

SCENE SIX

#55 Closing The Shop

GEORG

Let me help you with those —

(One package drops to the sidewalk. It plays the MUSIC BOX TUNE. AMALIA looks embarrassed)

GEORG

A cigarette box?

AMALIA

(Apologetically)

I know you hate them. But I rather like them. And I thought — as a gift for Dear Friend...

(GEORG picks up the box, which stops its music)

GEORG

But — what if he's not a smoker?

AMALIA

He likes music.

GEORG

And it's just a box. You know, Miss Balash — I don't hate these boxes nearly as much as I used to. In fact I wouldn't mind owning one myself.

AMALIA

You wouldn't?

GEORG

If only to remind me of the first day you came here. Remember?

(AMALIA nods)

I'll never forget it...

(Imitating AMALIA)

“What kind of box, madam? Eh, it's a candy box! And it's functional!”

AMALIA

I was so terrified. And you were so awful. Did I really sound like that?

GEORG

You sounded — irresistible. As a matter of fact — I remember thinking: Why, that's the kind of girl I could almost fall in love with.

AMALIA

But you were so awful...

GEORG

I know.

AMALIA

And you never said anything!

GEORG

How could I? I knew how you felt about me...

#56 Finale — Act II

AMALIA

But you didn't. Really! You didn't! Because I was attracted to you — more than attracted.

GEORG

Awful as I was?

AMALIA

What a shame you never spoke up.

GEORG

And you...

AMALIA

Who knows what might have been...?

(AMALIA starts to EXIT)

GEORG

I AM SO SORRY ABOUT LAST NIGHT.
IT WAS A NIGHTMARE IN EVERY WAY
BUT TOGETHER YOU AND I
WILL LAUGH AT LAST NIGHT SOME DAY.

(AMALIA stops and turns back to GEORG)

AMALIA

DEAR FRIEND...
IT'S REALLY TRUE THEN!
IT'S WHAT I HOPED FOR...
THAT IT WAS YOU!

GEORG

DEAR FRIEND,
I HAD TO TELL YOU!
I COULDN'T STAND IT
UNTIL YOU KNEW!

GEORG

TWO WEEKS...
I'VE KNOWN FOR TWO WEEKS!
I WAS SO TEMPTED...
I DIDN'T DARE!

AMALIA

OH, GEORG,
I WAS SO ANXIOUS!
I WAS AFRAID THAT...
I'M SO RELIEVED!