

*she sings into the broken heel.)*

MEG. (*Spotting her sisters.*) Good morning! Good morning! Oh, it's a wonderful morning! I tell you, I am surprised I feel this good. I should feel like hell. By all accounts, I should feel like utter hell! (*She is looking for the glue.*) Where's that glue? This damn heel has broken off my shoe. La, la, la, la, la! Ah, here it is! Now let me just get these shoes off. Zip, zip, zip, zip, zip! Well, what's wrong with you two? My God, you look like doom! (*Babe and Lenny stare helplessly at Meg.*) Oh, I know, you're mad at me 'cause I stayed out all night long. Well; I did.

LENNY. No, we're—we're not mad at you. We're just... depressed. (*She starts to sob.*)

MEG. Oh, Lenny, listen to me, now, everything's all right with Doc. I mean nothing happened. Well, actually a lot did happen, but it didn't come to anything. Not because of me, I'm afraid. (*Smearing glue on her heel.*) I mean, I was out there thinking, "What will I say when he begs me to run away with him? Will I have pity on his wife and those two half-Yankee children? I mean, can I sacrifice their happiness for mine? Yes! Oh, yes! Yes, I can!" But... he didn't ask me. He didn't even want to ask me. I could tell by this certain look in his eyes that he didn't even want to ask me. Why aren't I miserable! Why aren't I morbid! I should be humiliated! Devastated! Maybe these feelings are coming—I don't know. But for now it was... just such fun. I'm happy. I realized I could care about someone. I could want someone. And I sang! I sang all night long! I sang right up into the trees! But not for Old Granddaddy. None of it was to please Old Granddaddy! (*Lenny and Babe look at each other.*)

BABE. Ah, Meg—

MEG. What—

BABE. Well, it's just—It's...

LENNY. It's about Old Granddaddy—

MEG. Oh, I know; I know. I told him all those stupid lies. Well, I'm gonna go right over there this morning and tell him the truth. I mean every horrible thing. I don't care if he wants to

hear it or not. He's just gonna have to take me like I am. And if he can't take it, if it sends him into a coma, that's just too damn bad! (*Babe and Lenny look at each other Babe cracks a smile. Lenny cracks a smile.*)

BABE. You're too late—Ha, ha, ha! (*They both break up laughing.*)

LENNY. Oh, stop! Please! Ha, ha, ha!

MEG. What is it? What's so funny?

BABE. (*Still laughing.*) It's not—It's not funny!

LENNY. (*Still laughing.*) No, it's not! It's not a bit funny!

MEG. Well, what is it then? What?

BABE. (*Trying to calm down.*) Well, it's just—it's just—

MEG. What?

BABE. Well, Old Granddaddy—he—he's in a coma! (*Babe and Lenny break up laughing.*)

MEG. He's what?

BABE. (*Shrieking.*) In a coma!

MEG. My God! That's not funny!

BABE. (*Calming down.*) I know. I know. For some reason it just struck us as funny.

LENNY. I'm sorry. It's—it's not funny. It's sad. It's very sad. We've been up all night long.

BABE. We're really tired.

MEG. Well, my God. How is he? Is he gonna live? (*Babe and Lenny look at each other.*)

BABE. They don't think so! (*They both break up again.*)

LENNY. Oh, I don't know why we're laughing like this. We're just sick! We're just awful!

BABE. We are—we're awful!

LENNY. (*As she collects herself.*) Oh, good; now I feel bad. Now, I feel like crying. I do; I feel like crying.

BABE. Me, too. Me, too.

MEG. Well, you've gotten me depressed!

LENNY. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. It, ah happened last night. He had another stroke. (*They laugh again.*)

MEG. I see.