



The Last Romance
By Joe DiPietro
Audition Side
Carol 1

RALPH

All right, all right, I'll just go. And I'm sorry if I said anything to you that made you mad. I just - liked you. That's all. I wish you and Strawberry a happy life.

He begins to go.

CAROL

Wait.

He stops.

There are things you don't understand –

RALPH

Tell me about it –

CAROL

Oh, gosh - ... I shouldn't do this.

RALPH

Do what?

CAROL

I suppose I owe you an apology.

RALPH

Apology accepted.

CAROL

You don't even know what I'm apologizing for?

RALPH

I accept it anyway.

CAROL

Yesterday, I shouldn't have run off so quickly ...

RALPH

You're forgiven.

CAROL

I was being rude –

RALPH

Say two Hail Mary's and you're absolved --

CAROL

Would you just shut up! I shouldn't have run off so quickly.
You upset me.

RALPH

When? When I was kiddin' ya?

CAROL

When you said ... -- I was beautiful.

RALPH

That upset you?

CAROL

It did.

RALPH

'Cause that's a very nice thing to say to someone.

CAROL

But I'm not. Beautiful. I was, maybe, at one time. But I'm not anymore. And for you to say things like that to a person - a person you don't even know ...

RALPH

So that's why you ran off?

CAROL

I can't be that intimate with you –

RALPH

You know something, now that I look at ya, you're right, you ain't that beautiful. You're actually a bit of a dog.

(to the dogs)

No offense.

CAROL glares at him.

C'mon, I'm kiddin' ya!

CAROL

All we can be is friends, Ralph.

RALPH

All right- but one question - how 'bout me? You think I'm handsome?

CAROL

No.

RALPH

Take a good look.

He smiles at her.

CAROL

No.