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# Three-Cornered Moon

By Ray Harris

Look, Jenny. The recipe  
for the waffle batter  
calls for two  
glasses of milk.  
Do you understand?  
Keep away.  
Me for him,  
and she`s for me.  
Stove, not you.  
I don`t mean to interfere,  
Jenny, but you must have milk.  
Milk.  
Do you understand now?  
No.  
Two... Glass...  
Oh, never mind.  
Make it boiled eggs.  
(DOOR OPENING)  
ALBERT.. Good morning.

**NELLIE:**

Good morning, Mrs. Rimplegar.  
That`s a load.  
There you are.  
\$1 1.47.  
Are you sure it`s right?  
Oh, yes, ma`am.  
Let`s see.  
Seven and four are 1 1,  
and three make 15,  
and eight makes, so...  
Let`s see,  
that`s 15 and eight...  
Oh. The children gave it  
to me for my birthday,  
and if I don`t wear it,  
they feel hurt.  
It`s beautiful, isn`t it?  
(CHUCKLES SHEEPLSHLY)  
Oh, those...  
Those are feathers, yes.  
All right.  
\$11.47.  
Oh, yes, I`ve just got it.

There you are.  
Now, let`s see.  
And 27 cents.  
47!  
47? How`s business, Albert?  
Awful, ma`am.  
It`s the depression,  
I suppose.  
I hear it`s still going on.  
Everyone said it  
would end with beer,  
so I bought 10 cases,  
but it doesn`t seem  
to have done much good.  
I`m sure if my  
husband were still alive  
and he still  
owned the laundry,  
it would still  
be doing business.  
Well, he was smart  
to die when he did.  
Oh, yes.  
Look, Mrs. Rimplegar,  
you gave me \$11.17.  
You still owe me  
30 cents.  
Huh? Oh, dear.  
Jenny?  
Jenny, can you  
lend me 30 cents?  
Yes, 30 cents.  
Go away.  
The stove, she`s mine.  
(CHUCKLES) Her English  
is very poor.  
I`ll be right back.

**KENNETH:**

you didn`t want to  
hurt his feelings?  
Kenneth.  
But you can hurt  
my feelings, can`t you?

Can you lend me 30...  
Look here, Kitty.  
You pulled this  
trick once too often.  
I`m through!  
Do you hear me, I`m through!  
Kenneth, can you lend...  
So through that  
if I ever wanted  
to call you up again,  
I`d have to look up  
your number in a phone book.  
Oh, dear!  
Jenny!  
Huh?  
Jenny!  
Huh?  
Breakfast.  
Huh?  
Eat.  
Oh.

**DOUGLAS :**

His Most Christian Majesty,  
the King of France!  
Douglas!  
Permit me the honor  
of presenting to you,  
His Royal Highness,  
the Duc d`Orleans,  
Duc de Chartres,  
Duc de Nemours,  
Comte de Beaujolais,  
and cousin of His  
Most Christian Majesty,  
the King of France!  
Douglas, can you  
lend me 30 cents?  
(SLGHS) For heaven`s sake,  
Mother!  
I`m rehearsing my lines.  
It`s only 30 cents.  
(CLEARS THROAT)  
Tell him, my friend, who

Monsieur Beaucaire really is.

**DOUGLAS:**

Permit me the honor  
of presenting to you,  
His Royal Highness,  
the Duc...

Elizabeth!

Elizabeth!

Yes, that`s right, Agnes.

Be sure and tuck it in.

Good morning, Elizabeth.

(SLGHS)

Could you lend me 30...

Oh, dear!

What`s the matter?

(SLGHS)

What`s it all about?

Going to bed at night,  
getting up in the morning.

What for?

It`s that cheese  
you ate last night!

You`ve got that green look.

Now you go right back to bed.

I`ll go downstairs and get  
you something for it.

Oh, Kenneth! Kenneth!

What is it, Mother?

Have you seen  
the castor oil?

We used it all last  
night in the cocktails.

Oh.

Didn`t it make  
you awful sick?

(TELEPHONE RINGING)

(EXCLALMS)

Hello.

Why, Kenneth,  
what`s the matter with you?

Yes, certainly.

It`s for you, Mother.

Oh, that`s nice. Hello.

This is R.G.  
Briggs and Company.  
Mr. Stokes speaking.  
Yes. Yes, Mr. Stokes.  
Yes, I'll come right  
down and cover it up.  
Yes, I'll come right away.  
Mrs. Rimplegar, the man,  
she want 30 cents.  
Oh, yes, yes,  
of course, Albert.  
Okay, Mrs. Rimplegar.  
Let it go until next time.  
No, no, come along, Albert.  
Permit me the honor  
of presenting to you,  
His Royal Highness,  
the Duc d'Orleans,  
Duc de Chartres,  
Duc de Nemours,  
Comte de Beaujolais,  
and cousin of His  
Most Christian Majesty,  
the...  
(TELEPHONE RINGING)  
(CLEARS THROAT)  
Hello.  
Hey, that's for me!  
(CLEARS THROAT) Yes.  
I'm sorry.  
It's for Elizabeth.  
Oh, yes. Elizabeth.  
(CLEARS THROAT)  
Oh, Liz, telephone!

**ELIZABETH:**

She's coming.  
Is it Ronald?  
No, it's Dr. Stevens.  
Oh.  
Tell him I'm still asleep.  
She says she's still asleep.  
Oh, you rat! Give me that.  
(CHUCKLES) I'm sorry, Alan.

How are all the  
crazy Rimplegars  
this morning?

(LAUGHS)

Hey, you know you  
have a date with me.

Oh, I'm sorry.

I don't think I feel quite up  
to visiting a clinic today.

(CHUCKLES) Okay.

We all feel that  
way sometimes. Yes.  
Another time, then.

Sure. Bye.

Tell him, my friend,  
who Monsieur

Beaucaire really is.

Permit me the honor  
of presenting to you,

His Royal Highness,

the Duc d'Orleans,

Duc de Chartres,

Duc de Nemours,

Comte de Beaujolais,

(DOOR SLAMS)

and cousin of His  
Most Christian...

**EDDIE:**

Well, your little  
brother's back.

Have you been away?

Oh, hey, what does a guy

have to do to get a

rise out of this family,

make a transatlantic flight?

(EXCLAIMING) My little boy!

Hello, Mom.

My Eddie! My baby!

(CHUCKLING) You're back

safe and sound!

He's been gone

two whole days!

Gee, I'm in an awful hurry.

I`ve gotta be up at  
college for an 11:00 class.  
I didn`t have time  
to change last night.  
Went driving till morning.  
You don`t look  
very well, darling.  
Why?  
What`s wrong with me?  
Did you have your  
three glasses of milk  
while you were away?  
I don`t like milk!  
How long do you  
think you can keep  
on going this way?  
Running around  
without any milk?  
You sound as if he were  
a dairy wagon or something.  
(/NSTRUMENTAL MUS/C PLAY/NG)  
Tell him, my friend, who  
Monsieur Beaucaire really is.  
Permit me the honor  
of presenting to you,  
His Royal Highness,  
the Duc d`Orleans...  
(MUSIC STOPS)  
(SLGHS) I hate Monday.  
What can you do  
on a Monday?  
You`ve been getting  
awfully moody lately.  
What`s the matter,  
have you quarreled  
with Ronald?  
We never quarrel.  
Duc d`Orleans,  
Duc de Chartres, Duc...  
You ate two eggs, too?  
No. No, Jenny,  
I ate coffee.  
Has Ronald finished  
that novel of his yet?



Mmm-mmm.

Give him time.

He`s only been working  
on it for two years.

How many years is it since  
you`ve been prancing around  
that Little Theatre of yours?

I propose to learn the  
fundamentals of my work  
before going into it  
professionally.

Well, it seems to me that  
accent`s about the only thing  
you brought back from Harvard.

Can`t you speak English  
when you`re home  
with just us folks?

We won`t tell your public.

I shall speak exactly  
as I please. It sounds  
well. It sounds very well.

It sounds lousy.

(TELEPHONE RINGING)

**NELLIE:**

Never mind.

That`s for me.

I`m expecting  
a phone call.

What`s all the riot about?

So am I.

Oh, wait a minute,  
will you?

It`s the wrong number.

I made up my mind.

I`m going away.

With Ed`s clothes?

Ed`s clothes!

My clothes. Look at them.

All I need is my  
own toothbrush.

(SLGHS) Is it Kitty again?

No.

You know, honey,

when it comes to Kitty,  
you all is what we call  
down East here a schlemiel.  
Kitty had nothing  
to do with it.  
I`m just fed up  
with everything!  
I hate being a law clerk.  
What`s the sense of working  
if you don`t need the money?  
Hate the family!  
Hate you!  
Well, well, well!  
I don`t care if I  
never see any of you again.  
(SCOFFS) You`ll break  
your old mammy`s heart!  
Don`t pull that one on me.  
I`m not going to lead  
a negative life just  
because I have a mother.  
Women are becoming mothers  
all over the world.  
Yeah. Yeah,  
somebody ought to  
put a stop to it.  
From now on,  
I`m going to be absolutely  
independent of everybody.  
That reminds me,  
I`ve got to ask Mother  
for some money. Hey, Ma!  
(TELEPHONE RINGING)  
Hello.  
Oh, hello, Kitty, darling!  
I just want you to  
know that my feelings  
are terribly hurt,  
the way you talked to  
me a little while ago.  
Well, sweetheart,  
you know I didn`t mean to.  
Nevertheless,  
I`ve a good mind

never to forgive you.  
Say, who are you  
talking to, anyway?  
(SHUSHES)  
It`s Mother.  
What was that?  
It was only Mother.  
(HORSE NEIGHING)  
What was that noise?  
(CHUCKLING NERVOUSLY)  
It`s Mother`s asthma.  
I`ll meet you at lunch.  
Listen, I love you.  
I love you. I love you!  
Gee, Doug,  
she`s the swellest  
kid in the world!  
Give me that!  
(TELEPHONE RINGING)  
What`s the matter?  
Have I got it on wrong?  
Give me that back!  
(TELEPHONE CONTINUES RINGING)  
Come back here  
with that!  
You crazy!

**KENNETH:**

That wasn`t anything!  
Ronald, darling!  
I`ve been waiting for  
your call all morning.  
What? You`re dispossessed!  
You mean she actually  
threw you out  
because you didn`t  
pay your rent?  
Listen, you go right back  
to that landlady and make  
her return your manuscript.  
All right, then I`ll do it.  
I`ll be at your house  
in half an hour!

**DOUGLAS:**

here with that.

**KENNETH:**

you big...

Come on!

(LAUGHING)

(CHOKING)

Give me that wig!

You're ruining it!

I won't! I won't!

Enjoying yourselves, children?

Playing a game?

Hey, Ma!

Ma, See, I'm awful

late for my class.

Can I order a cab?

No. That's awfully  
extravagant, Eddie.

Oh, just this once.

No!

(BOTH LAUGHING)

Come on! Come on!

All right, baby.

Oh, I'm going out, too.

Tell them to send one for me.

Okay.

**DOUGLAS:**

No!

Order one for me,

too, Eddie.

(CHUCKLES)

You big ham!

(LAUGHING)

Hello. Yellow Taxi?

Send a cab right over

to Mrs. Rimplegar's.

**EDDIE:**

Give me that phone.

Alley-ooop!

Hello! Yellow Taxi?

**MAN:**

don` t try to get rough  
with the old lady.  
I` ll not stand for  
anything like that.  
Ronald!  
Ronald, darling!  
(PEOPLE EXCLALMING)  
Don` t you worry.  
I` ll settle this.  
How much does  
he owe you?  
\$16.  
Give me that!  
Okay, Mike.  
10, 15, 16.  
Thanks.  
Have you got everything?

**ELIZABETH:**

**RONALD:**

He`s throwing it  
down the steps.  
Come on.  
Is this the stuff  
you wrote yesterday?  
Yeah.  
Help a guy make a living,  
won` t you, mister?  
Wait!  
It just occurred to me.  
I` ve had no breakfast.  
Oh, you poor darling.  
Give me a bar  
of chocolate.  
Oh, no, no, no.  
Here.  
Can you?  
Yeah.  
Thank you.  
The beginning of the  
chapter I wrote soft  
and, you know,

full of sunlight.  
Like this Togassa nude.  
But there`s a recurring,  
ominous beat in it.  
First it`s faint,  
like a dropping tear,  
but later it pounds  
more and more,  
furious, like rainy,  
thunderous music.  
Oh, that sounds swell!  
No! It`s rotten! It`s hollow.  
It`s falling to pieces!  
I can`t get it to go right.  
(SLGHS)  
I`m a failure.  
(EXCLALMS) Now,  
there you go again.  
You know perfectly well,  
you write like  
a tree on fire.  
If I could only  
be like you, dear,  
so wonderfully at  
peace with yourself  
all the time.  
That`s what you think!  
Ronald, I haven`t  
told you, but for the  
last six or seven months,  
I`ve been in despair!  
Darling!  
I hate everything in life,  
people, everything!  
So do I!  
I suppose a lot of  
people feel that way  
when their youth is gone.  
(SLGHS) I was so happy  
when I was in college.  
Nothing will ever  
be the same as it  
was when I was 18.  
I was such

a happy little dope.  
Yes. Yes, that was my zenith,  
when I was 18.  
I`ve had two zeniths.  
Huh?  
You need some breakfast.  
(CHILDREN CHATTERING)

**ELIZABETH:**

Chopped ham, lamb chops.  
What do you want, Ronald?  
Oh, I don`t know.  
Anything.  
Bring us the luncheon.  
All right.  
Darling, how about  
getting out of all this?  
Hmm?  
Well, we just got here.  
No, not that.  
How about one grand,  
beautiful exit together?  
Suicide.  
What?  
Together. You and I.  
A beautiful, original suicide.  
Get away from me!  
I haven`t thought seriously  
about suicide since I was 14  
and flunked algebra.  
You mean it?  
Life without ecstasy,  
Elizabeth, isn`t worth that!  
Yeah.  
Maybe you`re right.  
The most beautiful  
thing in life...  
(SNEEZES)  
God bless you, darling.  
I`m sorry.  
(SNEEZES)  
What I wanted to say...  
(SNEEZES)  
Ronald,

you`ve caught cold!  
Am I feverish?  
(GASPS) Yes!  
Oh.  
My throat feels  
kind of funny, too.  
Let me see!  
Ah.  
See if there are any spots.  
Oh, you`ve got to  
see a doctor.  
Alan Stevens.  
He`s crazy about me.  
I mean, he`s a  
friend of the family,  
and he won`t charge  
you a cent, see?  
Come on, hurry up, now.  
Ah.  
Once more.  
Ah.  
Again.  
Ah.  
Well?  
Well, old man,  
your throat is  
absolutely spotless.  
Yeah, we`ll have to  
do something about that.  
Send in  
Miss Rimplegar, please.  
Oh, hello, Elizabeth.  
Is he all right?  
Well, ordinarily  
I`d say yes, but under  
the present conditions...  
Say, Ronald tells me that  
you plan to commit suicide.  
No, I didn`t.  
All I asked was...  
You know,  
some methods  
are very painful.  
Let me see. Here.



Here. Six of these,  
dissolved in a glass of water  
and taken on  
an empty stomach.  
Go to sleep and  
never wake up again.  
There you are.  
Very simple, isn't it?  
No convulsions,  
no stains on the carpets.  
I suppose you think  
you're being very funny.  
Oh, no. I'm just  
trying to be helpful.  
Come on, Ronald.  
(DOOR SHUTS)

**MAN:**

Look at Telephone!

**WOMAN:**

Look at Atchison!  
Say, two minutes late.  
Market's lower.  
(INDISTINCT CHATTERING)

**WOMAN:**

attending to that.  
The Rimplegar account,  
please.  
Mrs. Nellie Rimplegar.  
Yes, ma'am.  
Mr. Bailey, Mr. Stokes  
wants you to sell out  
the Robinson account.  
All right.  
Will you attend to that,  
George, please?  
Certainly.  
Now, you can see  
for yourself, ma'am.  
They tell me my  
margin is down.  
Yes, ma'am.

Oh!  
Will you tell me  
something, please?  
Just exactly  
what is margin?  
Well, look.  
Here`s what you`ve got. See?  
Here`s what we need,  
that much more.  
Oh, I see.  
Margin means more money.  
Yes, ma`am.  
Yes.  
How soon must you have it?

**Well, it`s 2:**

The market closes at 3:00.  
Couldn`t they keep it open  
just a few minutes longer?  
Oh, no.  
Well,  
I`d better go to the bank.  
I`ll be back in half an hour.  
(CHUCKLES) Oh, that`s fine.  
Oh. You`re not the man  
I talked to three years ago,  
are you, with the moustache?  
No.  
He was such a nice man!  
How do you do,  
Mrs. Rimplegar?  
How do you do,  
Mr. Kline?  
I want just lots  
of money this time.  
I was just going to  
phone you about that.  
Your balance is  
down to \$1.65.  
\$1.65?  
Hmm.  
How much money  
did you say  
I had in the bank?

\$1.65.

(CHUCKLING) Oh.

Oh, dear!

Good night.

**ELIZABETH:**

(ELIZABETH EXCLAIMS)

You shouldn't have  
bought those, honey.

You're broke.

That's all right.

He lets me charge him.

(LAUGHS)

How you call him?

Him?

I call him George.

Ah.

Yes, Jen.

Here, Jenny.

You take George  
into the kitchen,  
cut off his ends,  
and give him  
a little water.

I guess we'll have  
to put you in the room  
on the third floor.

George!

(SNLFFS)

Beautiful George!

Things are never quite as  
bad as they seem, are they,  
Mrs. Johnson?

Why not?

What?

Mother!

**NELLIE:**

That's hot!

Mother!

Yes, dear?

Have you an extra  
key to the front door?

What for?

Ronald`s coming  
to live with us.  
Well, take mine, dear.  
It`s in my purse  
on the bureau.  
All right.  
Oh, who did you say?  
Ronald.  
Oh, that`s nice!  
Sell 5,000  
Three Cornered Moon  
at the market.  
Make it snappy.  
That`s the Rimplegar account.  
Check.  
Look here.  
But, Mother,  
what does this mean?  
``Your half hour up.  
Must deposit  
additional margin.``  
Margin?  
What margin?  
That`s just what  
I wanted to know.  
And listen  
to this one!  
``Unless we hear from you

**by 2:**

your account.``  
What on earth is this?  
Shh.  
Oh, never mind her.  
I`ll get the hot oil,  
Mrs. Rimplegar.  
(CHUCKLES) Yes.  
Why, here`s another one!  
``Having no response to our  
two previous messages,  
``we have closed you out.``  
That one came last.  
Well, what`s the  
matter here, anyhow?

Matter!

Matter!

Well, all I can say is,  
children, that from now on,  
we`ll have to paddle  
our own canoe.

Mother, why didn`t you ever  
say something about this?

I`m not the kind of  
mother who throws her  
burdens on her children.

Mother,  
have we any stocks?

Well, yes and no.

She means we did have,  
but we haven`t anymore.

Mother, are we cleaned?

For heaven`s sake, Mother!

Don`t get excited,  
children,  
or you`ll all have  
nervous breakdowns.

(GROANING)

And please sit down.

People always think better  
when they`re sitting down.

I`m a lawyer.

I`m studying law,  
so let me question Mother.

Mother, when did  
you get these stocks?

Well, let me see.

Oh, It was a  
long time ago.

The year after  
Papa died, I think.

It was the year  
Elizabeth won the  
poetry prize in college.

When was that, dear?

About four years ago,

Mother.

Are you sure?

Yes.

The year you won  
the poetry prize,  
Ed was just graduating  
from the Poly Prep.  
I was having my  
teeth straightened.  
Who cares?  
No, you weren't, either.  
It was after that.  
All right, Ma,  
so it was  
four years ago.  
Well, there I was,  
left all alone with you  
children to look after.  
I wanted to plan  
a surprise for you.  
A surprise?  
So, I invested  
\$75,000 in some stock.  
\$75,000?  
And later on, \$50,000 more.  
Oh, Mama!  
\$50,000 more!  
Well, a man told me  
it was very good stock.  
Who was he?  
Where did you  
meet him?  
A strange man?  
Don't ask silly questions!  
He was a very nice man.  
Maybe we could  
get some of the  
money back!  
Yeah.  
Most of it was in  
Three Cornered Moon.

**DOUGLAS:**

Three Cornered Moon,  
what's that?  
Well, it's a  
mine or something.

What kind of a mine?  
Well, it`s a metal mine.  
He was a very nice man,  
and he was most enthusiastic.  
What was the nice man`s name?  
Now, let me see.  
(CHUCKLES) ``D`` is on  
the tip of my tongue.  
Never mind the name!  
Well, the stocks  
were fine until...  
The fall of 1929.  
How did you know?  
All right, Mom,  
so they started  
to go down.  
Yes,  
and then they went up again,  
and I thought they`d stay up.  
But then it went down again,  
and then up again,  
and down again,  
and I thought it would  
go up again and stay up,  
but it didn`t.  
It went down  
again and stayed down.  
Then, last week,  
Mr. Briggs called me up.  
Briggs!  
That was the name, Briggs.  
Well, he told me to deposit  
some more money, and I did.  
A whole lot more.  
Then this morning,  
he called me up again, and  
when I went down to see him,  
it was a different  
man with a moustache.  
No. No, without a moustache.  
Well, I found my  
margin was...  
It wasn`t what it  
ought to have been,

and I was going to  
deposit some more money,  
but there wasn't any  
more left in the bank.  
Well, what did you do then?  
Well, what could I do?  
I`m not a child, you know.  
I know just as  
well as anybody else  
when there`s no  
more money in the bank.  
So, I took a taxi home  
and had my hair washed.  
(SLGHS)  
(BOTH CRYLING)  
Oh, Mrs. Rimplegar,  
she is doctor for you.  
Oh, Rimplegars!  
(GLGGLLING)  
Oh, children!  
Dr. Stevens is here!  
(FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING)  
Hey, Doc!  
Listen, Doc!

**KENNETH:**

It`s all gone!

**EDDIE:**

Three Cornered Moon!

**KENNETH:**

We`re flat!  
What are we gonna do?  
We`ve got to do something!  
Yeah. You know about  
the stock market, Doc!  
Now, wait a minute!  
This whole thing  
bowls me over!  
(CRYLING) Oh, help my poor  
children, Dr. Stevens.  
It was all my fault.  
Yes, cry about it now,



Mother, dear,  
when it`s too late.  
That`s right,  
that`s right,  
blame it all on me.  
You children never  
took any interest.  
Did you ever ask me  
how our finances were?  
Listen, all of you!  
It isn`t all Mother`s fault.  
After all,  
there`s a houseful  
of adults here.  
The least we could have  
done was to have realized  
how incompetent she was  
and taken things  
out of her hands.  
That`s right.  
What do you think  
of selling the house?

**EDDIE:**

Wait a minute.  
We could put a  
sign in the window.  
Sure. A large,  
beautiful home.  
There`s a depression on,  
you know.  
Why, you can`t give  
big places like this away.  
On the other hand,  
if you hang onto it,  
at least you`ll be assured  
of a roof over your heads.  
I think I`ll get  
you all some hot milk.  
Sit down, Mother.  
What about all  
those rooms upstairs?  
Instead of using  
them to play house with,

why don't you try  
renting them out?  
Oh, no! Imagine a lot  
of strange people  
running in and out,  
destroying our privacy!  
All right, I'll rent one.  
I live alone, anyhow.  
Oh, what good will it  
do to rent one room?  
Let the house fall down!  
We're licked!  
We're done for!  
We're penniless!  
I'm gonna get out of here.  
Kenneth!  
Let him go.  
Let's all go.  
Let's all hold hands  
and jump in the river!  
Now, look here,  
the whole pack of you!  
You've all been  
crazy long enough.  
This is the one time  
you can't fly off the handle.  
And for once in your lives,  
you've got to get  
hold of yourselves.  
You've got to stop  
screaming and you've  
actually got to think!  
How about it, Elizabeth?  
That's right.  
I'm sorry.  
You were saying  
that we'd have to  
sell some things.  
That sounds like  
a very good idea.  
Yes, and whatever money  
you realize should be  
turned over to you.  
And Elizabeth will

take care of the books  
and sign the checks.  
Now, just a minute, children.  
Just a minute!  
I`m still your mother,  
you know.  
Not with that  
thing on your head.  
And the mother  
signs the checks.  
Oh, no!  
Oh, no!  
Now look, Mrs. Rimplegar,  
one of the purposes  
of this meeting  
was to retire you  
from active economic life.  
From now on, Ma,  
you`re a has-been!  
I`m still the head  
of the house, and I  
must sign something!  
I know.  
Dr. Stevens will let you  
sign the receipt for his  
room rent every week.  
Oh! That`s nice.  
And it looks  
like the rest of you  
will have to get jobs.  
No more college  
for you, Eddie.  
That`s right.  
We`ve got to  
go to work.  
We`ve got to  
get some money.  
Find the ``Help  
Wanted`` section.  
Where`s the  
evening paper?

**DOUGLAS:**

Janet Welsh knows

one of the directors  
down at the Theatre Guild.  
Where`s the phone book?  
Where`s the phone book?  
Now, what am I  
going to do?  
You stick to your  
law office until you pass  
your bar examinations.  
All right. I`ll start  
studying right away.  
Where`s my Lewis on Evidence?  
Mom, have you seen  
my Lewis on Evidence?  
It was here  
a little while ago.  
Here`s Main Street by Lewis.  
Will that do?  
(EXCLAMATIONS)  
Why, Kenneth!  
Now, Mrs. Rimplegar,  
there`ll be no money  
to pay Jenny or  
the upstairs maid  
or the gardener.  
Oh. I can do the cooking.  
I`ll go and explain to Jenny.  
``Operators, Union Special,  
machine-sewing beef casings.``  
What`s beef casings?  
Hey, here`s one,  
sis. Here`s one.  
``Salesman, experience  
unnecessary, sell awnings.  
``Good proposition  
and commission.``  
Oh, shut up.  
That`s for men.  
``Helper, high-class work.  
``Press operators and  
hand ironers on  
family finish work.  
``Experienced only.``  
Listen, Janet,

do you remember telling me  
you met Rouben Mamoulian  
at a party last month?  
Yeah. Where he  
gave you the cocktail.  
Yeah, the Guild director.  
Yeah. Listen,  
I need a job.  
What? Yeah.  
Yeah, sure,  
if you`ll give me a letter  
of introduction to him.  
Elizabeth!  
Yeah.  
Uh-huh. Sure.  
I`ve got to  
go to work...  
Elizabeth, I`ve got it.  
The perfect ending  
for the chapter!  
Listen to this.  
``Short, sharp, hard, strong.  
``Words like iron,  
pouring, pounding.``  
Look, Jenny,  
you don`t understand.  
We can`t keep you.  
Out! You keep there,  
I keep here!  
But, Jenny, we haven`t  
any more money.  
Money!  
(SMASHING)  
Oh, dear!  
``Suddenly, the room  
was pervaded with  
``a silence that was  
louder than thunder!``  
Who puts books in  
shelves upside down!  
Hey, look, sis!  
``Salesman wanted,  
not over 25.``  
Oh, no, this guy`s

got to have a car  
and small capital,  
or is it capital  
and a small car?

Here it is.

``She rose from the table,  
took a step toward him,  
``then faltered  
and turned away.

``His face was stubbornly  
averted from her.``

``Wanted, a man  
to clean sewers,  
easy hours.``

Gee, that sounds swell!

Hey, what`s got into  
this family, anyhow?

Never mind, darling,  
nothing that you  
have to worry about.

Well, then,

what are you doing?

I`m looking for a job.

**EDDIE:**

plumber, groom, electrician,  
experience necessary,  
barbers, union only...

**MAN 1:**

there before.

**MAN 2:**

**MAN 3:**

/ get over there,  
they don`t need nobody.

**MAN 4:**

to work free till  
you get experience.

**MAN 5:**

nothing by trying.

**MAN 6:**

nickel on the subway.

**MAN 7:**

walking since January.

**MAN 8:**

**MAN 9:**

for everybody today.

Don't crowd!

**WOMAN 1:**

we've heard that before, too.

**MAN 10:**

said they were going  
to open on part-time.

**WOMAN 2:**

here's something new.

**WOMAN 3:**

here's something.

**WOMAN 4:**

We've gotta hurry.

(INDISTINCT CHATTERING)

Get back there!

Get in line!

Come on, now, ladies.

Get in line. Come on.

Hold your places

and stay there.

Oh, Shut up!

Now, remember,

what I told you.

Where did you work

in St. Louis?

The Johnson-Brown

Shoe Factory.

What kind of a machine?

Kendall Improved,

rotary action.

Okay, kid, now,

don't forget.

Thank you.

What shoe factory

did you work in?

That is, supposing

you have worked

in a shoe factory?

The Walk-Easy Factory

in St. Louis.

That's the name of the shoe.

What's the factory?

Oh. Johnson-Brown.

What machine did you use?

The Kendall Improved,

rotary action.

Sure. That's the best kind  
for a little girl like you.

Okay.

Hey, here he is now.

You've got

a pretty good stroke.

Where'd you learn it?

Columbia, freshman team.

Oh.

(BOYS SHOUTING)

(BLOWS WHISTLE)

Hey,

can't you read that sign?

Get down off there!

I may be able to

use you around here,

watching the kids.

Little night work thrown in.

You get a dollar

for the whole thing.

A dollar a day.

Yeah. With the

night work thrown in.

Sure, I understand that.

Okay.

Well...

Here are the



pictures of me from  
Monsieur Beaucaire.  
Yes, yes, yes,  
yes, yes.  
Here`s your part.  
\$1 2 a week.  
We don`t pay salary  
during rehearsals.  
Well, is this all  
there is to the part?  
And we rehearse  
three weeks.  
Just the one line?  
``Yes``?  
Sure.  
That`s a good little part.  
Good night,  
Mr. Clark.  
Good night.  
That`s the star.  
That`s the lady  
that talks to you.  
She says,  
``You`re the third  
man to annoy me.  
``I can`t stand it,``  
and so on and  
so on and so on.  
Then she works  
it up to a climax,  
and you say, ``Yes.``  
Can you handle it?  
Yes.  
Going to lunch, Ken?  
No, thanks, gentlemen.  
I`ll stick with  
this a while longer.  
Lunch later.  
(CHUCKLING) Okay.  
So long.  
(DOOR CLOSES)  
(MACHINE WHIRLING)  
(SLGHS)  
It just looks as if no

matter how hard I try,  
I can't keep up.  
You're doing all right.  
You've learned more  
in two weeks  
than I did in two months.

**MAN:**

Mr. Hawkins.  
Here comes Hawkins.  
What about last night.  
What's the alibi?  
Only girl in the shop  
who don't keep  
up to our minimum.  
Well, do some talking.  
My mother was very ill.  
I had to hurry home.  
What about tonight?  
Tonight?  
By the way, Mr. Hawkins,  
aren't you married?  
I don't ask my  
wife no questions,  
and my wife don't  
ask me no questions.  
Oh.

**6:**

right in front of  
that drugstore.  
And if your mother  
is still sick,  
you can go and nurse her,  
and stay there!  
Don't you think it's about  
time we had some fresh paper  
on this window, Douglas?  
Yes. Yes.  
Yes. Yes.  
Oh. Oh, yes.  
Seems sort of empty  
around here without  
the piano and things.

Yes. Yep.  
Yes, yes, yes.  
Oh, Papa!  
Oh, dear!  
Yes, yes, yes, yes.  
How`s that  
lamb stew, Ma?  
It`s all ready, Eddie,  
just as soon as  
Elizabeth gets home.  
Oh, yeah. That reminds me.  
Yes, I must speak to Jenny.  
Yes, I know, Kitty,  
but I can`t, sweetest.  
Sure, it`ll be a swell party,  
and I`d love to take you,  
(DOOR CLOSES)  
but I`ve simply got to work  
on some briefs tonight.  
It means extra money.  
And then if I pass  
the bar examinations...  
No, I won`t know till tomorrow  
whether I`ve passed the  
examinations or not.  
It`ll be in the  
morning papers.  
I can`t go tonight!

**DOUGLAS:**

How`s the  
English diction?  
(CHUCKLES) That`s the bunk.  
When does the  
salary start?  
We go on the road tomorrow.  
Good luck!  
Thanks.  
Yes.  
Hello, sis.  
Tough day?  
Mmm-hmm.  
Still going  
without your lunch?

Well, I still need shoes.  
Working  
again tonight?  
Yep.  
(CLICKING TONGUE)  
You`ll kill yourself.  
Say, where`s Ronald?  
The smell of  
food nauseated him,  
so he went out in  
the backyard to  
commune with nature.  
Oh, you don`t understand  
the kind of person he is.  
Hey! Keep him out  
there till after dinner.  
I`ll eat his share.  
You need it!

**ELIZABETH:**

Darling!  
Elizabeth!  
Oh, you shouldn`t  
be out here  
without your coat.  
Wait a minute,  
I`ll get it for you.  
No, don`t go in  
there with them.  
It`s been unbearable  
waiting for you all day.  
I`ve had such  
a mean day of it.  
That chapter 14,  
it won`t budge.  
(SLGHS) Forget about it,  
darling.  
Oh, I`m tired!  
And kind of blue.  
Why?  
That job.  
I`ve got to give it up.  
Oh, never mind.  
It`s too silly.

Only I hate to start  
looking for work  
all over again.  
Did you ever notice  
this tree, Elizabeth?  
How transparent  
green-gold the leaves  
are at this time of day.  
Doesn't it make you  
shiver just to look at it?

No.

Six months ago  
I might have  
shivered about it.  
Now it's just a tree.  
Darling! Don't talk  
like that. Don't change.  
I like to think of  
you as a tree somehow.

(CHUCKLES)

What kind of a tree?  
Beautiful, strongly  
rooted in the Earth.  
(CHUCKLES) Ronald,  
You're such a weird person.  
I can't see how anyone  
can have lived through  
what we've gone through  
so absolutely unchanged.  
What do you live for?  
My novel and you.

Darling!

Let's go away alone together.  
Hey! Dinner's ready.

Are you hungry,  
darling?

Yeah, I could eat  
if I have to.

Well, here's some  
bread, anyway.

Oh, hey, Liz...

She said I was killing  
her laugh with my line.  
And what do you think?

I saved a little kid  
from drowning today.  
When do you  
get your medal?  
Boy, what a grip  
he had, though!  
She had the nerve to ask me  
to cut my line  
and just nod.  
He had me just like this!  
Look, like this.  
First he got me  
like this, see?  
And then I turned  
around and I got him  
in the hair like this.  
And he was  
kicking all the time!  
And we went down two  
or three times, too.  
Did you get drowned, Eddie?

**Yeah, at 3:**

this afternoon.  
How`ve you been?  
For heaven`s sake, Mother,  
either come into the  
conversation in the beginning  
or stay out  
altogether.  
After the meal is over,  
we`ll give you a  
typewritten report  
of everything  
that`s been said.  
And you can sign it.  
Oh, that`ll be...  
I think you children  
should confide  
more in your mother.  
(LAUGHlNG)  
Sweetheart, I tell you,  
I can`t go to the party.  
Hey, Ken!

(CLINKING)

Time out for dinner!

It still needs salt.

Salt!

Well, there`s no use

looking at me

like that, Jenny.

The least I can do

is help with the work

since you insist on

staying here without pay.

Pay? Yeah, payday.

When I get him?

Now, listen, Jenny,

very carefully. We haven`t...

We have not any...

Pepper?

Oh, never mind, Jenny.

Albert says

he knows a man

who speaks Polish.

I`ll have him

over and interpret.

Yeah.

(EXCLAMMS)

(EXCLAMING) It`s hot!

**NELLIE:**

Oh! Jenny! Oh, dear!

(GASPS)

Oh, dear!

Oh, dear!

Oh, Mother!

Oh, Elizabeth!

Look at me!

Look at you?

Look at our dinner!

And there isn`t

anything else in the house.

Never mind,

we`ll eat bread and butter.

No butter!

Hey, you can brush him off.

(LAUGHS)

No butter? And there  
isn't very much bread.  
Well, I'll run over  
and pick up something  
at the delicatessen.  
Hey, you got  
any change, Liz?  
Mmm-hmm. Six cents,  
and I need five for the  
subway tomorrow morning.  
Oh. gee!  
Hey, Doug!  
You got any change?  
No, I'm flat.  
I don't get paid  
until Saturday.  
How about that two bits  
I lent you the other day?  
Two bits?  
I gave that to a man  
standing on the street.  
He was hungry.  
Tell me the name of  
the street and I'll  
go and stand there.  
Oh, this is terrible!  
Ma! We've still got credit  
at the delicatessen store,  
haven't we?  
No.  
Well, folks, how would  
you all like to take a walk  
to the nearest bread line?

**ALAN:**

(WHISTLING)  
Shh.  
I just remembered.  
Tonight's the night  
he pays his rent.  
Oh, hello.  
What's happened?  
Is anything wrong?  
Oh, No.



We`re just glad to  
see you, that`s all.  
(CHUCKLES) Thank you.  
Oh, pickles.  
I like pickles.  
Say, have you heard the news?  
The depression`s over.  
(CHUCKLING)  
Isn`t that nice?  
Yeah, that patient  
of mine paid her bill.  
I had two lamb  
chops for dinner.  
How many lamb chops?  
Two.  
You know, there was  
something in connection  
with you Rimplegars  
that I was  
going to do tonight.  
Funny,  
I can`t think what it was!  
Mother, isn`t it about  
time you fixed the rent  
in Douglas` trousers?  
Hmm?  
His trousers?  
Well, maybe I`ll think  
of it in the morning.  
Good night.  
Why didn`t you  
ask him for it?  
I was afraid  
he might leave.  
But we`ve gotta eat tonight.  
Odd man loses.  
One, two, three.  
You`re odd man, Liz.  
Go tell him.  
No.  
You gotta.  
No, I won`t go!  
I don`t want to go!  
Now, go on. Be a sport.

No, you always make  
me do the dirty work!

**ELIZABETH:**

Yes, Elizabeth?

I just wanted to ask  
you about your room.

Are you comfortable?

Oh, swell.

Say, by the way, I tried to  
get you at your office today.

My office?

Yes, but nobody  
there seemed to know you.

Well, you know,  
they've got so many girls.

Why did you call?

I collected that  
money and I wanted  
to take you to lunch.

Oh, well, that was  
nice of you, Alan.

Come here.

What's the matter?

I want to take you  
down near the light.

I want to see something.

(CHUCKLES) Why.

Just as I thought.

You've been working too hard.

You're tired.

Oh, I'm getting used to it.

You know, each night you  
come home you look more  
tired than the night before.

I didn't know you'd  
been observing me.

I hate to see you  
killing yourself this way.

You know,  
somebody should be  
taking care of you.

I mean,  
when are you and Ronald

going to be married?

Oh, as soon as his  
book's published.

I see.

Oh!

Why didn't you  
tell us you needed  
a window shade?

I don't... Oh, that.

That's just a towel.

(LAUGHS) Well,

I'll get you one tomorrow.

After all, you should  
have some service  
for the rent you pay.

Rent!

I almost forgot  
all about it.

That's all right.

Here you are.

If she doesn't get it...

She's got to get it!

(FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING)

Shh.

I've got it!

Now, here, Ken.

Ed always buys too much.

Two pounds of hamburger.

Make it three!

**ELIZABETH:**

a half pounds.

**NELLIE:**

pound of butter.

**ALL:**

Butter!

Excuse me!

Watch out where  
you're going!

Yoo-hoo!

Who's that?

Oh, it's Kitty.

No! You stay here, too.  
Hello, Eddie.  
Hello, Elizabeth.  
Hello, Kitty.  
Where`s Ken?  
Out.  
Gone for the evening.  
Gone, huh?  
Imagine!  
And here I`ve got a bid  
for a perfectly gorgeous party  
and I was absolutely  
counting on him to take me.  
Uh-huh.  
Uh-huh.  
At the last minute,  
he`s gone and left me.  
Ken get back yet?  
Why, Ronald!  
I haven`t seen  
you for ages!  
Hello.  
How`s your book  
coming along?

**RONALD:**

You know,  
I`ve a perfect complex  
about people who write.  
Isn`t that terrible?  
Awful!  
Huh?  
South Wind. I`ve read that.  
Yeah, you told us  
that last week.  
What else have you got?  
Shelley! Shelley.  
My, do you people  
read Shelley?  
I`m awfully glad  
to see that.  
That bird Shelley has  
been seen on the floor  
with more women...

Oh, Elizabeth, what do  
you think of Tennyson?  
What do we think  
of Tennyson, Eddie?  
He`s all right.  
Who`s all right?  
Tennyson!  
Tennyson!  
Crazy!  
Ronald, if you weren`t engaged  
to Elizabeth, do you know  
what I`d make you do?  
(CLICKING TONGUE)  
Shh! Not so loud!  
Please!  
Silly!  
I`d make you take me  
to the party tonight.  
Party?  
Why, I never go to parties.  
Oh.  
Well, I guess  
I`d better be going.  
Are you in a hurry?  
I don`t suppose  
anybody would care  
to walk home with me.  
I couldn`t bear to think  
of you walking a whole  
block all by yourself.

**KITTY:**

I insist upon walking  
part of the way with you!  
Come to baby!  
Well!  
Now you look here!  
I`ve got to work tonight  
because I need the \$3.  
If you want to  
break our engagement  
on account of this party,  
it`s perfectly  
okay with me!

Why, I never heard of such...  
And let me tell  
you something!  
This is more  
important to me than...  
Than I am!  
I`m not worth \$3!  
No!  
Okay, that settles it!  
Nobody ever said  
a thing like  
that to me before.  
I said it!  
Oh, Rimplegars!  
Oh, Kenneth,  
where`s Elizabeth?  
I don`t know.  
Elizabeth!  
Hello, Elizabeth.  
Hello.  
I just now remembered  
what I wanted to  
tell you people.  
Hello, Eddie. Where`s Ronald?  
Hello.  
There he is.  
There he is.  
Ronald, would you be  
interested in a job?  
Huh?

**EDDIE:**

**KENNETH:**

Good!  
Yeah, a patient of mine,  
a young publisher, has a  
job open as a reader  
or something like that.  
I told him about you  
and he thought you`d be  
just the man for the job.  
Not much money,  
but \$25 a week.

\$25?

Boy, oh, boy!

You mean a job  
in an office?

Oh, no!

Why, what`s the matter?

Well, I...

You tell them, dear.

Why, he doesn`t  
want that kind of work.

You see,

he`s writing a novel.

Yeah, but \$25 a week!

Couldn`t you lay  
the novel aside  
for a couple of weeks?

Lay it aside?

I couldn`t lay it  
aside even for an hour.

It`s part of my life!

Yeah, you can`t  
expect a man to  
lay aside his life  
for a couple of weeks,  
you know.

Well, couldn`t he  
go on with his novel  
and get a job, anyhow?  
But none of you understand.

He`s a genius.

You`d ruin him if  
you sent him out.

In the meantime,  
what are we going to do  
about the meantime?

We need money right now.

Here we are with this  
big place full of things we  
can`t sell and nothing to eat.

Have you ever thought of  
what you`d do if you were  
married and wanted a family?

Elizabeth couldn`t  
work then, you know.

Elizabeth and I  
are not interested  
in having a family  
and living in the usual way,  
are we, dear?  
I don't know.  
Ronald, you're a coward!  
You're afraid to work!  
Kenneth!  
You think just because  
you called me a coward  
that I'll be ashamed of  
everything I have to live  
for and go out and get a job?  
Well, I won't!  
Kenneth, I don't want  
to meddle, but Ronald is  
right. It isn't cowardice.  
It's some sort of  
an integrity that seems  
like weakness to you,  
but really is his strength.  
Well, all I know is  
he lives here and we  
have to support him.  
And he eats too much.  
All right I'll go.  
I'll leave!  
Ronald.  
You don't have to  
help support him.  
I'll take care of  
that from now on.  
Oh.  
What's the matter?  
I forgot about Mr. Hawkins.  
Who's he?  
No. I can't go back there.  
Do you mean you've  
lost your job?  
Oh, gee whiz!  
What'll we do now?  
Ronald, please!  
I don't see why you



have to beg him to work.  
He knows how bad things are.  
(CRYING) I won't go on  
like this! I'm hungry.  
Really hungry, all the time.  
Oh, Eddie, darling!  
Darling, don't!  
Ronald, you've got to  
do this for me.  
What's the address?  
Here it is.  
Penthouse over his offices.  
Why don't you go over now?  
Children,  
dinner's nearly ready.  
Thanks,  
I'm not hungry.  
Ronald, you'd better  
wash your hands.  
Well, I'm going out.  
After all, darling,  
it's a publisher's office.  
It's not a nuts  
and bolts factory.  
Elizabeth,  
don't be vulgar!

**KENNETH:**

I'll get you my good hat.  
You'll need 10  
cents for carfare.  
Kenneth, you've got  
change from the grocer's.  
I'll take a subway.  
I'll hurry.  
Yeah.  
Why, Ronald!  
Oh, hello, Kitty.  
What are you all  
dressed up for?  
I'm going to the party.  
If a certain person  
thinks I can't go places  
without him, he's mistaken.

Where are you going,  
Ronald?  
I`ve got to see  
a man on 19th Street.  
Why, that`s right  
on my way. Come on,  
I`ll give you a lift.  
Over the bridge, driver.  
Well, do you think  
this is quicker  
than a subway?  
Oh, boy, and \$25...  
\$25 a week.  
That`s \$110 a month,  
isn`t it?  
Yeah, just about.  
I thought only bank  
presidents got that.  
\$25. And if Ken  
passes his bar exam,  
that`ll double his salary.  
When do you hear  
the results, Ken?  
It`ll be in the papers  
tomorrow morning.  
What`s the matter?  
It`s getting me nervous.  
(LAUGHS)

**DOUGLAS:**

What do you want?  
Say, we`ll be able to  
eat three meals a day  
like they did in  
the 19th century.  
Ed, will you come up  
and give me a hand  
with my trunk?  
Okay. Coming up!  
Sending you out  
to look for a job?  
Why, Ronald, how wicked!  
I know, but I`ve got to do it  
for Elizabeth`s sake.

Well, that`s what  
love does to a man,  
traps him into  
betraying himself.  
But I`ll go  
through with it.  
I`ve got to!

**DOUGLAS:**

Hey, wait a minute.  
What`s the matter?  
I feel kind of dizzy.  
Well, never a dull moment!  
Just some more  
Rimplegar horseplay.

**DOUGLAS:**

Yes, darling?  
Come up and take  
a look at Eddie, will you?  
Anything for a laugh.  
What`s the matter?  
He`s passed out.  
Oh, no!  
Gee, he`s awfully white.  
Eddie!  
He`s dead! He`s dead!  
Alan! Alan! He`s dead!  
Eddie! He`s dead! He`s dead!  
Mother! Mother!  
He`s dead!  
Elizabeth!  
He`s dead! He`s...  
(EXCLALMS)  
All right.  
Let`s get him  
up to his room.

**ALAN:**

Keep his head up.

**DOUGLAS:**

**KENNETH:**

if he`s all right.

**ALAN:**

Kenneth, run down to  
the drugstore and get a  
container of hot malted milk.  
And run right back.  
Sure.

**NELLIE:**

your hands, children.  
Dinner`s ready.  
Easy, boy.  
Food`s coming up.  
He`s a little starved  
and mostly exhausted.  
Hey, what did you  
have in that trunk?  
(GROANS)  
No more night  
work for you, Eddie.  
Dinner`s ready.  
Why, Eddie,  
you shouldn`t go to  
bed before dinner.  
Is anything the  
matter with Eddie?  
No, just a stomachache.  
Well, now, you see,  
for a stomachache, you...  
Now, Mrs. Rimplegar,  
don`t worry,  
because I`ll  
prescribe for him.  
Give me the pillow.  
No, this one, this one.  
You see,  
the head should be  
higher than the feet,  
so that the blood  
will run up, yeah.  
No, or is it down?  
I don`t like hysterical  
women, Elizabeth.

I`m sorry.

(DOOR CLOSES)

Thanks.

I wish you could  
come to the party.

Couldn`t you  
look in afterwards?

No. They`ll be  
waiting for me at home.

Too bad, you`d have  
an awfully good time.

All right, driver.

(EDDIE SLGHS)

Hey, wait a minute,  
wait a minute!

Bring me a glass  
of water, will you?

Glass water?

Yeah.

Glass.

Yeah. Water. Water.

Glass of water.

Oh! Glass water! Yes, yes.

See? She`s learning.

Yeah. Yeah.

Feeling better, Eddie?

Haven`t felt so good  
since I had the measles.

You`ve got to quit  
working nights, darling.

Well, I`ll think about it.

No, no, no, You`ve got to.

Now, you don`t have to worry.

Ronald`s pay will  
make up the difference.

Okay, sis.

What time is it?

**Almost 9:**

Oh, I hope nothing`s  
happened to him.

(DOOR CLOSING)

Maybe that`s...

Ronald!

Elizabeth!

Elizabeth!

Ronald!

Oh! Darling, we`ve been  
so worried about you!

Flowers! Oh, darling!

**KENNETH:**

Did he get it, sis?

Did he get it?

Why, what took  
you so long?

Yes, I think I got it.

I took a walk  
down to the river.

You know that part  
I couldn`t get to go right.

The introduction  
to part four?

Well, it came to  
me magnificently!

I had to sit down right there  
and put it on paper.

I was so excited I  
almost fell into the river.

That was after  
the interview?

Oh. The interview!

I didn`t go.

I got as far as his  
door and then I knew  
it was impossible.

I couldn`t bear  
the thought of an office.

You...

And you brought me flowers!

Yes.

You`ve failed me!

Elizabeth!

Flowers! Artists!

That`s it! Why, that`s it.

I`ve been wanting to  
say that for a long time.

If a man`s an artist,

he`s holy!  
Other men have to  
work if they want to eat.  
Other men have certain duties  
to the people they love.  
But an artist, no!  
Oh, no!  
An artist must be fed. Why?  
Why, any more than  
a lawyer or a doctor  
or an Indian chief?  
(WEEPLNG)  
(JENNY SINGLING IN POLISH)  
George!  
Beautiful George!  
(ALARM RINGING)  
Hey! Elizabeth!

**KENNETH:**

are you up?

**ELIZABETH:**

I`m all dressed!

**KENNETH:**

**7.:**

**EDDIE:**

Calling all Rimplegars!

**Mother, 7.:**

Bar examination!

**NELLIE:**

Calling all Rimplegars!

**Douglas, 7.:**

**Douglas! 7.:**

Wait for baby!

Calling all Rimplegars!

Don`t open it

till we get down!

Oh, just a minute, children.  
Just a minute!

**KENNETH:**

**EDDIE:**

What time does it come?  
It`s generally  
in this mud puddle  
under the hydrant.  
Of course this is the day  
it`d have to be late!  
See if the Schultzes  
have got their paper.  
Oh, children, children!  
Don`t run around  
in the wet grass!

**ELIZABETH:**

Why didn`t you come earlier?  
Right in my hands!  
Here it is!  
Here it is, children!  
Children, it`s here!  
It`s right in here.

**ELIZABETH:**

**KENNETH:**

the door. I saw it!  
Here it is!

**KENNETH:**

I got it! I got it!  
Here, that`s my paper!  
Open it up,  
for heaven`s sake!  
There`s an index  
on the back page.  
Say, who took this  
examination, anyway?  
Here it is!  
`1,031 Pass Bar Examination.  
Page 19.``



19, 19, 19, 19...  
Now, don't get  
excited, Kenneth.  
You'll be a judge  
before you know it.  
Here I don't know  
if I've passed yet,  
and you have me a judge!  
Oh, it's enough to  
drive a person crazy!  
Page 19. No, this is 16...  
Kenneth,  
what a time to drop it!  
Oh, butterfingers!  
This is going to  
add years to my life!  
Look for the name Rimplegar.  
Page 19. Here it is.  
Here it is! Let's see now.  
Get out of my way!  
Will you give me a  
chance to look at it!  
Let's see, now.  
Azevedo,  
Brown, Frank, Farnum,  
Levy, Levy, Levy, Levy...  
When you get  
out of the Levys,  
give me a ring, will you?  
Mason, Morrison,  
Overton, Peters,  
R, R, R, R... Rache,  
Revier, Rosenheim,  
Rosenheim, Rosenheim,  
Rosenthal,  
Rosenthal, Rosenthal...  
Why, I must have  
missed it. Let's see.  
Rache, Revier, Rosenheim,  
Rosenheim, Rosenheim.  
Didn't you find it?  
It's not there.  
Not even honorable mention?  
Maybe you should have

gotten the Herald Tribune.

Maybe it`s in that.

Oh!

Never mind, honey.

You can take the  
exam again in March.

If I had passed,  
the firm was going to  
raise me to \$25 a week.

Oh, forget it!

I suppose if I`d studied more,  
instead of chasing around  
with that dumb cluck...

I`ll get you some coffee.

That`ll cheer you up.

If Ronald had  
only gotten that job!

Eddie!

Kenneth Rimplegar.

Huh?

Is it in the paper?

Yeah, right there.

Kenneth Rimplegar.

Alan, for heaven`s sake,  
don`t kid me! It wasn`t there.

All right, look for yourself.

You dumbbell!

You were looking in  
the Manhattan section.

There you are in Brooklyn.

``Rimplegar, Kenneth.``

I passed! I passed!

Kenneth!

I`m so happy!

I passed! I passed! I passed!

I passed! I passed! I passed!

Wait a minute!

I got an idea!

I passed!

\$25 a week!

Attorney Rimplegar!

Attorney Rimplegar!

Rimplegar for President!

Long live the President!

I passed!  
(KENNETH EXCLALMING)  
Mother, I passed!  
Oh, Kenneth,  
you need a shave!  
I passed!  
Did you get  
the Herald Tribune?  
It was there  
all the time, Mother!  
I passed! I passed!  
(EXCLALMS) Where you going,  
Jenny? For a touchdown?  
Come on,  
let`s have a drink.  
Hooray! We celebrate!  
Oh, isn`t that nice!

**ALAN:**

will you, Elizabeth?  
Oh, sure.  
How did you find out?  
Did the judges telephone you?  
It was in the Brooklyn  
section, Mother.  
Yes, well,  
naturally it was in  
the Brooklyn section.  
How`s that?  
Here.  
Here we are, friends.  
Am I going to get stewed!  
Am I going to get stewed!  
Just a very  
little one for Eddie.  
(EXCLALMING) Gee, Ma!  
Boy, I can`t get over it!  
It certainly is great!  
And the first  
time I took it, too.  
And both parts!  
Well, we eat now!  
Let`s drink first.  
Sure. Come on,

come on. Here, Mom.  
Now I can call you ``Judge``?  
Call me anything you like,  
Mrs. Rimplegar!  
Here`s to the judge.  
Here`s to him!  
His Honor!  
Hey, where`s Doug?  
Ed! Ed, come on!  
Let`s get Doug out of bed!  
Now, now! Boys, boys!

**KENNETH:**

imagine that guy sleeping  
on a day like that?

**EDDIE:**

Tell Ronald to come  
down to breakfast!  
Oh, boys, tell Ronald...  
Oh, dear, they shouldn`t  
run around this way  
before breakfast.  
That`s right, Jenny.  
Take those things  
out on the line.  
Why, Jenny,  
where`d you find that?  
Oh, dear,  
the last time I wore that...  
No, no, that was  
the other time.  
(SINGING)  
We passed the bar exam  
We passed the bar exam  
Hi-ho, the derry-o  
We passed the bar exam  
(LAUGHING)  
No! No! No!  
You see,  
I`m going away for  
a while with a patient,  
and I want you to  
keep my room for me,

and I'll pay you  
a couple of months  
rent in advance.

Who's the patient?

A man.

Oh.

Look, if you want to go,  
why don't you just say so?

You don't have to spare  
our feelings by inventing  
some cock and bull story.

Don't you like it here?

Oh, yes, I like it fine.

I'm having a swell time.

But you see,  
it makes it rather hard.

Here you are  
engaged to Ronald,  
and all of us living  
here in the same house,  
and the minute he steps out,  
I start slapping his girl.

It doesn't seem  
quite honorable, somehow.

You're not leaving  
just for that, are you?

Yes. You see, my inhibitions  
have been somewhat broken,  
and well, you can't  
tell what I may do next!

(BOTH LAUGH)

Well...

**DOUGLAS:**

**EDDIE:**

Come on, stop him!

**DOUGLAS:**

No, no!

**EDDIE:**

Wait a minute.

You can't go in

looking like that.  
Why not?  
Let me brush you off.  
There. Now, you`re all right.

**DOUGLAS:**

**KENNETH:**

Well!  
Hello, Kenneth.  
Where have you been?  
Why, Ronald!  
Have you been  
out all night?  
Let me tell you  
something else!  
When I`m a judge,  
you can come to me  
for all your divorces!  
A very pretty speech!  
An excellent speech,  
delivered with  
authority and power!

**DRIVER:**

you fellows!  
That`s all right, son.  
Just skip it!  
That`s exactly  
the way I felt,  
deserted.  
Oh, Ronald,  
I`m terribly sorry.  
I didn`t realize what I  
said to you last night  
would drive you to...  
Well, after all,  
you didn`t really  
commit suicide, did you?  
No. No,  
as I stood there last night  
on the edge of the river,  
I said to myself,  
`No, no, I must keep

on living, living!``  
Yes. So, what`d you do then?  
I turned back to life,  
to suffering.  
I still have beauty  
to bring to the world.  
Beauty! Or have you  
forgotten what that is?  
No. No, darling,  
I haven`t forgotten.  
But I see beauty in  
a lot of things now  
that I never noticed before.  
A nice, juicy steak,  
for instance!  
Elizabeth,  
do you still love me?  
Listen, Ronald,  
last night when you  
brought me flowers  
after Ed fainted,  
every bit of love I had  
for you just died away.  
As if the person  
I`d been in love with  
had gone up in smoke.  
You`re somebody else now,  
somebody I don`t need.  
Let me tell you something.  
You`re somebody I don`t need!  
You`ve lost every  
trace of sensitivity  
you ever had!  
You...  
Elizabeth!  
It`s you that`s  
turned her away from me!  
If it weren`t for you,  
she wouldn`t have  
been angry about the job.  
Ronald!  
Why do you suppose  
he took a room here?  
To help the family? No!

So he could make love to you!  
Didn't you?  
Look here, I wouldn't  
start anything I'd be  
sorry for if I were you.  
Try to deny that  
you've been in  
each other's arms!  
You've kissed her,  
haven't you?  
Haven't you?  
If you insist on making a  
fool out of yourself you  
don't need any help from me.  
But before I go,  
I want to tell you something  
that's been on my  
mind for a long time.  
Elizabeth would make  
the greatest mistake  
in her life marrying you.  
Why, living with you  
would be like  
living with a sick baby.  
He'd make you live on  
words and eat flowers.  
Elizabeth,  
I won't let you do it!  
Do you understand?  
You don't have to  
worry about that,  
Dr. Stevens,  
because I'm not  
going to marry Elizabeth.  
I'd rather go through  
the rest of my life alone  
than be like you! I'm through.  
Oh. Ronald!  
Ronald!  
You have no place to go!  
Oh, he'll be all right.  
He's coming over  
to finish his  
novel at our house.



All right, driver.

(LAUGHING)

Has he gone?

Yes, he`s gone.

Good! Come on!

Sit down.

Ronald was right.

I did take a room here

just to be near you,

to see you every day.

I know that now.

(LAUGHING)

What`s the matter?

I`m growing hysterical.

You`d better slap me again.

\$25.

And \$20.

And \$6.

Oh, boys, where`s

Ronald and Elizabeth?

You kissed me!

Should I have said

something about it first?

Oh, no! No, I`m so

fed up with talk!

Talk about trees

and sunsets and souls!

They`re so far

removed from real life.

Life is like you, Alan.

It takes hold of you

and slaps you in the face.

I love you.

Just like that.

No similes. No metaphors.

No references to the soul.

You just love me.

That`s marvelous, marvelous!

Come on, that`s big news!

**DOUGLAS:**

imagine anybody saying

a thing like that to me?

Boys, we`re going

to be married.  
And we`re going to  
have 14 children.  
And I went up to  
him and I told him.  
You got to tell them.  
Oh, Mother! Mother, listen!  
The feather gives  
me height, doesn`t it?  
Mother, excuse me,  
but we`re going  
to be married.  
Yes, and we  
want your consent.  
Do you like it?  
Oh!  
Why, it`s Dr. Stevens!  
Elizabeth!  
You`re kissing Dr. Stevens!  
I thought it was Ronald.  
Oh, yesterday it was Ronald.  
And today it`s Dr. Stevens.  
Yes.  
Well, that`s nice.  
(SLINGING)  
Liz loves Dr. Stevens  
Liz loves Dr. Stevens  
Children! Children!