

STAGE KISS

SHE

*(To him)* Could you *help me*?

HE

My ankle hurts.

SHE

Tell her!

HE

My ankle hurts.

*The doorbell rings.*

LAURIE

Are you expecting anyone?

HE

No.

*He goes to the door.*

*It's She's husband, Harrison. Played by the husband from Act One.*

HE

Uh—Hello?

SHE

Harry! This is my husband—

HARRISON

How did I know you'd be here?

SHE

We came back on the train from New Haven, it was late, too late to—

HARRISON

Take a taxi home?

START

SARAH RUHL

SHE

Too late to tell you—

HARRISON

Yes?

SHE

That we've—

HARRISON

fallen back in love.

SHE

I'm so sorry.

LAURIE

What?

HE

Laurie, let me explain—

HARRISON

No, let me explain. She always falls in love with whoever she's in a play with. You and—Johnny here—have kissed each other—let's see—nine times a night, eight shows a week, four-week run, two hundred and eighty-eight times. That's not love. That's oxytocin.

LAURIE

You're good at math.

HARRISON

I'm in finance.

Now take off that costume and let's go home.

HE

I'm afraid she can't go home. It wasn't OxyContin—

STAGE KISS

HARRISON

Oxytocin—

HE

Whatever—I'm afraid it was fate, being cast in that play. We're in love again.

LAURIE

You are?

HARRISON

Oh, are you?

END

SHE

I'm sorry, Harrison. I don't mean to be flippant. This is deadly serious.

SHE/HE

We're in love.

*Laurie runs to the bathroom and slams the door.*

LAURIE

Asshole!

*Angela (She and Harrison's sixteen-year-old daughter) walks in.*

ANGELA

*(To He)* Hi, you're a total asshole.

Mom, come home, you're being a total bitch. Dad's a wreck. He puked all night. He was like, shivering, on the bathroom floor.

SHE

You were?

HARRISON

Angela, what are you doing here?

SHE

Angela what on earth—? This is my daughter, Angela.