

(MUSIC: Transition / Underscoring.)

(SFX: Crickets chirp.)

*start* MARY. Hello, George.

GEORGE. Hello, Mary. I just happened to be passing by.

MARY. Your mother just phoned and said you were on your way over to pay me a visit.

GEORGE. My mother just called you? Well, how did she know?

MARY. Well...

GEORGE. I didn't tell anybody. I just went for a walk and happened to be passing by... What do you... Went for a walk, that's all. When did you get back?

MARY. Tuesday... Would you like to come in?

GEORGE. Well, I guess, since I'm here.

(SFX: Door opens, closes.)

GEORGE. Say, where'd you get that dress?

MARY. Do you like it?

GEORGE. It's all right. I thought you'd go back to New York with Sam and Francie and the rest of them.

MARY. Oh, I worked there a couple of vacations, but I don't know... I guess I was homesick.

GEORGE. Homesick for Bedford Falls?

MARY. Yes, and my family and...oh, everything. Would you like to sit down?

GEORGE. All right, for a minute. I still can't understand it though. You know I didn't tell anybody I was coming here.

MARY. Would you rather leave?

GEORGE. No, I don't want to be rude.

MARY. It was nice about Harry and Ruth, wasn't it?

**GEORGE.** Oh...yeah, yeah. That's all right.

**MARY.** Don't you like her?

**GEORGE.** Well, of course I like her. She's a peach.

**MARY.** Ohhh. It's just marriage in general you're not enthusiastic about, huh?

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**GEORGE.** No. Marriage is okay for Harry, and Sam Wainwright, and you.

**MRS. HATCH.** Mary! Mary! Who's out there with you?

**MARY.** It's George Bailey, mother.

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all.

**MRS. HATCH.** George Bailey! What does he want?!

**MARY.** I don't know. What do you want, George?

**GEORGE.** Me? Not a thing. I just came in to get warm.

**MARY.** (To MRS. HATCH:) He's making violent love to me, Mother!

**MRS. HATCH.** You tell him to go right back home, and don't you leave the house, Sam Wainwright promised to call from New York tonight, didn't he?

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**GEORGE.** Your mother needn't— You know I didn't come here for — to...to...

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**MARY.** What did you come here for?

**GEORGE.** I don't know. You tell me. You're supposed to be the one who has all the answers. You tell me!

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**MARY.** Oh, why don't you go home?!

gh.

**GEORGE.** That's where I'm going! I don't know why I came here in the first place!

*(SFX: Telephone ring.)*

**MRS. HATCH.** Mary! The telephone! It's Sam!

**MARY.** I'll get it. *(On phone:)* Hee-haw! Hello, Sam, how are you?

**SAM.** Aw, great. Gee, it's good to hear your voice again.