



Audition Side #2

STARBUCK. *(Holding LIZZIE close.)* You are beautiful – and when I leave here, don't ever forget it.

LIZZIE. *(Sadly, unable yet to reconcile herself to STARBUCK'S ultimate going.)* I'll try to remember – everything you ever said.

STARBUCK. *(With a little outcry.)* Lizzie, I want – I want to live forever!

LIZZIE. *(Full of compassion.)* I hope you do – wherever you are – I hope you do!

STARBUCK. You don't say that as if you think I'll ever get what I'm after.

LIZZIE. *(Gently.)* I don't really know what you're after.

STARBUCK. I'm after a clap of lightnin'! I want things to be as pretty when I get them as they are when I'm thinkin' about them!

LIZZIE. I think they're prettier when you get them!

STARBUCK. No! Nothin's as pretty as in your hands as it was in your head. There ain't no world near as good as the world I got up here! – why?

LIZZIE. I don't know. Maybe it's because you don't take time to see it. Always on the go – here, there, nowhere. Runnin' away – keepin' your own company. Maybe if you'd keep company with the world –

STARBUCK. I'd learn to love it?

LIZZIE. You might – if you saw it real! Some nights I'm in the kitchen washing the dishes. And Pop's playing poker with the boys. Well, I'll watch him real close. And at first I'll just see an ordinary middle-aged man – not very interesting to look at. And then, minute by minute I'll see little things I never saw in him before. Good things and bad things – queer little habits I never noticed he had. And suddenly I know who he is! – and I love him so much I could cry! And I want to thank God I took the time to see him real!

STARBUCK. Well, I ain't got the time!

LIZZIE. Then you ain't got no world – except the one you make up in your head.

Audition Side #2

(Continued)

STARBUCK. *(With painful difficulty.)* Lizzie – I got somethin’ to tell you – you were right! – I am a liar . . . and a con man and a fake! *(A moment. Then words tear out.)* I never made rain in my life! Not a single raindrop! – nowhere! – not anywhere at all!

LIZZIE. *(In a compassionate whisper.)* I know –

STARBUCK. All my life – wantin’ to make a miracle! Nothin’! – I’m a great big fake!

LIZZIE. No –you’re all dreams. And it’s no good to live in your dreams!

STARBUCK. It’s no good to live outside them, either.

LIZZIE. Somewhere between the two . . .

STARBUCK. Yes! – Lizzie, would you like me to stick around for a while?

LIZZIE. *(unable to stand the joy of it.)* Did I hear you right?

STARBUCK. Not for good, understand – just a for a few days!

LIZZIE. You’re – you’re not fooling me are you, Starbuck?

STARBUCK. No – I mean it!

LIZZIE. Would you stay? Would you?

STARBUCK. A few days – yes!

LIZZIE. *(Her happiness bursting.)* Oh! Oh my goodness! Oh!