

(PROF. BHAER, MRS. KIRK
HAG, TROLL, KNIGHT)

WHEN SOMEONE ELSE
FEELS THE FLAME
YOU ALWAYS
KNEW WAS THERE!

(JO, CLARISSA, RODRIGO,
RODRIGO 2)

MY DESTINY
HERE AND NOW:
I'LL ASTONISH
THE WORLD!

PROFESSOR BHAER

Congratulations! I am - what is the word?

JO

Amazed?

PROFESSOR BHAER

Flabbergasted. And delighted!

JO

Christopher Columbus, today I feel anything is possible. You were right professor.

PROFESSOR BHAER

About what?

JO

(SHE quickly thinks, then blurts out)

Everything! I'm going to be a published writer! I can't believe it! Fifteen dollars!
And twenty-five more for my commission!

MRS. KIRK

You are rich!

JO

I feel rich! Do you dance, Professor?

PROFESSOR BHAER

No.

JO

Neither do I. But today I could!

(SHE grabs him and THEY dance a few steps. THEY break, uncomfortably, and look at each other)

PROFESSOR BHAER

We should celebrate your success, Miss March. Have you ever been to the Broadway Gardens?

JO

Are you asking me to dinner, Professor?

PROFESSOR BHAER

No. Yes.

JO

I should like that.

MRS. KIRK

Miss March, I almost forgot in all the excitement - this telegram came for you. More good news I suspect.

PROFESSOR BHAER

(Having stopped)

Open it, Miss March.

JO

I will. Today I could start a revolution. I could -

(SHE rips it open and reads)

MRS. KIRK

What is it, Miss March?

PROFESSOR BHAER

(sensing her sadness)

It is not good news?

JO

Dear God, no. My sister Beth has contracted scarlet fever. She is gravely ill. I must go to her immediately.

(SHE starts away)

MRS. KIRK

I'm sorry, dear. Sorry for you and your family.

PROFESSOR BHAER

Is there anything we can do?

JO

(Backing away)

No thank you, Professor. Mrs. Kirk, tell your girls -

MRS. KIRK

They'll be fine.

JO

Tell them to keep reading.

MRS. KIRK

I will.

JO

Thank you both for everything.

(SHE starts away)

PROFESSOR BHAER

(Runs after her. Stops)

Miss March! I would like ... to accompany you.

JO

Accompany me?

PROFESSOR BHAER

You - you should not travel alone.

JO

I traveled here alone. I'm not afraid. I shall be fine. But thank you.

(SHE starts away)

PROFESSOR BHAER

(shouts after her)

Miss March! You will be back?

JO

(SHE turns back)

Of course, I will.

(SHE continues on)

PROFESSOR BHAER

And Miss March - viel gluck.

JO

Yes - I need good luck.

(SHE rushes to her room)

MRS. KIRK

(calls as she goes. SHE turns back to the Professor)

Your simple acquaintance is leaving you, Professor.

PROFESSOR BHAER

Yes.

(HE is left alone)