

**THE EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF ARSENE LUPIN, #2:**  
**ARSENE LUPIN IN PRISON**

A radio play by Jake Lewis

Based on the story by Maurice Leblanc

CAST:

Radio Announcer

Baron Cahorn

Postman

Berthe

Police Inspector

Ganimard A (imposter)

Ganimard B (real)

Arsene Lupin

Introduction

**1 ANNOUNCER:** Hello once again, radio listeners, and welcome to the JVTC Radio Half-Hour! On tonight's broadcast... *The Extraordinary Adventures of Arsene Lupin* continues, with the second installment, "Arsene Lupin in Prison"!

We last left our gentleman-burglar on the shores of Manhattan, where he had been collared by the inimitable Inspector Justin Ganimard! Now, we pick up our story along the banks of the Seine in his native France, at a most peculiar installation: The Castle of the Malaquis. Nestled atop a rock midstream, the curious building is home to Baron Nathan Cahorn, otherwise known as Baron Satan amongst his enemies, one of whom will soon be Arsene Lupin!

*Music: Parisian/noir theme*

Scene One

*Music soon fades and gives way to footsteps approaching. Moments later, the sound of knocking on heavy wooden door, and several bolts being slid back. Lastly, the door opens.*

1     **BARON:** Is that you, postman? I'm afraid my eyes have started to fail me.

2     **POSTMAN:** Indeed, monsieur, and not another in my cap and blouse!

3     **BARON:** One can never be too careful these days.

4     **POSTMAN:** But did you not hear? Detective Ganimard has apprehended Arsene Lupin in New York! Your priceless paintings and antiques have never been more safe!

5     **BARON:** So they say....

6     **POSTMAN:** Although--

7     **BARON:** Yes?

8     **POSTMAN:** I bear a special letter for you, sir.

9     **BARON:** Oh? Give it here, then.

10    **POSTMAN:** It requires your signature, sir.

*The sound of a signature hastily scrawled.*

11    **BARON:** A letter, hmm? By registered mail, too? How odd! (*Gasps.*) But look at the postmark! Prison de la Sante, Paris!

12    **POSTMAN:** Are you alright, sir? Your hand shakes!

**1 BARON:** Please, read it to me, although I sense I know from whom it came.

*The sound of an envelope being opened and a paper unfolded.*

**2 POSTMAN:** Yes sir. It says, "Monsieur le Baron, in the gallery that connects your two drawing-rooms, there is a picture by Philippe de Champaigne, an excellent piece of work, which I admire greatly. I also like your Rubens pictures and the smaller of your two Watteaus. In the drawing-room on the right, I note the Louis XIII credence-table, the Beauvais tapestries, the Empire stand, signed by Jacob, and the Renaissance chest. In the room on the left, the whole of the case of trinkets and miniatures. This time, I will be satisfied with these objects, which, I think, can be easily turned into cash. I will therefore ask you to have them properly packed and to send them to my name, carriage paid, to the Gare de Batignolles, on or before this day, failing which I will myself see to their removal on the night of Wednesday the 27th. In the latter case, as is only fair, I shall not be content with the above-mentioned objects. Pray excuse the trouble which I am giving you, and believe me to be Yours very truly, ARSENE LUPIN."

**3 BARON:** This is lunacy!

**4 POSTMAN:** There is a post-script.

**5 BARON:** Of course there is. Well, you might as well read it!

**6 POSTMAN:** "P.S. Be sure not to send me the larger of the two Watteaus. Although you paid thirty thousand francs for it at the sale-rooms, it is only a copy."

**7 BARON:** Oh, how I wish my eyes were blind to you this morning so I'd never have to receive this insult! The sheer tenacity of whoever wrote this!

1     **POSTMAN:** You believe it an impersonation? A joke?

2     **BARON:** And a twisted one at that! As you said, Lupin is under lock-and-key in le Sante! And as you well know, my home's location mid-river is impenetrable unless one traverses this bridge to reach my door! And yet...

3     **POSTMAN:** Yet?

4     **BARON:** How does the writer of this threat know the contents of my chambers so well? Who has informed him so well of the exact location of things only known to me? (*Thinking.*) Ah! I shall write the public prosecutor at Rouen to confirm that Lupin is not the author of this letter, and think no further of such an absurd jape!

5     **POSTMAN:** And I shall be happy to deliver it directly to him, sir!

*Music: Mystery fanfare*

### Scene Two

*Sound of soft footsteps approaching and a gentle knocking on a door.*

6     **BERTHE:** Monsieur le Baron?

7     **BARON:** What is it, Berthe? Can't you see I'm busy, you silly girl?

8     **BERTHE:** Yes, sir, but I thought you'd like to know, you have a visitor.

9     **BARON:** I'm not interested in seeing anyone!

10    **BERTHE:** It is the chief inspector, sir.

11    **BARON:** Chief inspector? Yes, yes! Send him in directly!

1     **BERTHE:** Yes sir.

*Sound of footsteps walking away, then a new sound approaching.*

2     **BARON:** Chief Inspector! I assume your presence here is in response to my letter from last week about Lupin's threat!

3     **INSPECTOR:** It is, and I felt it only right to come by foot and reassure you in person that after looking into it, Arsene Lupin is indeed in la Sante under constant observation. Further, he does not have permission to write.

4     **BARON:** But this is Lupin! One never knows the tricks he has in his repertoire!

5     **INSPECTOR:** Rightly so. Therefore, to make quite sure, I have enlisted the expertise of a handwriting expert, who seconds that, with a few exceptions of resemblance, the missive in question is not the penmanship of Lupin. This will hopefully put an end to your fears.

6     **BARON:** "A few exceptions of resemblance." Hmph! I have been abandoned by the police of my country!

7     **INSPECTOR:** You are mistaken in your assumption, sir, but we cannot take action with such unmistakable certainty to the contrary. Have you considered informing your staff of this news?

8     **BARON:** I shall do no such thing! That would be a sign of weakness on my part, and who knows if they're in cahoots somehow with the criminal. Why, to show them my hand--

9     **INSPECTOR:** Very well. There may be yet another option.

10    **BARON:** Yes? What is it? Go on, man!

**1 INSPECTOR:** You may be interested to know that Detective Justin Ganimard is now on a short fishing holiday in Caudebec.

**2 BARON:** Ganimard? The illustrious sleuth who apprehended Lupin in New York?

**3 INSPECTOR:** The very same. Perhaps he might be able to provide you the service and peace of mind that you say your country's police cannot.

**4 BARON:** I shall set out immediately! *(Calling out.)* Berthe!

*Sound of rapidly approaching footsteps.*

**5 BERTHE:** Yes, sir?

**6 BARON:** Prepare my carriage and driver to take me to Caudebec at this very moment!

**7 BERTHE:** It will be done.

*Sound of her footsteps exiting.*

**8 BARON:** I must now ask you to leave, Inspector, as I trust no one but myself to the valuables contained here. I hope your walk back is pleasant, knowing you have done much to recommend your office!

**9 INSPECTOR:** I am ever your humble servant, Monsieur le Baron.

*Music: Mystery fanfare*

### Scene Three

*Sounds of water gently lapping against a shore/dock, seabird cries,*

*etc.*

**1 BARON:** Are you the renowned Detective Justin Ganimard?

*There is no response.*

**2 BARON:** Tight-lipped, eh? (*Beat.*) If you are Ganimard, you are not at all what I imagined. You are a queer specimen in that frock coat and straw hat. It's as though you are hiding your appearance.

**3 GANIMARD A:** It was my hope to not be recognized or disturbed on my holiday.

**4 BARON:** A trifle testy as well, I see.

**5 GANIMARD A:** What is the reason for your inquiry into my personage, Monsieur le Baron?

**6 BARON :** So you know of me? I should not be surprised. I do cut quite a striking image, and my reputation is well known over France.

**7 GANIMARD A:** There is truth in that statement.

**8 BARON:** Yes, well, I have received a letter from Arsen Lupin informing me that on the 27th of this month, he intends to pilfer several priceless artifacts from my home.

**9 GANIMARD A:** The 27th? Why, that's tomorrow!

**10 BARON:** Indeed! And just now, as I entered town, I retrieved my latest mail and found yet another communication from him, simply saying "Get everything ready!"

**1 GANIMARD A:** Impossible. Lupin is in la Sante, by my very own hand. Even if that were not the case, it is very unusual for criminals to warn the people whom they intend to rob.

**2 BARON:** Suppose he escapes?

**3 GANIMARD A:** Ha! No one can escape la Sante.

**4 BARON:** But Arsene Lupin--

**5 GANIMARD A:** Is just a man, like any other.

**6 BARON:** Stil--

**7 GANIMARD A:** Then I shall apprehend him again! Now, our conversation is at an end. Sleep soundly and stop disturbing my fish. Good day, sir.

*There is a pause, as again we hear the sound of the pier.*

**8 GANIMARD A:** Why do you linger? You don't really expect me to trouble myself with this stupid business, do you?

**9 BARON:** What fee will you take to spend tomorrow evening at my castle?

**10 GANIMARD A:** Not a penny! Now, go away!

**11 BARON:** I am a very wealthy man. Name your price and it shall be yours.

**12 GANIMARD A:** I am here on holiday. I have every right--

**13 BARON:** No one shall know! I will remain silent, no matter what happens!

1     **GANIMARD A:** Nothing *will* happen! (*Beat.*) But I can see I will not be able to squash this insipid idea of yours without agreeing to it. I will take 3,000 francs.

2     **BARON:** Very good. We are agreed, then.

3     **GANIMARD A:** I will tell you that you're throwing your money away. Do you trust your servants?

4     **BARON:** Not a one of them!

5     **GANIMARD A:** I thought as much. Therefore, I will wire to two of my own men to make us feel safer. Now, please leave. We must not be seen together. Expect me tomorrow evening at nine o'clock.

6     **BARON:** We shall stop Lupin in his tracks, whatever dastardly plan he has conceived!

*Music: Mystery fanfare*

#### Scene Four

7     **BERTHE:** Sir, what are you doing with your trophies? And pistols?

8     **BARON:** Never you mind, Berthe. You wouldn't understand.

9     **BERTHE:** If you need help relocating these items, I would be happy to help--

10    **BARON:** Berthe, don't trouble your pretty mind any further with my comings and goings. Tell the rest of the staff they are dismissed for the evening.

11    **BERTHE:** But sir, it's only half past eight.

**1 BARON:** So you can tell time, then? I hope that doesn't mean you'll next request a pay raise! Now, please, leave me to my endeavors!

**2 BERTHE:** Yes, sir. I hope you have a very...rewarding evening.

*Sound of her footsteps leaving the room, door slamming.*

**3 BARON:** Yes, this should do just fine. Let's see Lupin try his best now!

*Sound of doorbell ringing. Soon after, loud knocking.*

**4 BARON:** Berthe! The door! (*Realizing.*) Oh. Yes. Of course.

*Sound of him shuffling to the door, and opening it.*

**5 BARON:** Ganimard!

**6 GANIMARD A:** Monsieur le Baron. These here are two of my most trusted assistants

**7 BARON:** How do you do?

*There is no response.*

**8 BARON:** Ah, the silent and strong type! Very well, come in, come in!

*Sound of them moving inside, and the door closing.*

**9 GANIMARD A:** We'd first like to conduct a tour of the place...know what we're protecting, exactly. Shut up and barricade any rooms that could be entered, you understand.

**10 BARON:** That has all been done already. You will reside here, in this room, for the duration.

1     **GANIMARD A:** This peephole here...it looks out onto the bridge and court. But what of this well? An underground passage, I assume?

2     **BARON:** Indeed, but it has been stopped up since the memory of man.

3     **GANIMARD A:** Then, unless there is another outlet, unknown to any but Lupin--

4     **BARON:** --which there is not.

5     **GANIMARD A:** --Then we can be easy in our minds.

6     **BARON:** No nonsense, *you* understand? You're not here to sleep. At the least sound, open the windows on the court and call me. Keep a look-out also on the water side. Thirty feet of steep cliff doesn't frighten scoundrels of that stamp.

*The sound of chairs being moved.*

7     **GANIMARD A:** You can be confident, sir, that I am eager to build another story to the house in which I plan to end my days, thanks to this elementary pursuit of ours. I shall tell the story to Lupin, who will split his sides with laughter!

8     **BARON:** Hmph.

*Clock strikes ten.*

9     **GANIMARD A:** Let the game begin!

*Mystery music.*

Scene Five

*The sound of the clock striking twelve.*

*The sound of snoring.*

*The sound of a door being opened, feet hurriedly running in.*

1 **BARON:** Ganimard! Ganimard!

2 **GANIMARD A:** *(Rousing from sleep.)* Hmm?

3 **BARON:** Do you hear that?

4 **GANIMARD A:** Yes. It is the sound of my snoring!

5 **BARON:** No, listen!

*The sound of a car horn is heard far off.*

6 **GANIMARD A:** Oh, yes. It a motor horn.

7 **BARON:** Well?!?

8 **GANIMARD A:** Well what? Lupin would need to use the car as a battering ram to gain entrance, which is highly unlikely. Thus, being so, I should encourage you to go to sleep, as I shall do once more. Goodnight!

9 **BARON:** Hmph. Yes. I suppose....

*The sound of him exiting, door closing, snoring resuming.*

*The sound of a ticking clock is heard, indicating the passing of time.*

*Eventually, the sound of the clock striking six. It is morning.*

*The door opens, feet enter.*

**1 GANIMARD A:** What did I tell you, Monsieur? I really ought not to have accepted. I feel ashamed of myself.

*The sound of keys jangling, and a lock being opened. A door is then opened.*

**2 BARON:** What in the name of all the...?

**3 GANIMARD A:** They're...gone.

**4 BARON:** *(Cries out.)* The pictures! The credence-table! Nothing but bent nails and bare cords! And my Louis XVI sconces! And what's this? The Regency chandelier!

**5 GANIMARD A:** But...but...

**6 BARON:** How is this possible? There is not an unbolted window, not a door that has been touched until just now! No crack in the ceiling, nor hole in the floor! Explain this to me!

**7 GANIMARD A:** Arsene...Lupin.

**8 BARON:** And yet, your men sleep on! What is this mockery?!

**9 GANIMARD A:** *(Sniffing.)* They do not sleep.

**10 BARON:** Are they...?

**11 GANIMARD A:** No. They live, but they have been drugged. Likely in that pitcher of water there.

**12 BARON:** Drugged? But...whoever by?

1     **GANIMARD A:** Lupin, of course. Or someone in his gang. I recognize his handiwork quite clearly.

2     **BARON:** Yet you do not look for clues! Why, at this very moment, you might discover something!

3     **GANIMARD A:** Discover something? From Lupin? My dear sir, Arsene Lupin never leaves anything behind! I am beginning to wonder if he got himself arrested of his own free will in America!

4     **BARON:** But I must get them back! Let him name his price!

5     **GANIMARD A:** That's a sound notion. But do you stick to it?

6     **BARON:** Yes, yes, yes!

7     **GANIMARD A:** Then I have an idea. But let us not talk of it, unless nothing comes of my inquiry. It is of utmost importance you do not mention me, not to a soul, if you wish to succeed!

8     **BARON:** I shall immediately lodge a complaint against Arsene Lupin for aggravated larceny!

*Music: Mystery fanfare*

### Scene Six

*The sound of things being moved, voices talking, feet crossing floors.*

9     **BARON:** What a tragedy! If I had known that filing a complaint against Lupin would mean the Malaquis would be taken over by so many gendarmes, the public prosecutor, the judge even...why, I very nearly regret laying this information at their feet!

- 1     **BERTHE:** Today's newspaper, sir.
- 2     **BARON:** Stupid girl, don't you see I have more important things to concern myself with than the simple goings-on of this infernal village?
- 3     **BERTHE:** Of course, Monsieur le Baron, but I thought you might like to see the story on the front page.
- 4     **BARON:** Whatever for?
- 5     **BERTHE:** It appears a letter was published from Arsene Lupin to you, warning you of his stealing several priceless pieces of art from the Malaquis. Several suggestions are made as to how he did it. Did you know there are underground tunnels here? I had no idea!
- 6     **BARON:** Now you and the whole of France knows! Lupin has ruined me! Completely ruined me!
- 7     **INSPECTOR:** Monsieur le Baron?
- 8     **BARON:** What is it, Chief Inspector?
- 9     **INSPECTOR:** My men, along with several bloodhounds loaned to us by Monsieur Duidoin, have searched the entirety of the Malaquis--
- 10    **BARON:** --And done a bang-up job of it, I see!
- 11    **INSPECTOR:** --And have found no trace of either tunnel or secret passage from which Lupin could have entered or exited with the treasure in tow.
- 12    **BARON:** But things don't just merely vanish like ghosts! They are taken through windows or doors by people who are carrying them!

**1 INSPECTOR:** Certainly. Therefore, I have sent for an expert in the field to hopefully assist in this puzzling crime. He shall be joining me shortly at the station.

**2 BARON:** Yes, well, unless he is Lupin himself, I have very little hope in your “expert.”

**3 INSPECTOR:** He may not be Lupin, but he is the second-best thing to him.

**4 BARON:** Oh? And who might that be?

**5 INSPECTOR:** Why, I’m sure you are aware of him. He’s none other than Justin Ganimard!

*Music: Mystery flourish.*

### Scene Seven

**6 INSPECTOR:** So, what say you, Ganimard? Who could have pulled off a heist that so closely resembles the work of Arsene Lupin?

**7 GANIMARD B:** Why, Lupin himself!

**8 INSPECTOR:** Come, Ganimard! This is absurd! Lupin is in prison!

**9 GANIMARD B:** Yes! He is! Under supervision, too! But even if he had his wrists and legs shackled, and his mouth gagged, I would still be of the same opinion.

**10 INSPECTOR:** Why so persistent?

**11 GANIMARD B:** Simply because no one else could have contrived and carried out such a feat, and be successful at it!

- 1     **INSPECTOR:** What is it you would have us do, Ganimard?
- 2     **GANIMARD B:** Let me spend an hour with Lupin. In his cell.
- 3     **INSPECTOR:** You jest!
- 4     **GANIMARD B:** We were on excellent terms during the crossing from America, and I venture to think that he is not without friendly feeling for the man who arrested him. If he can tell me what I want to know, without compromising himself, he will be quite willing to spare me an unnecessary journey.
- 5     **INSPECTOR:** Very well, Detective. I am but a simple county inspector, and should not question your methods, despite their seeming madness. However, I remind you again, that I have it on good authority that Lupin has been under constant surveillance since entering la Sante. I should be very surprised if he is the mastermind behind all of this.
- 6     **GANIMARD B:** Then you have become one more victim to fall into his cunning trap.

*Music: Mystery flourish.*

### Scene 8

*Sounds of heavy keys jangling, footsteps on a stone corridor, perhaps water dripping. The keys enter the lock, turn, and a heavy gate is slid open, followed quickly thereafter by it slamming shut.*

- 7     **GANIMARD B:** Lupin.
- 8     **LUPIN:** What is this? Do my eyes deceive me in this dismal light I have chosen to spend time in? Is it my dear friend Justin Ganimard?

**1 GANIMARD B:** Himself.

**2 LUPIN:** I have hoped for many things in this self-imposed dungeon, but none more than seeing you again!

**3 GANIMARD B:** You are too good.

**4 LUPIN:** No! It is you who are to be commended! I have said it a thousand times: Ganimard is our greatest detective. He's almost — see how frank I am — almost as clever as Sherlock Holmes. But, really, I'm awfully sorry to have nothing better than this stool to offer you. And not a drink of any kind! Do forgive me: I am only just passing through town, you see!

*Sound of stool scraping as it's repositioned.*

**5 LUPIN:** By Jove, what a treat to see a decent man's face! I am sick of the looks of all these spies who go through my cell and my pockets ten times a day to make sure that I am not planning an escape. Gad, how fond the government must be of me!

**6 GANIMARD B:** They show their judgment.

**7 LUPIN:** If only they let me live my life in peace.

**8 GANIMARD B:** On their dime.

**9 LUPIN:** Just so! But I'm running my mouth. Tell me, dear friend, to what do I owe the honor of your visit?

**10 GANIMARD B:** The Cahorn case.

**1 LUPIN:** Cahorn, you say? I have so many to sort through. Hmm, let me see...Two Reubens, a Watteau, and some minor trifles, yes?

**1 GANIMARD B:** Trifles?!

**2 LUPIN:** Oh yes, that is of very little importance. However, you're interested in this case and that's enough for me. But may I see, from one friend to another, that according to the morning papers, you are not making much progress in the case.

**3 GANIMARD B:** And that is why I have come to throw myself at your kindness.

**4 LUPIN:** I am entirely at your service.

**5 GANIMARD B:** First of all, was this thing done by you?

**6 LUPIN:** From start to finish.

**7 GANIMARD B:** The registered letter, too?

**8 LUPIN:** I should have the receipt for it here somewhere...

*Sounds of drawers opening and being sorted through.*

**8 LUPIN:** A ha! Here it is!

**9 GANIMARD B:** And here I thought you were under constant supervision, but you have newspapers and post office receipts.

**10 LUPIN:** Bah! Those men are such fools. They rip up the lining of my waistcoat, explore the soles of my boots, listen at the walls of my cell; but not one of them would believe that Arsene Lupin could be such a fool as to choose so obvious a hiding-place. That's just what I reckoned on.

**11 GANIMARD B:** What a funny gent you are! Come tell me the story!

**1 LUPIN:** Not so fast, Ganimard! Tell me, did you like my letter to the Baron?

**2 GANIMARD B:** I think you wanted to have some fun. Tickle the gallery a bit.

**3 LUPIN:** Upon my word, Ganimard, I gave you credit for more sense! Do you really imagine that I, Arsene Lupin, waste my time with such childish pranks as that? Is it likely that I should have written the letter, if I could have rifled the baron without it? Do try and understand that the letter was the indispensable starting-point, the main-spring that set the whole machine in motion. Look here, let us proceed in order and, if you like, prepare the Malaquis burglary together.

**4 GANIMARD B:** Very well.

**5 LUPIN:** Now see here, we have an impregnable castle. Am I to forego the game and give up the prizes I covet because the castle just so happens to be inaccessible?

**6 GANIMARD B:** Clearly not!

**7 LUPIN:** Am I to carry it out as in the old days as the leader of a band of adventurers?

**8 GANIMARD B:** That would be childish!

**9 LUPIN:** Am I to enter it by stealth?

**10 GANIMARD B:** Impossible!

**11 LUPIN:** Then what way is left to me?

**12 GANIMARD B:** Well, to be invited in by the owner.

**1 LUPIN:** An original idea! And so easy! Imagine that one day, the master of the house receives a letter warning him of a plot by a notorious housebreaker, one Arsene Lupin. What is he to do?

**2 GANIMARD B:** Send the letter to the public prosecutor, I should think.

**3 LUPIN:** Who will laugh at him because Lupin is under lock and key! So what will the frantic owner do next?

**4 GANIMARD B:** Accept the first help he is given.

**5 LUPIN:** Whereupon he learns that an esteemed detective is on holiday nearby! One who first declines the job, as is his manner, but finally accepts.

**6 GANIMARD B:** This is becoming more and more original!

**7 LUPIN:** The friend aforesaid accepts and brings with him two chaps of our gang, who, during the night, while Cahorn is kept at bay by his seeming protector, remove a certain number of things through the window and lower them with ropes into a barge freighted for the purpose. It's as simple as... well, me.

**8 GANIMARD B:** But I should hardly think there is a detective so well known to attract the Baron's attention!

**9 LUPIN:** Ah, but there is one.

**10 GANIMARD B:** Who?

**11 LUPIN:** The most illustrious of them all, the sworn enemy of Arsene Lupin. In short, you, Detective Ganimard.

**12 GANIMARD B:** What, myself?

**1 LUPIN:** You are not one for the public eye, Ganimard. And even so, the eyes of said Baron are weak with age. With proper costuming and a slight alteration to one's voice, you are easily imitated. Therefore, I can install one of my ablest actor friends to take up residence in my Caudebec apartment, and let it be known that he is the elusive Justin Ganimard!

**2 GANIMARD B:** Then that means...

**3 LUPIN:** You are already ahead of me! That should you go to the Baron, you would have to arrest yourself! *(Laughs.)*

*The sound of the cell opening and a tray of food being put down.*

**4 LUPIN:** Being a prisoner of note has allowed me to enjoy the meals of a neighboring restaurant. I would be happy to share this bounty with you.

**5 GANIMARD B:** I feel sick.

**6 LUPIN:** But rest easy, my friend. The Cahorn case is about to be withdrawn.

**7 GANIMARD B:** Nonsense! I have just left the office of the county inspector!

**8 LUPIN:** And I have just now received a telegram to the contrary. Shall I read it to you?

**9 GANIMARD B:** You're poking fun at me, Lupin.

**10 LUPIN:** Observe as I break this egg...

*Sound of an egg cracking with a knife.*

**11 GANIMARD B:** Sacre bleu! The egg is empty save for that slip of paper!

**1 LUPIN:** You see, Ganimard -- pardon me, the sham Ganimard -- struck a private deal with the Baron that, should his items be returned to him, a hefty reward would be paid. This message here tells me the arrangement is now settled for 100,000 spondulicks, and the Baron has withdrawn his case.

**2 GANIMARD B:** 100,000 spondulicks?!?

**3 LUPIN:** Yes, it is not much, I know, but these are hard times! And if you knew my budget...

*Sound of the stool scraping back as GANIMARD B rises to leave.*

**4 LUPIN:** Oh, do not look so downtrodden, Ganimard! I had to do something to amuse myself in my spare time. Especially since it only could have worked while I was in prison!

**5 GANIMARD B:** What, is your upcoming trial, defense, and sentencing not enough entertainment for you?

**6 LUPIN:** Oh, I shall not be attending my trial.

**7 GANIMARD B:** *Mon dieu!*

**8 LUPIN:** Why, my dear fellow, you surely don't think I mean to rot in jail? The mere suggestion is an insult. Let me tell you that Arsene Lupin remains in prison as long as he thinks fit and not a moment longer.

**9 GANIMARD B:** It might have been wiser never to enter in the first place.

**10 LUPIN:** You're chaffing me, sirrah! We lead such a feverish existence nowadays! It's a good thing to take a rest-cure from time to time. And there's no place for it like this. They carry out the cure in all its strictness at the Sante.

1     **GANIMARD B:** You are too much, Arsene Lupin.

2     **LUPIN:** Today is Friday. On Wednesday next I will come smoke a cigar with you in the Rue Pergolese at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

3     **GANIMARD B:** Arsene Lupin, I shall expect you.

*Music: Mystery flourish.*

4     **ANNOUNCER:** Thus, Detective Justin Ganimard is once more outwitted by his friend and foe, Arsene Lupin! Will the gentleman-burglar continue his streak of crimes by escaping the Sante and making the appointed meeting with Ganimard? What other tricks does Lupin have up his sleeve?

Join us again next time for the JVTC Radio Half Hour as we continue *The Extraordinary Adventures of Arsene Lupin!*

***To Be Continued...***