

CONCHITA: *(to the conductor)* Ay, that tempo! It could give you a hysterectomy! Ramon, I think you've been drinking too many Coca-Colas.

RICO enters:

RICO: Too fast for you, Conchita? You never had trouble with that tempo when you were younger.

CONCHITA: No. No. The tempo is fine. *(To the CONDUCTOR)* Speed it up a little next time.

RICO: That was good, Conchita.

CONCHITA: Good? That was fabulous! I was fabulous! My muchachos were fabulous!

RICO: Yes. Well done, everybody. You've all worked very hard. Now, I have an announcement. I'm making a change in the show. I've decided to revive the El Bravo number.

CONCHITA: Oh, Rico! You darling! I've been dying to do El Bravo again! But we need very much the rehearsal. The choreography is very tricky and it's been a long time -

RICO: Yes, I know Conchita. And that's why I've decided to give the lead part to our new girl - Lola.

CONCHITA: What?!

RICO: I think it's time you started taking it easy.

CONCHITA: Easy? I will decide when it is time for me to taking it easy. El Bravo is my number, Rico. It made me a star.

RICO: Yes. And now it will do the same for Miss La Mar.

CONCHITA: Rico, you cannot do this.

RICO: I can't do this? Do you forget who you're talking to?

CONCHITA: *(desperate, entre nous)* I know you like this girl. But give her something else - the Havana number! It is fabulous. And I will teach her all the steps.


RICO: Enough. *(To the CAST)* That's all for now. Rehearsals for El Bravo start tomorrow.

*The CAST begins to drift off. A FEW linger.*

CONCHITA: Boy, you've got it bad, don't you?!

RICO: Not at all. It's just that this part is for a . . . younger woman.

CONCHITA: She's never gonna love you, Rico. Not the way I love you.

 RICO: *(after a beat)* You're too old, Conchita. You're just too old.