

AUDITION SIDE FOR BOBO

BOBO: Lemme tell you—Walter Lee. (*Looking at RUTH and talking to her more than to Walter*) You know how it was. I got to tell you how it was. I mean first I got to tell you how it was all the way ... I mean about the money I put in, Walter Lee ... Well—it wasn't much as we told you—me and Willy— (*He stops*) I'm sorry, Walter. I got a bad feeling about it. I got a real bad feeling about it...

~~WALTER Man, what you telling me about all this for? ... Tell me what happened in Springfield ...~~

BOBO Springfield.

~~RUTH (Like a dead woman) What was supposed to happen in Springfield?~~

BOBO (To her) This deal that me and Walter went into with Willy— Me and Willy was going to go down to Springfield and spread some money 'round so's we wouldn't have to wait so long for the liquor license ... That's what we were going to do. Everybody said that was the way you had to do, you understand, Miss Ruth? (*to Walter*) Springfield? Man ... I didn't go to no Springfield, yesterday. (*The long way, the hard way to tell*) 'Cause I didn't have no reasons to ...

~~WALTER Man, what are you talking about!~~

BOBO I'm talking about the fact that when I got to the train station yesterday morning—eight o'clock like we planned ... Man— Willy didn't never show up. I waited six hours ... I called his house ... and I waited ... six hours ... I waited in that train station six hours ... (*Breaking into tears*) That was all the extra money I had in the world ... (*Looking up at WALTER with the tears running down his face*) Man, Willy is gone. (*In sudden angry, frightened agony*) What's the matter with you, Walter! When a cat take off with your money he don't leave you no road maps! (*Standing over him helplessly*) I'm sorry, Walter ... (*Only WALTER'S sobs reply. BOBO puts on his hat*) I had my life staked on this deal, too ...

