

ACT 2

Downtown Manhattan, the following spring.

SCENE 1

ANGEL's apartment. Chinatown. Buzzer. ANGEL opens the door.

ANNA

It's me! Thank you so much for seeing me here.

ANGEL

Sure, no problem. Better to avoid all the gossip at the salon.

ANNA

(Looking around)

So how long have you had this place?

ANGEL

Since Neil got me the gig.

ANNA

Why Chinatown?

ANGEL

It's downtown, the food's good, and the rent's cheap. Why do you live on the Upper East Side?

ANNA

A view of the Park, a husband, and a four-year-old in a preschool with a waiting list of 100 people like me for twenty spots in the must-have kindergarten.

ANGEL

laughs

Come, sit here.

Puts a drape around ANNA's neck.

Is Neil finishing your house?

ANNA

I think so. Luigi's death hit him hard. But he says it'll be done by Memorial Day so I'm hoping to get in by July 4th.

ANGEL

I think maybe he's not feeling so good himself.

ANNA

He does seem awfully tired these days.

ANGEL

So, what are you thinking?

ANNA

I want a totally new look.

ANGEL

I've got something in mind. Do you trust me?

ANNA

Absolutely. I want you to do me.

ANGEL

Do you - OK! (*Flirty pause*). So tell me, how are things going with Jack?

ANNA

All right, I guess. Alan's due back from rehab in three weeks.

ANGEL

Hasn't he gone before? You think this time will be any different?

ANNA

I don't know. He wants me back. He's talking about starting over. The new house, another baby...

ANGEL

I used to dream about going to rehab – in France or Italy or somewhere like that. That's how I'd do it, if I were rich. A month at a spa.

ANNA

What did Jack tell you?

ANGEL

Nothing much. We go way back, you know.

ANNA

So I gathered. Did you and Jack...?

ANGEL

He never told you?

ANNA

Nope. Should I be jealous?

ANGEL

Not at all. We were both in a bad place. He'd just split with Jenny, and I was all fucked up myself.

ANNA

What happened?

ANGEL

I left him for a woman.

ANNA

How exciting.

ANGEL

Yeah, too exciting.

ANNA

How did he take that?

ANGEL

Badly. But we're still friends. Before they broke up, he hit his habit pretty hard.

ANNA

Go on.

ANGEL

They used to shoot up together. He blamed her, but it was them together. After she left he slipped. OD'd in fact. His buddy took him to the hospital. I don't think he's used since. He likes a drink mostly. Somehow the bar helps him keep away from the brown liquor he favors.

ANNA

I figured as much. He's still obsessed with that girl. Jenny.

ANGEL

So he wound up at the meeting. We came in around the same time. He met Neil, who helped him get his shit together. Anyway, the reason I'm telling you this –

ANNA

Yeah yeah, I get it. I don't want to hurt him. I just don't know how to avoid it. My shrink says I owe it to our daughter to at least try to make the marriage work. My mother agrees. It may be time to stop fooling around. I've got six months sober myself but it's... you know, it's tough.

ANGEL

So what are you going to do?

ANNA

I don't know. God knows I don't want to tell him. But I guess he sort of knows already.

ANGEL

Maybe. It's hard to say what Jack knows. He sees what he wants to see, like most of us.
But he's been working his program a long time now.

ANNA

(Motions to her head.)

How's it going?

ANGEL

Almost done. We have to be at Luigi's thing at 5.

ANNA

Strange how his family just whisked him away.

ANGEL

But... would you mind if I shared just one more thing?

ANNA *shrugs*.

ANGEL

“TO FIND YOU”

YOU WERE UP ON A PERCH
YOU WERE UP ON A THRONE
YOU LET EVERYONE KNOW
YOU WERE UP THERE ALONE
AND YOU WANTED HIM
YOU WANTED HIM TO FIND YOU

YOU SPENT TOO MANY YEARS
IN THE GLITTERING LIGHTS
YOU FOUGHT TOO MANY BATTLES
YOU LOST TOO MANY FIGHTS
AND YOU WANTED HIM
YOU WANTED HIM TO FIND YOU

HE WAS THE ONE THING
YOU HADN'T TRIED YET
YOU TRIED HEDGING YOUR BET
AND THAT PAID OFF NICELY

BUT NOW YOU MUST TELL HIM
THAT ALL BETS ARE OFF
LET THE ENDING BE SOFT
JUST TELL HIM CONCISELY

YOU WERE BOTH VERY LONELY
YOU WERE BOTH SO UPSET
WITHOUT GUILT
WITHOUT GUILT
NOT A SINGLE REGRET
YES YOU WANTED HIM
YOU WANTED HIM TO FIND YOU

YOU'LL GO BACK TO YOUR ALAN
HE'LL GO SEARCH FOR HIS JEN
YOU'LL BOTH SLOWLY GET BETTER
DON'T KNOW WHERE DON'T KNOW WHEN
IT WAS WONDERFUL
THAT HE FINALLY FOUND YOU

HE WILL RECOVER
HE'S ALREADY BEGUN
HE KNOWS YOU HAVE WON
SO BE GENTLE AND CLEVER

HE'S ALWAYS KNOWN THAT
IT WOULD FINALLY END
NO USE TO PRETEND
IT WOULD GO ON FOREVER
IT WAS NEVER FOREVER

ANGEL

Take a look!

ANNA turns, holds up the hand mirror while ANGEL spins her so she can look.

ANNA

Oh my God. It's fabulous. You're so talented.

ANGEL

Don't tell me. Tell your friends.

ANGEL removes the drape as ANNA stands and they hug.

ANNA

I have a party next week. If I come back will you do my makeup and a blowout?

ANGEL

Sure, whatever you want. I'm not going anywhere.

BLACKOUT