

BILLIE

WHEN YOU'RE AWAKE THE THINGS YOU THINK  
COME FROM THE DREAMS YOU DREAM.  
THOUGHT HAS WINGS AND LOTS OF THINGS ARE SELDOM WHAT  
THEY SEEM.  
SOMETIMES YOU THINK YOU'VE LIVED BEFORE  
ALL THAT YOU LIVE TODAY.  
THINGS YOU DO COME BACK TO YOU AS THOUGH THEY KNEW THE WAY.  
OH, THE TRICKS YOUR MIND CAN PLAY!

IT SEEMS WE STOOD AND TALKED LIKE THIS BEFORE,  
WE LOOKED AT EACH OTHER IN THE SAME WAY THEN,  
BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE OR WHEN.

THE CLOTHES YOU'RE WEARING ARE THE CLOTHES YOU WORE.  
THE SMILE YOU ARE SMILING YOU WERE SMILING THEN,  
BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE OR WHEN.

SOME THINGS THAT HAPPEN FOR THE FIRST TIME  
SEEM TO BE HAPPENING AGAIN.

AND SO IT SEEMS THAT WE HAVE MET BEFORE,  
AND LAUGHED BEFORE, AND LOVED BEFORE,  
BUT WHO KNOWS WHERE OR WHEN!

VAL &amp; BILLIE

AND SO IT SEEMS THAT WE HAVE MET BEFORE,  
AND LAUGHED BEFORE, AND LOVED BEFORE,  
BUT WHO KNOWS WHERE OR WHEN!

*VAL leads BILLIE offstage. MARSHALL enters with the SHERIFF.)*

*Begin here for  
Marshall, Val, &  
Sheriff*

MARSHALL

Val!

VAL (OFFSTAGE)

Coming!

SHERIFF

How'll he take it?

MARSHALL

I don't know. He's a funny guy.

*(VAL enters.)*

The Sheriff wants to talk to you.

VAL

What did I do?

SHERIFF

It isn't what you did. It's what you're going to do. All the adults have left Seaport.

VAL

To bring back vaudeville!

SHERIFF

You kids can't be trusted on your own. I'm no Father Flanagan. This is no Boys Town.  
All you kids are going to the Work Farm.

What! VAL

Your folks are away. SHERIFF

They trust me! Gosh, what nerve! Well, nothing doing. I'm not going anywhere VAL

We don't have any choice. MARSHALL

You leave tomorrow. SHERIFF

Not me. I've got a right to go where I please. VAL

After you're twenty-one you have. Look, Val, you're in a bad spot. SHERIFF

The folks will send us money. VAL

How? SHERIFF

The tour is managed by the Bright Lights Club. They're going to bring vaudeville back. VAL

The moving picture people must be worried to death. SHERIFF

They divide the profits every week. VAL

What profits? Listen, Val, it's tough, but we can't take any chances with you kids. SHERIFF

We're not paupers. My folks own this house and that big field too. VAL

Try to sell it. Why did your old man ever buy it? SHERIFF

He had an inside tip that they were going to use it for an airport, so he put all his money into it. VAL

And that fell through. And then they were going to buy it for a municipal garbage dump. MARSHALL

And that fell through. VAL

*(Looking out door.)*  
A disappointed garbage dump. SHERIFF

VAL  
Listen, Sheriff, I can't go. I believe in personal liberty. In living for myself.

How's that?

SHERIFF

Hedonism!

VAL

SHERIFF  
Hedonism. Oh. Well, if my old man invested his last cent in that land, I wouldn't believe in God either.  
*(The SHERIFF goes.)*

MARSHALL  
I suppose you know they've got a swell library on that farm.

Shut up!

VAL

MARSHALL  
It's only till the folks come back. And they have a ball team. And listen, Val, you don't mind eating once in a while, do you?

We could eat here.

VAL

On what?

MARSHALL

VAL  
Oh, we could do something. We could write -- for magazines.

Did you ever get a rejection slip?

MARSHALL

Yes.

VAL

Did you ever get anything else?

MARSHALL

No.

VAL

Oh, you mean we can eat the rejection slips.

MARSHALL

No! But listen -- what would we do on a farm?

VAL

MARSHALL  
Listen, fellow, it's not just us. All the girls are going to the farm.

They are?

VAL

And no mothers to guide 'em.

MARSHALL

Boy!

VAL

Now you're talking, feller.  
(BILLIE appears.)

MARSHAL

Oh...

VAL

What?

MARSHALL

I don't know about going to that work farm.

VAL

You don't know? You mean you're considering letting them take you away?

BILLIE

Well...

VAL

I'm surprised at you. You told me you believed in liberty.

BILLIE

But we're left high and dry.

VAL

Oh - er...

MARSHALL

Oh, this is Marshall Blackstone. Miss Billie Smith.

VAL

A house guest?

MARSHALL

If that means what it does in Hollywood, you'd better take that back.

BILLIE

She dropped in on her way from the coast.

VAL

And you're thinking of going to the Work Farm?

BILLIE

What else can we do?

MARSHALL

You can start something.

BILLIE

The only commercial experience I've ever had was taking bows.

VAL

For what?

BILLIE

VAL

For the act. Pa and Ma would lead me in for the third bow to show that they were married.

MARSHALL

That won't get you much now.

BILLIE

What about you? You look healthy enough.

MARSHALL

I'm willing to work - on the farm.

BILLIE

What about you, Val?

VAL

Well ... er ... er...

BILLIE

You'll get healthy on that farm! You'll get healthy and fat, and much too tired to think.

VAL

But...

BILLIE

You'll make a very nice pair of public charges.

VAL

That settles it. I'm not going.

BILLIE

Great! I'm glad you're willing to stand on your own.

VAL

I'll find a way. I'm a pragmatist.

BILLIE

That'll help. I don't know what you can do, but you can do something. The idea of a bunch of healthy kids being fed like down and out bums!

VAL

Marshall, let's stick it out!

MARSHALL

But how?

VAL

With guts!

BILLIE

Now you're talking.

VAL

I know what! I'll get the gang!

BILLIE

Good! Get 'em all together.

You'll stick? VAL  
I'll stick. Well, Marshall? BILLIE  
I'm with you. Maybe you're crazy, but I'm always with you, kid. MARSHALL  
Well, what's the first step? BILLIE  
We'll call a meeting! I'll organize the bunch. VAL  
They think we can't take care of ourselves! MARSHALL  
They think we're kids! BILLIE  
We'll show 'em! VAL

**Music 4: BABES IN ARMS**

VAL & MARSHALL