

Act I

Scene Five

ASRIEL, SHAYA, NATHAN and **BIELE** exit left as **TZALEL** (as **LIPPE**) exits right and returns (as **TZALEL**) with his cart, crossing the stage from right to left as the **COMPANY** discard their synagogue costumes in the cart and the scene changes.

FLORA

But now we return to New York—

TAMARA

—to the Lower East Side—

NATHAN

(Placing his synagogue outfit in **TZALEL's** passing cart.)
—where David, as he promised, has found work for Biele and himself in the same shop—

TZALEL

—and pursued his courtship with a persistency and a fervor which was not long in winning the girl's heart.

GOLDY

He saw her home every evening—

TAMARA

—regularly came after supper to take her out for a walk—

FLORA

—in the course of which he would treat her to candy or invite her to a coffee saloon—

HEYMAN

(Disposing of his **RABBI** attire in **TZALEL's** cart.)
—a thing which Heyman had never done.

NATHAN

He kept her chuckling over his jokes—

NATHAN and **BIELE** enter from left, strolling.

GOLDY

—and then, while walking by her side in Seward Park, one night—

TZALEL

(At far left, before exiting.)

—well, do we really have to tell you? All right then—we'll tell you!

BIELE

It's getting late—it's so dark that I hardly know where I am!

DAVID

I'll tell you where you are—guess.

BIELE

(Turning back to him.)

Where?

DAVID

(Taking her hand and pressing it to his chest.)

Here, in my heart, and keeping me awake nights, too.

BIELE

Oh!

DAVID

(Smilingly.)

Say, Biele, what have I ever done to you to have my rest disturbed in such a manner?

BIELE

(Flustered.)

I don't know—

DAVID laughs.

BIELE

(Drawing back.)

You can never stop making fun, can you? What are you laughing at?

DAVID

Fun? Do you want me to cry? I'm blushing—that's all. And you can't even see it.

BIELE

(Turning away.)
Stop that!

DAVID
I will, gladly, if I only know that you will agree to have an engagement party.

A pause, then:

(Turning back.)
BIELE
When?

DAVID
For my part, we could have it tomorrow.

BIELE
Tomorrow? Well—then tomorrow!

LOOK LONG ENOUGH (Reprise)

DAVID
Funny how, when I'd looked long enough,
It came as plain as day.
No guessing then—I'd guessed enough,
I'd find the words to say.
When something is right, it's right and that's all I know.
For I had looked—looked long enough—and so—

DAVID and BIELE
And I had sat, and wondered how,
Throughout the day,
How I would ever find the words
To match the words you'd say.

BIELE
But where I'd only come to doubt, now I was sure,
For all at once I turned around and there you were!

DAVID
And courage is an easy thing:
It comes along
The way the tide obeys the moon—
It comes along.

BIELE

And the moon on the harbor and the moon at your window
And the moon that lights the streets—it's the self-same moon!

DAVID

And from quarter to crescent, look long enough, and very soon—

DAVID and BIELE

Very soon—very soon!

DAVID

So—tomorrow evening?

BIELE

Tomorrow evening! But home to mother now—tomorrow she'll be cooking all day!

They exit right.