

Audition:
Side 2

BROCK. So what's this — this Sam Paine to know?

BILLIE. (*Straightening up.*) Some difference! ~~Tom~~ Paine — not Sam Paine — ~~Tom~~ Paine practically started this whole country.

BROCK. You mean he's dead?

BILLIE. Of course.

BROCK. (*Yelling at PAUL.*) What the hell you learnin' her about dead people? I just want her to know how to act with *live* people!

PAUL. Education's pretty hard to control, Harry. One thing leads to another. It's a matter of awakening curiosity—imagination—
independence—first thing you know—

BROCK. (*Crossing R. to chair L. of desk.*) Work on her, not me.

PAUL. No extra charge.

BROCK. I don't need nothin' you can tell me.

PAUL. (*With meaning.*) Oh, I'm sure we could tell each other lots of interesting things, Harry.

BROCK. What the hell's *that* mean?

PAUL. Just trying to be friendly.

BROCK. (*Crossing to chair L. of desk and sitting.*) Who asked ya? You know, the more I see you I don't like you as much. For a chump who's got no place, you're pretty fresh. You better watch out—I got an eye on you.

PAUL. All right. Let's both watch out.

BROCK. If I wanted I could knock your block off if I wanted.

PAUL. Yes, I know.

BROCK. All right, then—just go ahead and do what you're supposed—and that's all.

PAUL. Well, we'll stop for now.

BROCK. (*With honest interest.*) No, go ahead. I wanna see how you do it. (*Settles back and waits.*)

PAUL. (*Rising and moving to door.*) Not just now if you don't mind—I've got to go lie down. (*He stops, turns back.*) You don't realize how hard I work.

BILLIE. Ha ha! Some joke.

BROCK. (*Victimized.*) Two hundred bucks a week and I can't even watch! (*Rises and crosses back of desk.*)

PAUL. . . . take you on separately, Harry. Glad to. I've got a special course for backward millionaires! (*HE goes. BROCK cannot decide whether or not he has been insulted. HE puts his attention on the material in large envelope. BILLIE curls up with her "David Copperfield."*)

BROCK. (*Looking at BILLIE pityingly.*) London or England! Hon-

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