



The Last Romance
By Joe DiPietro
Audition Side
Ralph 2

ROSE

I thought you was gone. I thought she was going to tell you and you'd go with her anyway and you'd never come back to me.

RALPH

I wouldn't do that, Rose. After all these years, don't you at least know that?

ROSE

You hungry?

He shakes his head 'no.'

So I been thinkin' -- maybe we should get a dog.

RALPH

What?

ROSE

A small dog.

RALPH

But you said no dogs in the house?

ROSE

It's better than takin' in stray cats.

RALPH

Why would we take in stray cats?

ROSE

You could take the dog here. I could maybe come with you.

RALPH

Why?

ROSE

I don't know. Maybe I'll meet an old man.

RALPH

Why would you wanna meet an old man?

ROSE

I'm thinkin' -- I'm gonna give Tony his divorce.

RALPH

Really?

ROSE

22 years. That son-of-a-bitch isn't coming back.

RALPH

A dog, huh? We could name him Rex.

ROSE

What the hell.

RALPH

Yeah. Hey Rose -- maybe you and me could go to a movie this weekend.

ROSE

Yeah?

RALPH

Yeah.

ROSE

I'd like that.

RALPH

Yeah.

ROSE

I'd like that a lot.

RALPH

Okay.

ROSE

Nothing dirty.

RALPH

Nah.

ROSE

Grazie, Rafael.

She nods.

RALPH

Hey Rose, could you give me a minute alone? I'll be home soon, I promise.

ROSE

Can I say something -- ? You been angry with me all our life, haven't you?

RALPH

Don't say stupid things, Rose.

ROSE

I should've given you that message, when that Metropolitan Opera place called –

RALPH

Rose-

ROSE

Mama told me not to, she said you were gonna have a wife to support, what kind of way is opera to make a living. I should never have listened to her-

RALPH

It happened sixty years ago. You think I'm still mad at something that happened sixty years ago?

ROSE

I just wanted you to know that.

RALPH

You're my family, Rose. You're my home. I could never hate you.