

EXCERPT PAGES 17 - 22

17

ALLISON

Watch some old episodes of Andy Griffith on T.V. Land, tonight, Pete. It will help prepare you for your visit tomorrow with Opie.

(PETE leaves as ALLISON whistles the Andy Griffith theme song. End of Scene)

(Scene three- PETE sits at the table in his apartment playing cards with LEON)

LEON

I love poker night.

PETE

Me too, Leon.

LEON

Are you nervous about tomorrow?

PETE

You mean about meeting that boy?

LEON

He better be nice to you. If he's not, I'll bite him.

PETE

I know you're in my corner. ..but don't talk about biting yet.

LEON

I'll be your ace in the hole.

18

PETE

Speaking of which....I raise a penny.

LEON

Call your raise.

PETE

Oh-oh. You might just have an ace in the hole.

LEON

You have to pay to find out Mister Pete. I have a question...I...I...

PETE

Go ahead Leon. Don't start being shy....you know you can ask me anything.

LEON

Do you like the girl in the coffee shop?

PETE

What do you mean "like"?

LEON

I mean, is she someone you would like to take care of you?

PETE

I don't think she'd want to do that.

19

LEON

You could ask her. That's what a lion would do.

PETE

Last time I checked, I'm not a lion.

LEON

No, but you have the heart of one.

PETE

Why thank you, Leon.

LEON

No, you do. Maybe she likes your heart.

PETE

Well, even if she did, that wouldn't be enough. She'd have to like my face. I have an old face.

LEON

You have a wise face.

PETE

Wait a minute...I know you. You're trying to soften me up so you can win more pennies.

LEON

That never occurred to me.

20

(They both laugh)

PETE

I raise another penny.

LEON

Call your penny. I dreamt about Miss Janet last night.

PETE

Again?

LEON

Yep. Last night she was doing the laundry. She was folding your shirts on the bed in our old house. It made me miss everything.

PETE

Was she happy in your dream?

LEON

She heard you in the other room. You were listening to the Pirate game. You yelled, "Come on, strike him out", and she told me, "Your papa is a real fan" and she smiled and I woke up and I felt all warm... like I did when....when she was still here.

PETE

You were lucky to have that dream. I remember that feeling. It was wonderful.

LEON

Do you ever feel like that now?

21

PETE

(Beat) No.

LEON

Mister Pete, I'm tired.

PETE

But it's still early. We usually play a little longer.

LEON

Could we both go to sleep now?

PETE

Why are you in such a hurry?

LEON

That way we could both dream about her.

PETE

O.K., O.K., I see. Then put the cards away. You won three cents tonight. Then go turn off the light.

(LEON puts away the cards and turns out the light. They climb into bed.)

LEON

I saved you some room Miss Janet. If you want to come back tonight, we saved the space for you. We love you every night. Don't we Mister Pete?

22

PETE

Of course we do. We always will.

End Of Scene

(Scene 4- PETE sits nervously at a coffee shop table. JAVIER enters.)

PETE

Javier?

JAVIER

From Perry?

PETE

Yes. I'm Mister Edwards. May I get you something to drink?

JAVIER

No.

PETE

You're welcome.

JAVIER

What?

PETE

I said you're welcome. I said you're welcome because you said thank you. You did say thank you, didn't you?

END OF EXCERPT