



The Last Romance
By Joe DiPietro
Audition Side
Rose 2

CAROL

May I ask -- when did your husband pass on?

ROSE

He didn't. He's still alive, the son-of-a-bitch.

CAROL

So you're divorced?

ROSE

No. We just live apart.

CAROL

How often do you speak with him?

ROSE

I haven't said a word to that man in 22 years.

CAROL

22 years? Why on earth don't you divorce him?

ROSE

I'm a good Catholic. I take my marriage vows seriously.

CAROL

But 22 years? Do you even have any idea where he is?

ROSE

Yes, he's living in Brooklyn with some whore.

CAROL

But what if you meet someone else?

ROSE

I'm not gonna meet someone else.

CAROL

But what if you do?

ROSE

I'm not. Don't talk stupid. He still writes me letters from time to time.

CAROL

What do they say?

ROSE

Who the hell knows? I just throw them away.

CAROL

You don't even read them?

ROSE

Why should I?

CAROL

Ralph said you had it tough --

ROSE

Everyone has their problems. Mine are no worse than anyone else's.

CAROL

But you're prolonging them.

ROSE

How?

CAROL

22 years—

ROSE

He still writes me letters. And you have no right to judge me.

CAROL

Okay.

ROSE

You know, you'd be doing me a big favor if ...

CAROL

If what?

ROSE

Never mind.

CAROL

No, please tell me.

ROSE

Ralph's a good man. He has his faults - but ... -- I see you spending more and more time with him. And you'd be doing me a big favor if you didn't.

A beat.

CAROL

You're right about your brother. He's a very good catch.

ROSE

Did he mention to you -- what happened on the 25th of October?

CAROL

No.

ROSE

He didn't tell you?

CAROL

No.

A beat.

What happened?

ROSE

He should be the one to tell you.