

Peggy & Evelyn

PEGGY. I don't think you ought to go, really, Mary. It's just going to make an awful lot of trouble.

EVELYN. What's going to happen about the kitten?

MARY. Say I did it—it doesn't make a bit of difference any more to me. (*Crosses back to U. L. of chair, L. of desk.*) Now listen, you two got to help. They won't miss me before dinner if you make Rosalie shut the door and keep it shut. Now, I'll go through the field to French's, and then I can get the bus to Homestead.

EVELYN. How you going to get to the street car?

MARY. Taxi, idiot.

PEGGY. How are you going to get out of here in the first place?

MARY. (*Slowly moving downstage.*) I'm going to walk out. I know where they keep the front door. Well, I'm going right out the door.

EVELYN. Gee, I wouldn't have the nerve.

MARY. Of course you wouldn't. You'd let 'em do anything to you they want. Well, they can't do it to me. (*Turns to them.*) Who's got any money? (*PEGGY slowly crosses R. above desk, comes downstage between sofa and desk to below L. end of sofa.*)

EVELYN. (*Moves to above chair R. of desk.*) Not me. Not a cent. Not a cent.

MARY. I've got to have a dollar for the taxi and a dime for the bus.

EVELYN. And where you going to find it?

PEGGY. (*Below L. end of sofa.*) See? Why don't you just wait until you get your allowance on Monday, and then you can go any place you want. Maybe by that time —

MARY. I'm going today. Now.

EVELYN. You can't walk to Laneet.

MARY. (*Slowly crosses R. below desk to C. To PEGGY.*) You've got money. You've got three dollars and twenty-five cents. Go get it for me.

PEGGY. (*Moves away R. below sofa.*) No! No! I won't get it for you.

EVELYN. (*Crosses to C.*) You can't have that money, Mary —

MARY. (*Advances to below L. end of sofa.*) Get it for me.

PEGGY. (*Cringes, her voice is scared.*) I won't. I just won't. Mamma doesn't send me much allowance—not half as much as the rest of you get—I saved this so long—you took it from me last time —

EVELYN. (*Comes down L. of MARY.*) Ah, she wants that dress so bad.

PEGGY. I'll tell you a secret. I'd never even go to the movies if Miss Wright and Miss Dobie didn't give me money. I never have anything the rest of you get all the time. It took me so long to save that and I —

MARY. Go upstairs and get me the money.

PEGGY. (*Hysterically, backing away from her.*) I won't. I won't. I won't. (*MARY makes a sudden move to her, grabs her L. arm, and jerks it back, hard and expertly. PEGGY screams softly. EVELYN tries to take MARY's arm away. Without releasing her hold on PEGGY, MARY slaps EVELYN's face. EVELYN backs away, begins to cry.*)

MARY. Just say when you've had enough.

PEGGY. (*Softly, stifflingly.*) All—all right—I'll get it.