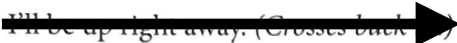



RS#1 Willy & Linda

Start  The boys in?
 LINDA. (*Happily.*) They're sleeping. Happy took Biff on a date tonight.
 WILLY. (*Interested.*) That so?
 LINDA. It was so nice to see them shaving together, one behind the other in the bathroom. And going out together...you notice?—the whole house smells of shaving lotion.
 WILLY. (*Crosses L. to U.S.*) Figure it out; work a lifetime to pay off a house. You finally own it, and there's nobody to live in it.
 LINDA. Well, dear, life is a casting-off, it's always that way.
 WILLY. (*Crosses D. 2 steps.*) No, no, some people...some people accomplish something. Did Biff say anything after I went this morning?
 LINDA. (*Gently.*) You shouldn't have criticized him, Willy, especially after he just got off the train. You mustn't lose your temper with him.
 WILLY. (*Crossing to her.*) When the hell did I lose my temper? I simply asked him if he was making any money. Is that a criticism?
 LINDA. (*Takes his hand.*) But, dear, how could he make any money?
 WILLY. (*Worried, angered; takes hand away.*) There's such an under-current in him. (*Crossing U.*) He became a moody man. Did he apologize when I left this morning? (*Turns back.*)
 LINDA. He was crestfallen, Willy. You know how he admires you. I think if he finds himself, then you'll both be happier and not fight any more.
 WILLY. (*Crosses D., sits on chair.*) How can he find himself on a farm? Is that a life? A farmhand? In the beginning, when he was young, I thought well, a young man—it's good for him to tramp around, take a lot of different jobs. But it's more than ten years now and he has yet to make thirty-five dollars a week!
 LINDA. He's finding himself, Willy.
 WILLY. (*Rises.*) Not finding yourself at the age of thirty-four is a disgrace!
 LINDA. (*Rises.*) Sshh!
 WILLY. The trouble is he's lazy, goddammit!
 LINDA. Willy, please!
 WILLY. Biff is a lazy bum!
 LINDA. They're sleeping. Get something to eat. Go on down.
 WILLY. Why did he come home? I would like to know what brought him home.
 LINDA. I don't know. I think he's still lost, Willy. I think he's very lost.
 WILLY. Biff Loman is lost. In the greatest country in the world a young man with such...personal attractiveness, gets lost. ...And such a hard worker! There's one thing about Biff—he's not lazy.
 LINDA. Never.  **End**