Get Into the Act, p. 106-108

**Cadillac Meets Pontchartrain**

**Andre** (ON dray): “Greetings! It is 1699 and I welcome you to France. My name is Andre. I am a servant boy in a big house. My master lives near **Paris**. He is an important man in the government who helps plan things for the king. My master mostly works with the French **colonies** (KOL uh neez). His name is **Pontchartrain** (PON shar train).”

“Tonight he is having a special guest for dinner. It is my job to bring wood for the fireplace. The house is made of stone and can be cool much of the year. I keep the fire going and the room cozy warm.”

“I just sit on the floor by the fireplace, unless I must go for more wood. No one pays attention to me so I can listen to the men talk. The guest is coming in now. His name is **Antoine Cadillac** (ahn TWAHN ⦁ KAD el ak) and he is from New France. You know that is a French colony in North America. Yes?”

“This man Cadillac looks like someone of action. I’ll bet he is good with a sword! I heard some other servants talk about Cadillac. They said he sometimes get into trouble. He can make enemies of important people, but Pontchartrain likes him.”

**Cadillac** (KAD el ak): “Now that we have had dinner, let us speak of our great plans. I have spread this large map on the table. (Points at the map.) “This is the place! Here the lakes narrow into a river.”

“Pontchartrain, a fort here will control all of the rest of the Great Lakes. We can stop our British enemies before they can move into the area! They will not be able to expand their fur trade.”

“If I can bring settlers and women my plan will work. The tribes will come and trade with us, not the English! I want many Indians to come to the fort. It will be at the narrow place on the river. Remember, the French call a narrow place between two lakes a **de`troit**.]

**Pontchartrain** (PON shar train): “This will probably upset the men now trading furs. They will need to move to the new fort.

**Cadillac** (KAD el ak): “Do not worry. I will take care of that.”

**Pontchartrain** (PON shar train): Do not forget about the priests. They may not want to move to this new fort. Also, they may not like the tribes trading with you. If you trade **brandy** to the tribes for furs, they will be very upset!”

**Cadillac** (KAD el ak): “This new fort is an important project.”

**Pontchartrain** (PON shar train): I agree. It would be the key to **controlling the fur trade** around the Great Lakes. I will convince the king. We must do this!”

**Andre** (ON dray): “Oops, I have spent too much time talking. I must get more wood for the fireplace. I hope to see you again soon. Maybe I can go to New France Someday.”