

*Act II Scene III*

**ARPAD**

Mr. Sipos — guess what?

**SIPOS**

What?

**ARPAD**

I'm a clerk!

**SIPOS**

Well — congratulations, Arpad!

**ARPAD**

Mr. Maraczek just promoted me. Oh — and something else — I'm not Arpad anymore.

**SIPOS**

You're not — ? Who are you?

**ARPAD**

*(Proudly)*

Mr. Laszlo!

**SIPOS**

Why Laszlo?

**ARPAD**

Why? It's my last name!

*(RITTERS CUSTOMER goes to the front door and opens it)*

#50 Thank You, Madam #5

**RITTER, SIPOS, ARPAD**

THANK YOU, MADAM.

PLEASE CALL AGAIN.

DO CALL AGAIN, MADAM.

*(CUSTOMER EXITS)*

**SIPOS**

Miss Ritter — May I present our new clerk — Mr. Laszlo.

**ARPAD**

*(To RITTER)*

It's true! Ask Mr. Maraczek!

**RITTER**

Arpad! How wonderful!

*(KODALY has come out of the workroom, nattily dressed for outdoors)*

**KODALY**

What's wonderful?

**ARPAD**

I'm a clerk! Starting right now! A clerk!

**KODALY**

Can you believe it? Steven Kodaly replaced by a delivery boy!?

**ARPAD**

Replaced?

**KODALY**

Yes, Arpad, I'm leaving... I just resigned. I wouldn't stay here another day.

**SIPOS**

You couldn't. You've just been fired!

**KODALY**

All right — believe that if it makes you happy. But you're not going to be happy for very long. Because any day now that door will close for the last time. Then just take a walk over to Hammerschmidt's...

**SIPOS**

Why? It's closed.

**KODALY**

Only temporarily. For renovations. You see — they're going to have a new owner: Steven Kodaly!

**SIPOS**

*(Derisively)*

Some owner.

**KODALY**

Nevertheless, it's true.

*(To RITTER)*

Ilona believes me. Don't you darling?

## #51 A Grand Knowing You

**RITTER**

*(Deadpan)*

Of course I do.

*(She hands him the envelope)*

Here's your down payment.

*(KODALY takes the envelope)*

**KODALY**

IT'S BEEN GRAND KNOWING YOU,  
GRAND KNOWING YOU,  
GRAND BEING YOUR FRIEND.