

RANDOLPH. (*Turns.*) Well, he ain't livin' nowhere now.

JENNY. I bet he was drinkin'. "If you drink, don't drive!" That's what they say.

RANDOLPH. If he wouldn't have crashed himself dead, we wouldn't have a job, would we?

JENNY. (*Sits in chair center.*) Gee, that's right.

RANDOLPH. (*Crosses to JENNY and pulls her up.*) Well, come on. Show me the joint. If I gotta do a job while the Hammond woman is living here, I want to know where I'm workin'.

JENNY. (*Goes to kitchen door and holds it open for him.*) This is my room—the kitchen. (*RANDOLPH goes into the kitchen below JENNY.*) This is where I cooked poor Mr. Redfax his last supper. Makes me feel kinda sad I didn't do better. If I'da known he was goin' to die, I would never have used instant coffee. I'd a percolated.

RANDOLPH. (*Comes out of kitchen, pats her cheek and crosses to the stairs.*) You're a real decent girl, Jenny. Upstairs just bedrooms, huh?

JENNY. Yeah.

RANDOLPH. Where's this lead to? (*He goes off Right to the library.*)

JENNY. (*Follows him to Up Center.*) Library. It's full of books. Mr. Redfax never read nothin' except that racin' form he got in the mail.

RANDOLPH. (*Offstage.*) He had his fingers in more rackets—everything from juke boxes to dope. (*He re-enters and comes Down to the arch.*) What a joint! Hey, it's furnished right down to the booze. (*Crosses to the bar and picks up a bottle of Scotch.*)

JENNY. Everything. They even have salt in the salt shakers. That's why the rent's so high. (*Takes bottle from him.*) I don't think you should touch that liquor. Randolph. It's illegal.

RANDOLPH. (*Grabs bottle back again.*) So is breaking and entering. (*Pours himself a shot.*)

JENNY. We didn't break and I have a right to enter. I work here.

RANDOLPH. You want a shot?

JENNY. Not me.

RANDOLPH. (*Toasts JENNY.*) Boy, this is the life! (*Drinks.*)

JENNY. I guess Mrs. Hammond is rich. She's a good writer, huh?

RANDOLPH. The greatest. Never less than five murders in her books. And as for sex—(*He nudges JENNY and she giggles.*) You see more of her books on the subways than you do the Daily News.

JENNY. And I'll be workin' for her.

RANDOLPH. Might as well have another little one. Can't fly on one wing. (*He pours another shot and laughs at his joke.*)

JENNY. A helicopter has no wings.

RANDOLPH. (*Freezes with the bottle thinking this over.*) I don't follow that at all. (*Leaves bottle on desk, crosses and sits in chair center.*) Ah, this is the life for me. When we get our split from the Boss, this is how we'll live.

JENNY. (*Moves to his left.*) But suppose the diamonds ain't here?

RANDOLPH. They gotta be. After the heist was made in New York, the ice was brought out here.

JENNY. But what about the diamonds?

RANDOLPH. Pigeon, ice is diamonds. That's the way you gotta talk now you're turnin' crooked.

JENNY. I'll try.

RANDOLPH. Now the fence—
JENNY. (*Pleased to know this.*) That's the person who buys the stolen ice.

RANDOLPH. Now you're catchin' on, pigeon. The fence comes to pick up the ice, but Redfax gets killed before he can turn them over. So, the diamonds gotta be here.

JENNY. And I can search while I clean up the house—

RANDOLPH. And at night, you can let me in and we'll look together. (*He pulls JENNY onto his lap.*) A perfect set-up. The Boss is no fool.

JENNY. But I don't even know the Boss. When am I going to get introduced? Who signs my W-2 form?

RANDOLPH. Pigeon, this is not declarable income.

JENNY. Gee, that's great. But I like to know who I'm workin' for.

RANDOLPH. (*Pushes her up.*) Get us the bottle, huh?

JENNY. (*Gets bottle from desk.*) Hadn't you better start lookin' for the ice? (*Starts for front door.*) They'll be here—they'll be here soon.

RANDOLPH. In a minute. Sure a lucky thing I sat next to you at the movies. I mean, out of all the girls in Birchville, I should have slipped my arm around the one who works in this house.

JENNY. (*Comes down to his Right.*) I don't usually let strangers do that in the picture shows, you know. But I could tell you was a gentleman. (*Hands him the bottle.*)

RANDOLPH. (*Pours a drink.*) My mother brung me up right. She trained me to go crooked just like other kid's moms train them to go straight. When I was only a little kid, she ran a hot dog stand on the beach and she taught me how to go up behind little girls after they'd bought a hot dog and reach over their shoulder and pull the hot dog out of the bun. Then I'd give it back to Mom. It was great. All summer we only used three dozen hot dogs and twenty-five hundred buns. (*Rises and drinks.*) I tried it with hamburgers but they come apart. (*Crosses and puts the bottle down on the bar.*)

JENNY. What's your mother doing now?

RANDOLPH. (*Turns at the bar.*) Ten years.

JENNY. Why?

RANDOLPH. (*Sits on the Center side of desk, on the top.*) She lifted an emerald necklace off a dame at the opera. Mother loves Bizet. (*He pronounces it with a hard "t."*) She took the necklace just as Carmen was tryin' to sell her cigarettes.

JENNY. (*Moves to RANDOLPH.*) But they caught her?

RANDOLPH. Yeah—she couldn't resist wearin' the emeralds. They picked her up at the Automat on 46th Street. (*Pulls JENNY in to him.*) You know the last thing

Mother said to me as they took her away? She said, "Randolph, by the time I come out, I hope you're wanted!" Really had faith in me.

JENNY. I guess she must be proud of you now.

RANDOLPH. (*Rises and crosses to the Left of the desk and rummages through the drawers during the next speeches.*) I ain't done so well lately. When I met up with the Boss, I was smuggling Mexicans across the border at Tijuana. Used to drive them right by the customs inspectors. I had them stuffed inside a big wicker hamper.

JENNY. And the authorities never looked in?

RANDOLPH. I said I was a snake charmer. But one of them Mexicans was a louse. Instead of paying me off, he nugged me and stole my car. But then I ran into the Boss and I said, "Any time you want a job done, give me a ring." (*Crosses below desk and sits on Downstage side of it.*) So here I am relaxing in New England about to grab a fistful of diamonds and retire.

JENNY. (*Moves down to RANDOLPH.*) Nothing exciting's ever happened to me. I worked downstate around home and then finally my Ma said I ought to see something of the world. So this summer I come up here. But it's the same upstate as it is downstate except the sap runs later.

RANDOLPH. I'll show you the world, pigeon. I may even take you to Boston.

JENNY. (*Pulls him up.*) Gee, let's look for the diamonds right now.

RANDOLPH. Plenty of time. (*Pulls her in to him.*) Just you and me here like this is pretty nice.

JENNY. (*Just as he starts to kiss her.*) I hear a car! (*Runs to the front door.*)

RANDOLPH. We can come back when they're asleep. (*Crosses Upright between sofa and chair.*)

JENNY. (*Peeks out door.*) It's them. (*Closes door.*)

RANDOLPH. Out this way. (*Hands for French doors.*)

JENNY. (*As she runs to him.*) Go to the left and they won't see us. (*They are almost out when JENNY speaks.*) Oh, your glass! (*Runs back to pick it up on the desk.*)