“En vain pour éviter les réponses amères”
*Sung by Carmen as she reads her tarot cards at the smugglers' camp in the mountains.*

CARMEN
Let’s see - let me have a try.

*(She starts to turn up the cards.)*

Diamond, spade...Death!
I read it clearly...me first.
Then him...for both of us, Death!

In vain to avoid bitter replies,
in vain will you shuffle;
that achieves nothing, the cards
are truthful and will not lie!
If your page in the book
up above is a happy one
shuffle and cut without fear,
the card under your fingers will turn up nicely,
foretelling good luck.
But if you are to die,
if the terrible word
has been written by Destiny,
begin twenty times - the pitiless card
will repeat: Death!

*(turning up the cards)*

Again! Always Death!