

Act Two – Scene 3

63

BOBBY sits. *There's an awkward pause. Then TESS gets up to try to help.*

TESS. All right. Now I think that Polly should be in charge of the meeting.

General agreement.

POLLY. I'd rather not, if ya don't mind. I'm just not in the mood right now.

BOBBY. But it's your theater!

General agreement.

POLLY. Kindly tell Mr. Child that he ain't involved in this without his beard and funny moustache.

TESS. Hey. Fellas ...

BOBBY. Will somebody tell Miss Baker, please, that she happened to fall in love with that moustache.

POLLY. Like hell I did!

BOBBY. You know you did.

POLLY. I did not!

TESS. ... Well, this is off to a good start.

POLLY. I ain't havin' this meetin' with him here!

BOBBY. Well, you'll have to, because I'm not leaving.

Both BOBBY and POLLY sit. A beat, then PATSY raises her hand.

TESS. Patsy.

PATSY. (*Urgently*) Can I go to the bathroom?

TESS. Yes.

PATSY exits in a hurry through the double doors—and runs into ZANGLER, who is just entering. ZANGLER takes a seat at the back. TESS sits; and BOBBY stands up.

BOBBY. Look. The question is simple. We have two weeks left. Now do we try the show again or don't we? I say we do. (*A beat, then*) Everett. What do you think?

EVERETT. Oh, dear. Well. You all did so much work, making this place so beautiful again ... I'd really rather that we all made that decision together. Polly?

POLLY. ... Well. I guess that, under the circumstances, we have no choice but to give it up.

General agreement.

BOBBY. (*To POLLY*) How can you say that?!?

POLLY. I wasn't talkin' to you!

BOBBY. For God's sake—!

POLLY. Well, how do ya think I feel?! Huh? But we tried it once and it didn't work!

Bobby: We can try it again! Polly. Just look around!