

SECOND SIGHT

a radio play
by

David Ives

SCENE ONE. KRYSTAL.

(FADE IN: SFX: CHIMES, TINKLING GENTLY.)

KRYSTAL

I think I'm ready. Yes, yes, I'm ready now. Let's gather in and we'll try to get through. Join hands in a circle... Good. Now we wait. Calm and receptive and ...

(Draws in a breath...)

Oh. Oh, it's happening now. I'm approaching. Yes, I'm at the river. I'm crossing over now. I'm crossing over...

Yes. I'm there. I'm on the other side. All dark. But there it is, a glow. A very faint glow. That means someone is there. Yes. I'm with someone now. I can't see them but I'm with somebody, maybe somebody one of us loved. Is someone there? Who are you? What is your name? My name is Krystal! Krystal with a "K" ... The glow is fading now. The person is gone. I'm crossing back now, I'm crossing back...

And here I am. Good. Keep the faith. We made contact and we will make it again.

(SFX: CHIMES FADE OUT, blending into...)

SCENE TWO. HARRY and LEN.

(SFX: YARD SOUNDS. Birds chirping. Distant lawn mower.)

HARRY

I dunno, Lenny. It still sounds pretty risky to me.

LEN

Risky?! Harry, it's a breeze! It's a snap! It's nothing!

HARRY

That is what everybody tells me. My eye-doctor tells me, you tell me. "Oh, it's a breeze, it's a snap." You know, a snap is not always a good thing.

LEN

Will you get out of your head, please?!

HARRY

It's not good when something snaps.

LEN

This is a minor procedure!

HARRY

Maybe it's the word. "Cataract." What is a cataract? It's a gorge, it's a waterfall! I hear the word "cataract," I see a dark river plunging into a bottomless abyss.

LEN

What river, what abyss?! This is your back yard, brother. It's Mount Kisco!

HARRY

I'm just telling you what I picture.

LEN

Can I remind you of something? You're of an age now for cataracts. Everybody's had 'em. Mama had 'em, I've had 'em, God is older now, God has probably had 'em. And had the procedure, too!

HARRY

Well, God is unavailable for comment.

LEN

Harry, not only is this nothing, it's gonna change your life.

HARRY

Who says I want to change my life?

LEN

I do, so listen to me. Afterwards? Everything is brilliant! You think you're seeing actual colors right now? You come out the other side of this procedure, you're gonna see reds and greens and blues like from childhood. And wait till you see beige. Ogh! The beige on a sesame bagel? WHO KNEW?!

HARRY

I'm too old for bagels to change colors on me. If I'm not blinded in this process.

LEN

Your doctor say he's gonna blind you?

HARRY

What, he's gonna warn me first?

LEN

You don't believe him, get a second opinion! Or go on the Web!

HARRY

Sure, sure. The Web is full of testimonials - plus horror stories. People with all kinds of problems, after. Murky vision, clouded vision...

LEN

A tiny percentage! Maybe they're Nazis, they don't wanna see. They like their vision clouded! You know what your problem is, Hare, you've been living in the tenth century.

HARRY

Seventh century.

LEN

Is there a difference?

HARRY

Three centuries.

LEN

You fall in love with the Dark Ages, you see what happens? Come into the light, Harry. And stop being so damn timid!

HARRY

I'm seeing the surgeon tomorrow to set a date, that's not timid!

LEN

Terrific!

HARRY

Although I'm thinking I'll postpone.

LEN

Can I tell you something, Hare?

HARRY

You'll tell me anyway.

LEN

Everything you see, every little thing around you has been looking for you. Please. Do the world the honor of looking back. Something which is easier with 20/20 vision!

HARRY

But I can see! Why do I need do this now?

LEN

Here's why. I'm on the 104 bus last winter in a sleet-storm. Just listen to me. Three-thirty in the afternoon it's pitch dark, there's this ancient Jewish couple at the back, they been sitting there since 1910. The old lady says to her husband, "Well, it'll be the 21st of December soon, the days will get longer." The old guy thinks about that a minute, finally he shrugs, he says to her: "Maybe."

HARRY

He's a wise old man.

LEN

No, he's an idiot! Maybe is not an option here, and I'm telling you on mamma's grave this is a snap. A good snap. As you'll see! So to speak! You'll see, ha ha, you get it? You will "see"?

HARRY

Yeah, ha ha. I get it.

LEN

So did I get through to you? Have I gotten through?

HARRY

You got through.

LEN

Good. WHO KNEW?! So how's life otherwise? Robin's good?

HARRY

Robin's good.

LEN

Kids are good?

HARRY

Kids are good.

LEN

Seventh century's good?

HARRY

Seventh century's good.

LEN

I love you, brother. Mwah! And remember! It's over in no time!

HARRY

Yeah, but...

LEN

(voice fading as he goes off)
Be well, Hare!

SCENE THREE. KRYSTAL.

(SFX: CHIMES.)

KRYSTAL

We miss them. Of course we miss them, those on The Other Side. We want to know how they are. Some of you may remember that fine old hymn, “Watchman, Tell Us Of The Night.” We are watchmen. Walking into the dark with our arms out, the way children do when they play ghost. As a child, I often made it over, made contact and reported back. It was this gift I had, I don’t know why. Not knowing what I was doing, unafraid, I crossed over from time to time. Never knowing who I’d meet in the dark on that side. And the first thing I’d always do was say my name. I’d say, “*My name is Krystal. Krystal with a K.*” The way children do. The way I still did when I grew up and crossed over. When I was crossing that way... Now let’s join hands and try again.

(SFX: CHIMES FADE.)

SCENE FOUR. HARRY AND SURGEON.

(SFX: DISTANT HOSPITAL SOUNDS in BGD.)

(HARRY meets with a SURGEON.)

HARRY

So how long does the procedure take, Doctor?

SURGEON

The whole thing’s over in no time. It’s rather like life that way.

HARRY

Thanks, that’s very encouraging. But how long is “no time,” exactly?

SURGEON

Oh. Five minutes, six, seven. Eight, maybe. Nine.

HARRY

That long.

SURGEON

Ten, eleven. It depends. Like life.

HARRY

Yeah, you said. So it's full anesthetic, overnight in the hospital?

SURGEON

No no no. It's out-patient, quick and easy.

HARRY

Could it be in-patient for me? Just in case?

SURGEON

Listen, Mr. Kaufman.

HARRY

Hoffman.

SURGEON

I'll be doing ten of these the same day I do yours. By now I can do this procedure with my eyes closed.

HARRY

Well, could you keep them open for me?

SURGEON

There's no need! It's all done with lasers! Precision instruments!

HARRY

Precision isn't always a good thing.

SURGEON

It is in surgical procedures. Think of this as a revision. Re-vision, you see? Vision, re - ?

HARRY

I got it, I got it. But you know the internet says –

SURGEON

Stop. Stop. Please don't tell me what the internet says.

HARRY

It's just, you read about all the possible side effects...

SURGEON

Listen. We put you in a comfy chair, we give you something to relax you, you look into a lens and you see a little light show. Have you ever dropped acid?

HARRY

Have I dropped ACID...?

SURGEON

It's like that. You'll see a sort of kaleidoscope at the end of a tunnel, these shapes all swirling around and breaking up then coming back together, before you know it they're wheeling you out and you're back on the street. With perfect vision in that eye.

HARRY

Have you dropped acid?

SURGEON

I'm saying it's like that. Brief and colorful. Like life.

HARRY

And the same day, I'll be seeing perfectly?

SURGEON

Of course, your eye will need to heal. You wear some ugly sunglasses for a week. A couple of weeks later we do the other eye and you're all done.

HARRY

But why now? I can still see well enough.

SURGEON

Mm-hm.

(SFX: MACHINE CLICK.)

Will you read those letters for me, please?

HARRY

E X Q T V.

SURGEON

Not even close.

(SFX: MACHINE CLICK.)

And the next line?

HARRY

L M N O P...?

SURGEON

D-minus. Now can you read what it says on this card?

HARRY

Let's see, it says, "You can't see a fly on a mountain. The distance interferes with the view."
What the hell is that?

SURGEON

It's a line from an old blues song.

HARRY

Why?

SURGEON

No reason. I just love that line. "You can't see a fly on a mountain. The distance interferes with the view." Isn't that brilliant?

HARRY

You're not dropping acid, are you?

SURGEON

Look up there, into that light. What color is that?

HARRY

I don't know. It's the color of light, it's white.

SURGEON

No, it's not. You only think it's white. Because of your cataracts, that light is filthy, you just can't see the filth. It's like the news. First there are a couple of earthquakes, then there are wildfires, then hurricanes and floods, then people are out in the street shooting each other, after a while you don't notice the country's going to the dogs and your fellow citizens are dangerous loons. Because you've gotten used to hell, you think hell is normal. And right now, you're in hell.

HARRY

Thanks, that'll really help me through.

SURGEON

Do you want to see pure light, true colors?

HARRY

I don't know. Do I?

SURGEON

Yes you do. Just follow the instructions we gave you. No food and no drink after midnight the night before.

HARRY

Yeah, but –

SURGEON

Good, you're on your way.

HARRY

I'm on my way to what?

SURGEON

I'll see you in surgery, Mr. Kaufman.

HARRY

It's Hoffman.

(SFX: DOOR CLOSING.)

SCENE FIVE. KRYSTAL.

(SFX: CHIMES.)

KRYSTAL

To know the truth. Isn't that what people want, from the time they can think and see and feel? That's why we're doing what we're doing. We're trying to see through. To penetrate, pierce the so-called veil. The veil on both sides. Discover what's happening out there, in the so-called Beyond. I mentioned that old hymn I used to love so much. Those wonderful words. It says, "Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn. Travelers, darkness takes its flight. Doubt and terror are withdrawn." Let's think on that and join hands.

(SFX: CHIMES FADE.)

SCENE SIX. HARRY and ROBIN.

(SFX: GRANDFATHER CLOCK TICKING. IT STRIKES THREE.)

HARRY

"Who is the third who walks always beside you?" ... Oh, man. Oh, man oh man...

(SFX: A DOOR.)

HARRY (CONT'D)

Is somebody there? Hello?

ROBIN

It's me, it's me. What's the matter, honey? You can't sleep?

HARRY

I just thought I'd read for a while. But Robin, listen to this line. "Who is the third who walks always beside you?"

ROBIN

You can't sleep so you read "The Waste Land"?

HARRY

I find it comforting. It reminds me of my youth. Remember, back then? Literature? Life? That feeling you were getting a glimpse of something huge? You know. Death?

ROBIN

Harry...

HARRY

I tried watching TV. Too depressing. Tried the internet. More depressing. I felt like having a little nosh? I can't! No food, no water till it's all over. Why? Why do I have to fast for my eye?

ROBIN

Because your eyes are always bigger than your stomach.

HARRY

Very clever.

ROBIN

Thank you.

HARRY

He didn't even try to explain it. My so-called surgeon.

ROBIN

Will you please remember this man is an expert?

HARRY

An expert who can't remember my name. Who I think is dropping acid. He says I'm seeing filth. As Lenny would say, WHO KNEW?

ROBIN

Just think how beautiful "The Waste Land" will be without the filth. Which is why you have an appointment at nine a.m. tomorrow for your procedure.

HARRY

Only six more hours. After that everything'll be – all over...

ROBIN

Not all over, just over, Harry. Over in a good sense. And soon thereafter you'll be sitting in our kitchen having a beautiful, no, you'll be seeing a beautiful breakfast. Or half of one. The right half. Three weeks from now, they'll do the other eye, you'll see the left half of your breakfast. And it will be beautiful!

HARRY

He was having a breakdown.

ROBIN

Who.

HARRY

T.S. Eliot, when he wrote "The Waste Land."

ROBIN

You are not having a breakdown! Look, how about this. After both eyes are done - champagne. The two-hundred-dollar Veuve Cliquot. My treat.

HARRY

Really?

ROBIN

You can pay half.

HARRY

Funny woman.

ROBIN

Yes I am. And as the second who always walks beside you, I say it's 3 a.m., come to bed.

HARRY

You know where I keep my will, right, top drawer in the filing cabinet?

ROBIN

Stop it, okay? Now let me remind you of something. Our two beautiful children. You remember me those months before Zack? Eating ice cream and sardines and re-writing my will every two days? The alabaster urn from Nepal I bought for my ashes?

HARRY

I remember.

ROBIN

And in the end did it all turn out?

HARRY

It all turned out.

ROBIN

For Mindy I ate chocolates and read People Magazine for nine months, how did that procedure turn out?

HARRY

It turned out.

ROBIN

Why? Because I went through with what I had to and I came out the other side. And Zack and Mindy came out the other side. You see? Everything's good! Now it's your turn.

HARRY

Thank you.

ROBIN

Feel better? You feel ready?

HARRY

Yes.

ROBIN

Good. Now bed.

(SFX: CELLPHONE RINGS.)

HARRY

What's this?

ROBIN

A phone scam from China, probably.

(SFX: CELLPHONE RING.)

HARRY

No, it's Sarah...

ROBIN

At three in the morning?

(SFX: CELLPHONE RING, interrupted by:)

HARRY (INTO PHONE)

Sarah. Yeah, hi, what's...? No, I'm awake, I was... Uh-huh. Uh-huh. Okay. Well. How did... Jesus. Okay. So, um. Let's talk in the morning. Good, good-night, Sarah. Be well!

(SFX: CELLPHONE BEEP as he ends the call.)

ROBIN

What is it? What's the...?

HARRY

Lenny died.

ROBIN

Oh, honey. Oh, no.

HARRY

Lenny is dead. Nine o'clock tonight.

ROBIN

But – how? What happened?

HARRY

Stroke, heart attack. Suddenly he starts babbling nonsense, he keels over and he's dead.

ROBIN

Oh, honey, I'm so sorry.

HARRY

And I didn't even say that. I say good night to her just like that, I don't even say "I'm sorry"?! I gotta call her back -

ROBIN

No. No. Leave it, Harry. Leave her, she's doesn't need you to call her back, there's nothing you can do for her right now.

HARRY

"Be well," I say?! And Lenny is dead?!

ROBIN

Come and lie down, Harry. Please.

HARRY

I didn't say I'm sorry?!?!

ROBIN

You can tell her tomorrow. And the next day and the next day. Come on. Take my hand. Come with me. Good...

SCENE SEVEN. KRYSTAL.

(SFX: CHIMES.)

KRYSTAL

People always used to say there's a river separating the two worlds. That we cross a river to the other side. And I do – I do seem to come to some kind of a river. Barely visible, very thick and slow, like a river made of tar. Maybe it's just a, what, a kind of vision for what's actually there. Maybe everything's a vision, over there and over here. People – skeptics - used to say to me, "So where is this other side?" and I'd tell them this joke I used to love. Two people separated by a river. One of them shouts across, "How do I get to the other side?" And the other one says, "Fool, you are on the other side!"

(SFX: CHIMES FADE.)

SCENE EIGHT. HARRY and ROBIN.

HARRY

(Sings from "AMAZING GRACE")

"I once wa-a-as lost but now I'm found
Was blind - "

HARRY AND ROBIN

(Together, as SHE joins in)

" ... but now I see!"

ROBIN

Halleluiah! And here - as promised - your champagne, sir.

(SFX: CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE POPPING.)

Or should I say your champagne, seer.

HARRY

Yes. Yes. I am a seer now. I am a visionary!

(SFX: CHAMPAGNE POURING INTO GLASSES, foaming.)

HARRY (CONT'D)

Will you look at those bubbles. Wow. I wish you could see all the colors. Champagne in full Technicolor and 3-D.

ROBIN

Good. You see any filth in there?

HARRY

No! No filth! This glass, my God, it's got like a, a halo.

ROBIN

I say goodbye, you say ha-lo.

HARRY

Very cute, very cute. I should appreciate you more.

ROBIN

Yes you should.

HARRY

You know you can't see a fly on a mountain?

ROBIN

What?

HARRY

The distance interferes with the view.

ROBIN

The distance - WHAT?!

HARRY

Nothing. It's a statement about human existence.

ROBIN

Okay. I don't know what it means but I like it. And honey, I am so proud of you. You did it. You went through with it. FINALLY. I'm so proud and so glad to see you happy. So Harry Hoffman, my favorite all-seeing alte kakke. As they say: here's looking at you.

HARRY

And you.

ROBIN

Why not. To the both of us.

HARRY & ROBIN (TOGETHER)

Clink!

(SFX: CHAMPAGNE GLASSES CLINKING.)

ROBIN

Ohhhh. Delicious.

(SFX: A STRANGE FLUTTERING SOUND.)

HARRY

What was that...?

ROBIN

What. What was what.

HARRY

I don't know. Did the lights just flicker or something?

ROBIN

No.

HARRY

Behind me? Did the lights flicker?

ROBIN

No. Why? Did you –

HARRY

No, nothing, just, I thought I saw something for a second.

ROBIN

Like what.

HARRY

I dunno. A kind of a flash. Or a shadow or something.

ROBIN

Was it a flash or a shadow?

HARRY

Like a - flashing shadow. Everything kinda went dark for a second. Behind me, sort of over my shoulder.

ROBIN

Are you okay now?

HARRY

Yeah. Yeah. Perfect.

ROBIN

Is it still happening, the flashing, the shadow?

HARRY

No, I'm fine. Maybe I just blinked.

ROBIN

You've been blinking for decades, Harry. Look at me, straight at me. Do you see anything weird? A flash, or a shadow, or...?

HARRY

Nothing. Everything looks good.

ROBIN

Uh-huh, uh-huh.

HARRY

Maybe it was a floater.

ROBIN

A floater the size of Moby Dick! Do you want to call the doctor?

HARRY

About a floater?

ROBIN

He probably has an emergency number.

HARRY

I'm not calling him off-hours about a floater!

ROBIN

So leave a message.

HARRY

Robin, he's got better things to do.

ROBIN

How are they now, how are your eyes? Anything?

HARRY

Good. Fine. Apparently. Nope. Nothing strange. Everything looks good.

ROBIN

Call the doctor tomorrow. Will you, Harry?

HARRY

If it happens again I'll call the doctor.

ROBIN

Will you call the doctor, please? And make an appointment?

HARRY

Yes. If it happens again.

(SFX: STRANGE FLUTTERING SOUND.)

ROBIN

What.

HARRY

It happened again.

ROBIN

Give me that champagne.

(Her voice FADING as she goes off:)

I'm calling the S.O.B. right now.

HARRY

I'm fine! I'm fine! Honey! It's nothing!

SCENE NINE. HARRY and SURGEON.

(SFX: HOSPITAL BELL.)

HARRY

Doctor, what is this? What's happening to me?

SURGEON

Here's my diagnosis. It's nothing.

HARRY

Nothing? A flashing shadow is nothing?

SURGEON

Yes. And here's the proof: the picture we took of your eye today. You see? Retina. Blood vessels. Your optic nerve. You do have a small floater. Hardly the size of Moby-Dick. The brain scan is fine. The blood tests all good.

HARRY

So you think I, what, I imagined something?

SURGEON

Maybe the lights flickered. Maybe you blinked.

HARRY

I've been blinking for decades.

SURGEON

You've heard the phrase "on the blink"? Maybe you've internalized that phrase. Because you blink you think you're somehow "on the blink" –

HARRY

This is not blinking, Doctor!

SURGEON

What does your wife say?

HARRY

I think she thinks I'm going a little crazy.

SURGEON

You know, marriage is form of binocular vision.

HARRY

You're saying her vision's better than mine?

SURGEON

I'm saying two eyes are better than one and she sounds like a very smart woman. How's the rest of your life? Work life, sex life, everything good there?

HARRY

Yeah, everything's fine. Everything's good.

SURGEON

So you're fine, you're good! All right, then!

HARRY

(abruptly)
My brother died.

SURGEON

Oh. I'm sorry to hear it.

HARRY

That's why I postponed the first eye. A stroke, apparently. It was probably all that shouting. He was pretty loud. Lenny. Or all that cream cheese he shmeered on his bagels. They're vivid, you know – the Lens of this world.

SURGEON

You're a, what, a teacher?

HARRY

Historian. I was a historian.

SURGEON

Of - ?

HARRY

The Dark Ages. As they used to be called. My specialty was a river valley between Poland and Ukraine in the seventh century.

SURGEON

What was there in the seventh century?

HARRY

Nothing. My ancestors. I did get through to them sometimes. It's like once I found this legal document selling a cow, but in the margin there, the scribe who wrote it, the rabbi, whoever, in medieval Slovenian he wrote My God I'm tired of this crap. I'm holding this cow license and suddenly a human being is speaking to me across 14 centuries! Saying he hates his job. Or his life, the cow. Whatever.

SURGEON

Harry, are you in therapy?

HARRY

Therapy...? No...

SURGEON

Do you have any kind of a spiritual advisor? A rabbi, a priest, a guru, somebody like that?

HARRY

My wife is my spiritual adviser.

SURGEON

You don't believe in an afterlife?

HARRY

Doctor, I hardly believe in this life!

SURGEON

Maybe you could try T.M.

HARRY

T.M.?

SURGEON

Transcendental medita-

HARRY

I know what T.M. is! What do I need with that stuff? Or an afterlife?

SURGEON

You've lost your brother.

HARRY

I have an eye problem.

SURGEON

Maybe a medium could help you.

HARRY

A medium...?

SURGEON

It's worth a try. Come back and see me in six months.

(SFX: DOOR CLOSING.)

HARRY

Why a medium, why not a large!? An extra-extra-large rabbi?! TO HELP ME MAKE SENSE OUT OF THINGS WHEN MY SURGEON CAN NOT!
Pssshhh...

SCENE TEN. HARRY and ROBIN. Later, KRYSTAL and LEN.

(SFX: YARD SOUNDS. Birdsong, etc. CAR DOOR HEARD.)

ROBIN

You're back. How was it?

HARRY

Yeah, yeah, I'm back...

ROBIN

Well, what did the doctor say?

HARRY

He said I should become a Buddhist. Or see a shrink. Or a psychic. Those are my options. Do you think I should go to a shrink?

ROBIN

It couldn't hurt.

HARRY

You don't believe I'm seeing this either.

ROBIN

Honey, I do! I swear I do. It's just, it seems to be getting worse, and you have to do something because you are unraveling before my very eyes. Seeing these shadows.

(SFX: STRANGE FLUTTERING SOUND.)

Are you listening, Harry? No. All right, fine. Live with it. Or yes, go see a shrink. Become a Buddhist. Do whatever you want. Harry, are you listening to me at all?

(SFX: CHIMES, growing louder. They remain, through:)

HARRY

What's that sound?

ROBIN

Sound, what sound?

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Is someone there?

ROBIN

Harry? Harry, what's the matter? Suddenly you look very strange.

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Who are you, what is your name?

HARRY

My name... my name is Harry.

ROBIN

Are you okay? Harry?

HARRY

Shh shh shh.

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

My name is Krystal. Krystal with a "K."

HARRY

"Krystal with a K"... Where are you, Krystal, I can't see you.

ROBIN

Harry, what in God's name are you talking about?!

HARRY

I'm talking to Krystal.

(SFX: CHIMES are very present.)

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

I died in a fire in Oakland, California in August, 1957.

HARRY

Oh. Well. I'm sorry. So you're in - the Beyond, Krystal?

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

To us, Harry, you are the Beyond.

ROBIN

I'm calling an ambulance –

HARRY

Shh shh shh. I'm fine, I'm fine.

KRYSTAL

Where are you in that world right now?

HARRY

Me, in this world? I'm here in Mt. Kisco, New York, in my garden.

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Describe your garden for us. We can't see it.

HARRY

Well. There's the, um, the pathway from the house. There's our catalpa tree. Which we were going to have cut down because it's filthy but we kept it. Some purple irises along the garage. There are birds.

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Birds...! Really? There are birds?

HARRY

There's a family of sparrows cavorting on the lawn here. Some purple martins up there. But you said "us." Who is us?

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Some of us here who miss your world.

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Harry?

HARRY

Len. Lenny...! Are you here, too? Are you with me?

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

I'm with you, Harry!

HARRY

So you're – Jesus, Len, you're still...you're still there?

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Yeah! And here's the thing: who knew, Harry? Huh? WHO KNEW?!

HARRY

That's right! That's right! Exactly! WHO KNEW, Len?! Oh my God it's good to hear you. And you were right! You know that? You were right all along, Lenny! About everything!

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Hey, Harry, is Robin there with you?

HARRY

Robin – yeah, she's here...

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Is she staring at you right now like you're a lunatic?

HARRY

She is.

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Well put your arms around her, you idiot!

KRYSTAL (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

It was good to meet you, Harry.

HARRY

“Good, to”...? What are you talking about? You mean – you’re going? This is all I GET? A peek, a glimpse?

LEN (WITH SLIGHT ECHO)

Embrace your wife, Hare! And be well!

HARRY

No, no, no, don’t go! I love you! Lenny? Lenny, I miss you! We all miss you! Lenny? Len? Are you still there? Talk to me!

(SFX: CHIMES FADE.)

ROBIN

Ummmm. Harry?

HARRY

That was Lenny. And Krystal. With a K.

ROBIN

Uh-huh. Lenny and Krystal. And how are they?

HARRY

So you didn’t hear them.

ROBIN

Uhh no I did not, somehow.

HARRY

Lenny said you’re staring at me like a lunatic. He was right about that too!

ROBIN

You were suddenly – so far away. It’s like you just – went away from me.

HARRY

You’re shivering. Oh my God, come here. Come here, let me hold onto you. Warm you up, how’s that?

ROBIN

It’s good, it’s good. Are you really here, Harry? Here with me? Are you back?

HARRY

Yes, I'm back. I am so back. Look. Look! Mount Kisco, New York! The garden. Our house. And you. You're here. I'm here. In full Technicolor. Oh God, honey, am I back...!

(SFX: BIRDSONG. It FADES OUT.)

(END OF PLAY.)