

SCENE SIX: Rooftop, Night

#17A

opens

AUDITION EXCERPT # 2
FEMALE
KATHERINE/MEDDA/
FEMALE ENSEMBLE

Spec

JACK

(snatches his drawings)

He say you could go through my stuff?

KATHERINE

I saw them rolled up, sticking out of there. I didn't know what they were. These drawings...? These are drawings of The Refuge, aren't they?

(takes the drawings back and studies them closer)

Is this really what it's like in there: three boys to a bed, rats everywhere, and vermin?

JACK

A little different from where you were raised?

KATHERINE

Snyder told my father you were arrested stealing food and clothing. This is why, isn't it? You stole to feed those boys.

(JACK, embarrassed, turns away.)

I don't understand. If you were willing to go to jail for those boys, how could you turn your back on them now?

JACK

I don't think you're anyone to talk about turning on folks.

KATHERINE

I never turned on you or anyone else.

JACK

No. You just double crossed us to your father. Your father!!

START

PAGE # 1

KATHERINE

My father has eyes on every corner of this city. He doesn't need me spying for him. And I never lied. I didn't tell you everything...

JACK

If you weren't a girl you'd be trying to talk with a fist in your mouth.

KATHERINE

I said that I worked for the *Sun*, and I did. I told you my professional name was Plumber, and it is. You never asked my real one.

JACK

I wouldn't think I had to unless I knew I was dealing with a backstabber.

KATHERINE

And if I was a boy, you'd be looking at me through one swollen eye.

JACK

Don't let that stop ya. Gimme your best shot.

(JACK presents his face to her. KATHERINE, out of nowhere, grabs JACK and kisses him full on the lips. They part. A moment of silence and then JACK tries to get another kiss, but is blocked.)

KATHERINE

I need to know you didn't cave for the money.

JACK

I spoke the truth. You win a fight when you got the other fella down eatin' pavement. You heard your father. No matter how many days we strike, he ain't givin' up. I don't know what else we can do.

KATHERINE

Ah. But I do.

JACK

Oh, come on...

KATHERINE

Really, Jack? Really? Only you can have a good idea? Or is it because I'm a girl?

JACK

I didn't say nothin'...

KATHERINE

This would be a good time to shut up. Being boss doesn't mean you have all the answers. Just the brains to recognize the right one when you hear it.

JACK

I'm listening.

PAGE #2

END