

# The Outsider - Louise Side 2

88

Paul Slade Smith

**Start**  
~~LOUISE. Oh, I'm having fun listening. I feel like I'm learning things.  
Or... watching other people learn things.~~

~~NED (To RACHEL:) But you should ask her another question. She's  
really very good at this.~~

RACHEL. Okay. Uh... Miss Peakes. We've just heard the Governor's thoughts on the kind of leaders we should be electing. Can you... give the voters a reason to vote for you?

LOUISE. Well, I'll tell you...

*(ARTHUR is holding the cards, trying to decide which way to go with this. He makes a decision, and holds up the blue card.)*

I love America.

*(Blue card.)*

I love the mountains out that window.

*(Blue card.)*

I love the oceans, and the beaches.

*(Blue card.)*

I love how big this country is.

*(Blue card.)*

There's so many people in it!

*(Blue card.)*

But I also love the places where there aren't any people.

*(Blue card.)*

I love the flag.

*(Blue card.)*

I love the Fourth of July.

*(Blue card.)*

I love the marching bands, and the fireworks.

*(Yellow card.)*

I've got a good feeling about today.

*(Yellow card.)*

I've got a good feeling about next week.

*(Yellow card.)*

I think the future is full of hope.

(Red card.)

I'm not Ned.

(Red card.)

I'm not you, Rachel.

(Red card.)

I'm not a country western singer.

(ARTHUR flinches at that one, but again holds up the red card.)

I'm not a gynecologist.

(ARTHUR, a little panicked, switches back to the blue card.)

But I believe in America.

(ARTHUR switches to the yellow card.)

And I'm looking forward to tomorrow.

(Blackout.)

**END**

Scene 3

(One hour later. All the TV equipment is gone. DAVE and ARTHUR are alone, sitting or standing separately.)

DAVE. (After a pause:) How long does this usually take?

ARTHUR. If we're lucky, maybe... five more minutes? (Beat.) With some focus groups—there's a lot of follow-up and discussion, but... these are just, these are just basic questions. (Longer beat.) I'm sure Paige has their responses by now; she's just, at this point she's just compiling the data.

DAVE. (Beat.) Can we just walk back to the conference room and ask her?

ARTHUR. No. No no, you never rush a pollster. Rushing a pollster is like, it's like rushing a master chef. If you walk into that kitchen at the very moment that he's... you know... just when that chef is... Okay, I have no idea where I'm going with this analogy.

DAVE. You're nervous. I didn't think Arthur Vance could get nervous.

ARTHUR. Well, your guy did a number on me in that interview, Dave. He was comfortable, he was articulate, he made sense. He looked... directly into the camera. (The genius of it!) He was talking to the camera man, so he was looking directly into the camera. So