

## ACT ONE

## Scene 3

## #3b - Hudson River Pier

*A Hudson River pier. Sunset. The HMS QUEEN MURRAY is about to set sail for Europe. Late-arriving PASSENGERS are going aboard, checked in by a uniformed PURSER and CRUISE DIRECTOR. A STEWARD stands at the stairs to the ship. FREDERICK is searching for ELIZABETH.*

## STEWARD

*(with a British accent; banging a gong)*

All aboard, please! All aboard! All aboard who are going aboard, all aboard who are going aboard! Sailing in ten minutes! Ten minutes, please!

*HE bangs the gong once more*

## FREDERICK

*(calling off)*

Elizabeth! Elizabeth, hurry, hurry, my boat's about to sail!

## ELIZABETH

*(calling from off-stage)*

I'm coming, darling! I'm coming! I'm coming!

*(as SHE enters and stops)*

I'm here!

*(SHE walks towards FREDERICK)*

Oh, my sweet darling. Oh my dearest love. I'll count the hours that you're away.

## FREDERICK

Oh, darling, so will I.

## STEWARD

All aboard! All aboard!

*The STEWARD bangs the gong*

## ELIZABETH

How could fate tear us apart like this? Me, your adorable madcap fiancée, in a Park Avenue penthouse, dancing 'til dawn with one good-lookin' guy after another, and you, all alone on the stormy seas, desperately clinging to your masthead.

Oh, Freddie, I can't let you go, I simply can't let you go...

*(as FREDERICK leans in to kiss her on the mouth)*

LIPS! The lipstick, darling.

FREDERICK

What?

ELIZABETH

I'm sorry. I have to go to that party tonight at Nicky and Nana's.

FREDERICK

Oh, of course, darling. I'm sorry.

STEWARD

All aboard! Last call! All aboard!

*The STEWARD bangs the gong*

ELIZABETH

Oh, darling! How can I say in just a few minutes what it's taken me a lifetime to understand?

FREDERICK

Does that mean you love me?

ELIZABETH

You bet your boots it does, mister.

FREDERICK

*(trying to take her hands)*

Oh, Elizabeth, the love of my life...

ELIZABETH

*(pulling hands away from him)*

Nails! The nails, darling. I'm sorry, they take three months to dry.

*SHE blows on her nails*

FREDERICK

Oh, sorry.

*HE takes ELIZABETH's hand, blowing on her nails to help them dry.*

ELIZABETH

Thank you, darling.

*(as HE blows)*

Hey you.

FREDERICK

Hey.

ELIZABETH

I hope somebody likes old-fashioned weddings!