

BETTY (cont'd)
IN HIS HEART
WASN'T SMART.

OH, LOVE, YOU DIDN'T DO RIGHT BY ME.
AS THEY SAY IN THE SONG,
"YOU DONE ME WRONG!"
HEY, MR. LOVE,
YOU DONE ME WRONG!

Music 18A: Regency Room Bows

(After her number, BETTY bows to the applause of the Regency Room patrons, who are clearly impressed with her. Then she walks offstage and finds BOB there. BETTY is silent.)

BOB
That's a good song for you.

BETTY
Thanks. It's taken from life. Excuse me.
(BETTY starts out, BOB steps in her way.)

BOB
Betty, I'm kind of confused, to tell you the truth...

BETTY
Look, Bob. I talked this all over with Judy...

BOB
Whoa, whoa. What about talking it over with me, or Phil? What about the cast you left in the lurch up in Vermont? You don't want people to think you're underhanded, do you?

BETTY
Underhanded? You talk about underhanded?

BOB
That's a pretty mysterious remark.

BETTY
I can hardly speak to you, I'm so angry.

BOB
If I said or did something wrong, I'd like to set it right. I just want to know what it is.

BETTY

If you don't know, I can't explain it.

BOB

Now I'm totally lost.

(SHELDRAKE enters.)

SHELDRAKE

Evening, Bob. It's a good thing I ran into you.

BOB

Glad you could make it. Betty Haynes - this is Ralph Sheldrake.

BETTY

Oh, yes, Mr. Sheldrake, I've heard all about you.

SHELDRAKE

I'm sure glad Bob called me in to see your act. Wow. You are TNT, Miss Haynes.

BOB

Ralph and I were in the army together. Now he works for the Ed Sullivan Show.

BETTY

I'm sorry - for the Ed Sullivan Show...? I thought you were in real estate.

SHELDRAKE

No, I'm only a humble TV producer. Anyway, I just talked to Ed about you, Miss Haynes. He wants to book you on the show. Now how's that for a million-dollar proposition?

BETTY

A million dollar proposition...

SHELDRAKE

The folks out there'll never know what hit 'em. But look, Bob, I still haven't heard from half the guys. I think our letters got stuck in the holiday mail.

BOB

That's a tough break... Say, do you think Ed would give me a spot on his show tomorrow?

SHELDRAKE

Sure - I can cut Kate Smith down to three choruses of "God Bless America."

BETTY

I'm sorry - you're not in real estate?

SHELDRAKE

No, I'm not.

BETTY

And Bob, you called him in to see me, even though I left your show?

BOB

You're good, that's all I know. If a single act is what you want, then take it. But say, I've got to scoot. Ralph, see you at the studio. Betty, take care. Good luck!

(BOB exits.)

SHELDRAKE

Can you believe a star like Bob Wallace, helping out the General? We sent out six hundred letters trying to set this up.

BETTY

There are a few things you have to explain to me, Mr. Sheldrake...

Music 19: The Old Man

(THEY exit. We hear a male offstage chorus, humming "The Old Man," as the set changes to...)

Scene 5

The Ed Sullivan Show - the evening after

(BOB is onstage.)

OFFSTAGE MALE VOICES

WE'LL FOLLOW THE OLD MAN
WHEREVER HE WANTS TO GO,
LONG AS HE WANTS TO GO,
OPPOSITE TO THE FOE.

WE'LL STAY WITH THE OLD MAN
WHEREVER HE WANT TO STAY...

(Offstage humming continues underneath the following:)

BOB

Thanks, folks. You hear that song? "We'll Follow The Old Man Wherever He Wants To Go." We in the 151st division used to sing that to General Henry Waverly. And I'm here tonight with a call to the 151st. You see,

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