(He holds out the box.)

ANNE

You are mistaken, Sire. All twelve diamonds are accounted for here…

(She moves a fold on her dress to reveal two more diamonds.)

The two you hold there make fourteen.

(RICHELIEU steps forward in disbelief. LOUIS turns to him angrily.)

LOUIS

What is the meaning of this, Your Eminence?

RICHELIEU

(Thinking fast)

Well Sire, you see… I wanted to present Her Majesty with these two diamonds but I dared not give them to her myself, so I devised this ruse as a means of persuading her to accept them.

(He takes the box from LOUIS and presents them to ANNE with a deep bow.)

My compliments, Your Highness.

ANNE

Thank you, Cardinal. I will treasure them always, for I’m certain these two diamonds cost you as much as the twelve others cost His Majesty.

(She hands the box to CONSTANCE then turns back to RICHELIEU.)

Now if you’ll excuse me, I believe the first dance belongs to my husband.

(RICHELIEU bows. LOUIS leads ANNE to the center of the ballroom. The music begins and they begin to dance. Others join in. CONSTANCE pulls D’ARTAGNAN aside. During the following, the others dancers serve as background, then begin to drift offstage, leaving CONSTANCE and D’ARTAGNAN alone, with only RICHELIEU as an unseen observer.)

CONSTANCE

These two diamonds…?

D’ARTAGNAN

Richelieu ordered Milady to steal them from Buckingham.
Yet you returned all twelv'e.

CONSTANCE

D'ARTAGNAN
When Buckingham discovered them missing, he ordered duplicates made post-haste.

They must have cost a fortune.

CONSTANCE

D'ARTAGNAN
Buckingham would move heaven and earth for our Queen.

He loves her dearly.

CONSTANCE

D'ARTAGNAN
Almost as much as I love you. Will you meet me tonight? After the ball?

I must attend to her Majesty...

CONSTANCE

D'ARTAGNAN
Tomorrow night, then. Please.

There is a bungalow across the corner from Monsieur D'Estree's home...

CONSTANCE

What time?

D'ARTAGNAN
Ten o'clock tomorrow night.

CONSTANCE

D'ARTAGNAN
Ten o'clock. I shall count the hours. Until then...

(He pulls the wallet out of his pocket and gives it to her)

CONSTANCE

What's this?

D'ARTAGNAN
Something to remember me by until we meet again. This wallet was a gift from my mother.

CONSTANCE

Then I shall treasure it all the more. Goodnight.