(DRUNK punches ARAMIS is the face. ARAMIS falls to the ground. Music under as the brawl begins. PORTHOS punches DRUNK. DRUNK staggers backwards into arms of PATRON #1. PATRON #1 pushes him back into the fight. Meanwhile PATRON #2 jumps on PORTHOS’ back and starts boxing his ears. PATRON #3 punches ATHOS, who stumbles back into ARAMIS, who was just getting to his feet. They both fall back to the floor and PATRON #3 jumps on top of them, pinning them there. PATRON #1 grabs ATHOS’s foot, lifts it and bites his leg. ATHOS screams. DRUNK and PORTHOS engage in a standing wrestling match, with PATRON #2 still clinging to PORTHOS’s back. Suddenly three of Richelieu’s GUARDS enter, led by JUSSAC.)

JUSSAC

What is this about? Cease and desist at once!

(He is ignored.)

I said CEASE AND DESIST!

(Fighting stops. Music out.)

The Cardinal’s guards!

(PATRON #2)

(The TAVERN PATRONS scatter. PORTHOS crosses to ATHOS and ARAMIS and helps them to their feet.)

JUSSAC

Well, well, well... what have we here? The King’s musketeers misbehaving in public – and not just any musketeers but Athos, Porthos and Aramis – the famous Three Musketeers.

Tsk, tsk, tsk, gentlemen.

(GUARD #2)

For shame.

(GUARD #3)

JUSSAC

Cardinal Richelieu will be so disappointed when he sees you.

PORTHOS

Cardinal Richelieu...?
ATHOS

What are you talking about, Jussac?

JUSSAC

We are placing you under arrest.

(The THREE GUARDS draw their swords.)

TREVILLE

Wait one moment!

(The THREE GUARDS freeze in the flashback. TREVILLE steps into the scene.)

Do you mean to tell me they drew their swords first?

ARAMIS

Oui, monsieur.

TREVILLE

I see. Well, that changes things a bit. Go on.

(TREVILLE steps out of the flashback. The THREE GUARDS unfreeze and the action resumes.)

JUSSAC

We are placing you under arrest.

ATHOS

Arrest?

ARAMIS

For what reason?

GUARD #2

For creating a disturbance in a public place.

PORTHOS

We were attacked!

ATHOS

(Holding up his leg)
I have the bite mark to prove it!