

Fairfax

Hilda
Satch

Myrna

Penelope

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THE CHRISTMAS EXPRESS

Act I

MYRNA. And I could bring some eggnog over. We could start out here and go caroling, picking up anybody that wants to join us.

MAGGIE. I could make some brownies.

PENELOPE. And gingerbread?

MAGGIE. Sure!

PENELOPE. That would be great!

SATCH. Maybe we can really pick up this Christmas for once.

HILDA. Wouldn't that be...

(FAIRFAX enters through the outside doors, closing them behind him.)

MYRNA. What? Wouldn't that be what?

HILDA. Hold on.

FAIRFAX *(to HILDA)*. Excuse me, are you the manager?

HILDA. Yes, Hilda Trowbridge.

FAIRFAX. Yes, well, I'm Mr. Fairfax. I've been sent here by the main office.

SATCH. What for?

FAIRFAX. To...well, to make a few notes. Is there a phone I can use?

HILDA *(her spirits drooping)*. There's one on the counter.

FAIRFAX. Do you have one a little more private? Another line?

HILDA. There's one in my office here. *(She moves to her office door, followed by FAIRFAX.)* Right in here, it's on the desk.

FAIRFAX. That'll be fine. Thank you. *(He exits into the office. A deflated lull hangs in the room.)*

MYRNA. Well! I guess I better get back to city hall. I'll...I'll talk to you later. *(She moves to the outside door.)*

Act I

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MAGGIE. I better be going, too. Wait up, Myrna. *(She and MYRNA exit out the outside door.)*

PENELOPE. And I got my information finally. Leo Tannenbaum. Perfect name. *(She crosses to the outside door.)*
We'll meet back here before we go out tonight?

HILDA. Yeah, maybe. I don't know...*(SATCH indicates for PENELOPE to leave.)*

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PENELOPE. Right. See you all later. *(She exits.)*

HILDA *(her old self)*. I knew it! Can't get a minute's peace around here.

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SATCH. A while ago you said nothing ever happens around here.

HILDA. Yeah. Or too much.

SATCH. I guess. *(He moves to the office door and puts his ear to it.)*

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HILDA. Satch, you shouldn't be listening to somebody else's conversations. *(She and SATCH look at each other for a slight pause, then both lean in and listen at the door. Lights dim out.)*

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SCENE TWO

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~~AT RISE: It is two hours later. There is no one in the station lobby. However, SATCH is in the storage room, humming a carol. DONNA enters through the outside door, carrying a suitcase, and moves to the counter.~~

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~~DONNA *(after a pause)*. Hello? Anybody home?~~

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~~*(SATCH enters from the storage room, carrying a large box.)*~~

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