

GILLETTE. You didn't tell me.

AGGIE. I couldn't. I didn't have the courage.

GILLETTE. Courage?

AGGIE. I didn't want you to think less of me.

GILLETTE. But Simon is a fine fellow.

AGGIE. He's more than that!

GILLETTE. What I mean is –

AGGIE. I know what you mean. He's ordinary. He's "nice."
He's easy to please. Well he *is* those things. And he's in
love with me.

GILLETTE. Are you in love with him?

AGGIE. (*hurt*) Of course I am. I wouldn't have married him
otherwise. (*increasingly upset*) And he's very, very kind.
When I needed him, he was there in an instant.

GILLETTE. Of course he was.

AGGIE. But I was in love with you. You just...you didn't ask
me. I gave you every chance. I offered you everything!

GILLETTE. I know you did. And I was too foolish to take
you up on it. I had some misguided notion that I was
being loyal to my wife's memory.

AGGIE. It's been ten years since your wife died.

GILLETTE. Yes, I know.

AGGIE. (*in his arms*) Oh, William...

GILLETTE. Aggie, listen. You're going to be fine. The best
man won. I'm sure of it. And for heaven's sake, just
look at me. I'm old enough to be your slightly older
brother.

(*She laughs nervously.*)

AGGIE. Thanks. Thanks a million....It's just that I...I mean,
I thought that you...felt something...

(*almost breaking down*)

*You treat everything as a joke! Even that horrible attempt on
your life!*

GILLETTE. (*cont.*) The greatest game, the biggest adventure.
Shakespeare got it right on the nose. Henry the Fifth
charging into battle against overwhelming odds and
what does he cry? "*It's all a game and if I die, I die!*" So
let them praise me, hate me or shoot at me – but at the
end of the battle, I will have *lived*, even for a moment.
And if you think you need Simon in order to live like
that, then take him, by all means! Cling to him! Don't
hesitate for a second!...I will, however, miss you un-
utterably.