

**Act One**

(feel into pocket for tobacco)

**Jim:** Where's your tobacco?

Keller: ... on the table.

(fills pipe)

Keller: Gonna rain tonight.

**Jim:** Paper says so?

Keller: ... right here.

**Jim:** Then it can't rain.

Keller: ... he talkin' sense?

**Jim:** He's alright. He's completely out of his mind, that's all.

Frank: ... believe in anything.

**Jim:** And your trouble is that you believe anything. You didn't see my kid this morning, did you?

Keller: ... out of his bag.

**Jim:** What a problem. One look at a girl and he takes her temperature.

Frank: He's smart.

**Jim:** Over my dead body he'll be a good doctor. A good beginning, too.

Frank: ... honorable profession.

**Jim:** Frank, will you stop talking like a civics book?

Frank: ... help humanity instead of...

**Jim:** I would love to help humanity on a Warner Brothers salary.

Keller: ... good, Jim.

**Jim:** Well, where's the beautiful girl that was supposed to be here?

Keller: ... in your house, Jim.

**Jim:** I'd like to meet her. The block can use a pretty girl. In the whole neighborhood there's not a damned thing to look at- except my wife, of course.

Sue: ... you dog.

**Jim:** Such is the condition which prevails. My love, my light.

Sue: ... over the phone.

**Jim:** What's the matter with her now?

Sue: ... see Mr. Hubbard?

**Jim:** My dear, Mr. Hubbard is not sick, and I have better thing to do than sit there and hold his hand.

Sue: ... could hold his hand.

**Jim:** If your son wants to play golf tell him I'm ready. Or if he'd like to take a trip around the world for about thirty years. (exit)

Ann: ... excuse me!

**Jim:** How do you do? (to Chris) She looks very intelligent!

Ann: ... a lot about you.

**Jim:** Don't you believe it. He likes everybody. In the battalion he was known as Mother McKeller.

Ann: ... days beyond recall.

**Jim:** Well, I hope that doesn't mean you want me to move out?

Sue: ... on the phone!

**Jim:** I told you I don't want...

Sue: Please, dear! Please!

**Jim:** Alright, Susie. (trailing off) Alright, alright... (to Ann) I've only met you, Ann, but if I may offer you a piece of advice... When you marry, never, even in your mind, never count your husband's money.

Sue: Jim?

**Jim:** At once! (turns and goes) At once. (exits)

(round corner of driveway toward Chris)

Chris: Where is he?

**Jim:** Where's your mother?

Ann: ... to George?

**Jim:** I asked him to wait in the car. Listen to me now. Can you take some advice? (they wait) Don't bring him in here.

Ann: Why?

**Jim:** Kate is in bad shape- you can't explode this in front of her.

Ann: Explode what?

**Jim:** You know why he's here, don't try to kit it away. There's blood in his eye, drive him somewhere and talk to him alone.

Chris ... be an old lady.

**Jim:** He's come to take her home. What does that mean? (to Ann) You know what that means. Fight it out with him some place else.

Chris: No.

**Jim:** Will you stop being an idiot?

Sue: ... the beach, Jim?

**Jim:** Oh, it's too hot to drive.

Sue: ... isn't he?

**Jim:** See you later... take it easy, fella. (him and Sue exit)

### ***Act Two***

(walks up to Kate)

**Jim:** Any news?

Kate: No news.

**Jim:** (gently) You can't sit up all night, dear, why don't you go to bed?

Kate: ... I'm perfectly alright.

**Jim:** But it's almost two o' clock.

Kate: ... an emergency?

**Jim:** Somebody had a headache and thought he was dying. (slight pause) Half of my patients are quite mad. Nobody realizes how many people are walking loose, and they're walking loose, and they're cracked as coconuts. Money. Money-money-money-money. You say it long enough it doesn't mean anything. Oh how I'd love to be around when that happens!

Kate: ... sometimes you are.

**Jim:** (looks at her a moment) Kate. (pause) What happened?

Kate: ... in the car and drove away.

**Jim:** What kind of argument?

Kate: ... crying like a child, before.

**Jim:** They argued about Ann?

Kate: ... all night in that room.

**Jim:** (looks up at window, then at her) What'd Joe do, tell him?

Kate: Tell him what?

**Jim:** Don't be afraid, Kate. I know. I've always known.

Kate: How?

**Jim:** It occurred to me a long time ago.

Kate: ... such a shock.

**Jim:** (gets up) Chris would never know how to live with a thing like that. It takes a certain talent... for lying. You have it, and I do. But not him.

Kate: ... not coming back?

**Jim:** Oh, no, he'll come back. We all come back, Kate. Their private little revolutions always die. The compromise is always made. In a peculiar way. Frank is right... every man does have a star. The star of one's honesty. And you spend your life groping for it,

but once it's out it never lights again. I don't think he went very far. He probably just wanted to be alone to watch his star go out.

Kate: ... as he comes back.

**Jim:** I wish he wouldn't, Kate. One year I simply took off, went to New Orleans; for two months I lived on bananas and milk, and studied a certain disease. And then she came, and she cried. And I went back home with her. And now I live in the usual darkness; I can't find myself; it's hard sometimes to remember the kind of man I wanted to be. I'm a good husband; Chris is a good son... he'll come back.

(Jim goes to Keller)

**Jim:** I have a feeling he's in the park. I'll look for him. Put her to bed, Joe; this is no good for what she's got. (exits)