

**SKY**

As a former sinner, I happen to know that the best time to find sinners is between midnight and dawn. You might even try having an all-night session, against the devil.

**ARVIDE**

A very good suggestion indeed! Thank you, Brother Masterson!

**SKY**

You're welcome.

*(Pointedly, with an eye on SARAH)*

**ARVIDE**

*(Drinks coffee)*

Coffee is so good I can't understand why it isn't a sin.

*(ARVIDE exits R. SARAH sits at desk. SKY places hat on single chair)*

**SKY**

*(Looking after ARVIDE)*

Fine old gentleman. I suppose he sort of – looks after you?

**SARAH**

We look after each other.

**SKY**

Uh-huh. I suppose if either of you goes some place, the other goes along?

**SARAH**

Yes, of course.

**SKY**

Of course.

**SARAH**

*(Hands SKY pamphlet)*

Here are two of our pamphlets I'd like you to read. They will give you a good deal of comfort.

**SKY**

Thank you.

**SARAH**

And we're holding a midnight prayer meeting on Thursday, which I'm sure you will wish to attend.

*(Rises, crosses to drawer at shoe stand. Gets paper)*

**SKY**

I'm sure. Miss Sarah, I hope you will not think I am getting out of line, but I think it is wonderful to see a pretty doll – uh – a nice-looking lady like you – sacrificing herself for the sake of others.

*(Crosses two steps to R.)*

Staying here in this place – do you ever go any place else? Travel or something?

**SARAH**

*(Sits at desk)*

I would like to go to Africa.

**SKY**

That's a little far. But there are a lot of wonderful places just a few hours from New York, by plane. Ever been in a plane?

**SARAH**

No.

**SKY**

Oh, it's wonderful—

**SARAH**

Here is another pamphlet that I think you should read.

*(Gives him pamphlet)*

**SKY**

Thank you. Of course I will need a lot of personal help from you. My heart is as black as two feet down a wolf's gullet.

**SARAH**

I'll be speaking at the Thursday prayer meeting.

**SKY**

I need private lessons. Why don't we have dinner or something?

**SARAH**

I think not, Mr. Masterson.

**SKY**

Sorry, just blossoming under the warmth of your kindness.

*(Strolling around, looking the place over)*

Hey—

*(Crosses up C. to sign)*

That's wrong.

**SARAH**

What's wrong?

**SKY**

That's not Proverbs – it's Isaiah.

**SARAH**

It's Proverbs.

**SKY**

Sorry. "No peace to the wicked." – Isaiah, chapter 57, verse 21.

*(SARAH crosses to Bible stand, opens it. Behind his back SARAH looks up quotation in Bible. Slams the book shut)*

**SKY**

*(Without turning)*

Isaiah?

**SARAH**

Isaiah.

*(Sits at desk)*

**SKY**

There are two things been in every hotel room in the country: Sky Masterson and the Gideon Bible. I must have read the Good Book ten or twelve times.

**SARAH**

You've read the Bible twelve times?

**SKY**

What's wrong with the Bible? Besides, in my business the strangest information frequently comes in handy. I once won five G's on a parlay, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

**SARAH**

Tell me, Mr. Masterson, why are you here?

**SKY**

I told you. I'm a sinner.

**SARAH**

You're lying.

**SKY**

Well, lying's a sin – Look, I'm a *big* sinner. If you get me, it's eight to five the others'll follow. You need sinners, don't you?

**SARAH**

We're managing.

**SKY**

Let's be honest. This Mission is laying an egg.

*(SHE is silent)*

Why don't you let me help you? I'll bet I can—

*(Crosses R. a few steps)*

—fill this place with sinners.

**SARAH**

I don't bet.

**SKY**

I'll make you a proposition.

*(Picks up cardboard from chair, writes marker)*

When is this big meeting of yours – Thursday? I will guarantee to fill that meeting with one dozen genuine sinners. I will also guarantee that they will sit still and listen to you.

**SARAH**

And what's my end of the bargain?

**SKY**

Have dinner with me.

**SARAH**

Why do you want to have dinner with *me*?

**SKY**

I'm hungry – Here!

*(Gives her marker. SHE takes it)*

**SARAH**

What's this?

**SKY**

Sky Masterson's marker for twelve sinners. If you don't think it's good, ask anybody in town. I.O.U. – one dozen sinners.

*(He hands her the red cardboard marker)*

I'll pick you up at noon tomorrow, for dinner.

**SARAH**

At noon?

**SKY**

It'll take us some time to get there.

**SARAH**

To get where?

**SKY**

*(Picks up hat from single chair)*

To my favorite restaurant.

**SARAH**

Where is that?

**SKY**

El Café Cubana, in Havana.

**SARAH**

*(Rises)*

El Café Cubana, Havana?

**SKY**

Where do you want to eat? Howard Johnson's?

**SARAH**

Havana!

**SKY**

*(Crosses to her)*

Why not? The plane gets us there in five hours and back the same night. And the food is great.

**SARAH**

*(Crosses to cabinet R. with sheet of paper)*

I now realize, Mr. Gambler, when you were describing the blackness of your heart, you didn't do yourself justice.

*(She opens drawer of cabinet, takes out typewritten sheet of paper. SKY goes to her and as he does he drops his hat on armchair)*

**SKY**

And I now realize, Sister Sarah, that no matter how beautiful a sergeant is, she's still a sergeant.

**SARAH**

Please go away.

**SKY**

Why don't you change your pitch, Sarge? – "Come to the Mission one and all, except guys. I hate guys!"

**SARAH**

I don't hate anybody.

**SKY**

Except me.

*(SHE looks at him)*

I am relieved to know that it's just me personally and not all guys in general. It is nice to know that somewhere in the world there's a guy who might appeal to the sergeant. I wonder what this guy will be like?

**SARAH**

*(Slams drawer. Crosses to D.C.)*

He will *not* be a gambler.

**SKY**

*(Crosses to her)*

I am not interested in what he will not be – I am interested in what he will be.

**SARAH**

Don't worry, I'll know—

*LIGHT CUE*

#6 – I'll Know
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**SARAH**

I'VE IMAGINED EV'RY BIT OF HIM,  
FROM HIS STRONG MORAL FIBER  
TO THE WISDOM IN HIS HEAD,  
TO THE HONEY AROMA OF HIS PIPE

**SKY**

YOU HAVE WISHED YOURSELF A SCARSDALE  
GALAHAD  
THE BREAKFAST-EATING BROOKS BROTHERS TYPE