy.

(He hands it back.)

What else?

D'ARTAGNAN

The letter of introduction my father wrote...

TREVILLE

That was conveniently stolen.

D'ARTAGNAN

It was not convenient to me! And when I meet that devil with the eye patch again, he will pay!

TREVILLE

Eye patch? Did you say this man wore an eye patch?

D'ARTAGNAN

Oui.

TREVILLE

Left or right eye?

D'ARTAGNAN

Left.

TREVILLE

How tall was he?

D'ARTAGNAN

About my height. And he had no hair.

TREVILLE

(To himself)

Rochefort. I thought you were still in Brussels...

(To D'ARTAGNAN)

How did this man know you carried a letter to me?

D'ARTAGNAN

I may have mentioned it before we began to fight.

TREVILLE

Fight?! You mean you dueled with Rochefort?

D'ARTAGNAN

Oui, monsieur – if that is the devil's name – and I would have won were I not distracted by the beautiful lady.

TREVILLE

Beautiful lady...?

D'ARTAGNAN

The most beautiful woman I have ever seen.

TREVILLE

What did she look like?

D'ARTAGNAN

She was... beautiful. Breathtaking. An angel whose eyes pierced my very soul...

TREVILLE

I was hoping for something less subjective. What color was her hair?

D'ARTAGNAN

The color of burnished copper. In truth, I have never seen its kind.

TREVILLE

Anything else unusual?

D'ARTAGNAN

She was English.

TREVILLE

I knew it! Lady de Winter – no doubt she and Rochefort are hatching some scheme... Did you hear what they discussed?

D'ARTAGNAN

No, monsieur. Unfortunately I was rendered unconscious at the moment of introduction. When I awoke, both were gone and my letter stolen. Monsieur de Treville, if you know where I might find this devil, tell me that I might avenge his duplicity!

TREVILLE

I will not, and if you had any sense you would avoid this man at all costs. He is dangerous.

(PLANCHET enters.)

PLANCHET

Monsieur de Treville, your Three Musketeers have arrived.

TREVILLE

Tell them to get in here!

(PLANCHET gestures off. TREVILLE turns to D'ARTAGNAN.)

Wait over there. This won't take long. **END**

(D'ARTAGNAN moves out of the way. ATHOS, PORTHOS and ARAMIS enter. PLANCHET exits.)

ATHOS

You sent for us, monsieur?

TREVILLE

I certainly did. Which one of you gentlemen wants to tell me what happened last night?

ATHOS

Last night? Why... nothing of note.

ARAMIS

Athos and Porthos played chess – Porthos won, didn't you, Porthos?

PORTHOS

In fourteen moves!

ATHOS

I believe it was fifteen.