

## AUDITION SIDE FOR RUTH YOUNGER

**RUTH:** ~~Get on in there~~—( Closing the door behind Travis and turning radiantly to her mother-in-law/) So you went and did it! PRAISE GOD! (Looks at Walter a moment, who says nothing. She crosses rapidly to her husband) Please, honey—let me be glad ... you be glad too. ( She has laid her hands on his shoulders, but he shakes himself free of her roughly, without turning to face her) Oh Walter ... a home ... a home. (She comes back to mama) Well— where is it? How big is it? How much it going to cost? When we moving? First of the month?! Praise God! (To Walter) Walter, honey, be glad! (To Mama) Where is it? Where? Clybourne Park? Mama, there ain't no colored people living in Clybourne Park. ( Trying to recover from the shock) Well—well—'course I ain't one never been fraid of no crackers, mind you— but—well, wasn't there no other houses nowhere? ( Struck senseless with the news, in its various degrees of goodness and trouble, she sits a moment, her fists propping her chin in thought, and then she starts to rise, bringing her fists down with vigor, the radiance spreading from cheek to cheek again) Well— well!—All I can say is—if this is my time in life— MY TIME —to say good-bye— (And she builds with momentum as she starts to circle the room with an exuberant, almost tearfully happy release) —to these goddamned cracking walls!—( She pounds the walls) —and these marching roaches! — (She wipes at an imaginary army of marching roaches) —and this cramped little closet which ain't now or never was no kitchen! ... then I say it loud and good, HALLELUJAH! AND GOOD-BYE MISERY ... I DONT NEVER WANT TO SEE YOUR UGLY FACE AGAIN! (She laughs joyously, having practically destroyed the apartment, and flings her arms up and lets them come down happily, slowly, reflectively, over her abdomen, aware for the first time perhaps that the life therein pulses with happiness and not despair)