

SIDES #3
MONTY
+
SIBELLA

START
5

SCENE 4A

MONTY

This is rather a coincidence, Mrs. Holland.

SIBELLA

Don't "Mrs. Holland" me! Just when were you planning to tell me this happy news?

MONTY

I should think you would want to keep your voice down.

SIBELLA

You're always telling me to keep quiet, aren't you?

MONTY

(With a sigh:)

I would have sent you and Mr. Holland an announcement in due course.

SIBELLA

An announcement?! I won't be treated like a—

(SHE hesitates for a moment.)

MONTY

Yes... ?

SIBELLA

You are despicable!

MONTY

Perhaps it is a very good thing we did not marry, Sibella.

SIBELLA

You didn't use to think so.

MONTY

You can't really imagine you have cause to complain of my marrying Miss D'Ysquith.

(SHE looks at him with frightened eyes.)

SIBELLA

You don't have to, Monty. You could call it off. You must.

(For the first time in their relationship, MONTY appears to have the upper hand... and HE quite likes it.)

MONTY

There was a time you and I might have fulfilled our natural destiny and married each other.

SIBELLA

(Sarcastic:)

That would have been a very pleasant arrangement. We should have been so comfortably off, shouldn't we?

MONTY

Well, I've no doubt we could've scraped along.

SIBELLA

I can't imagine either of us, Monty, scraping along. We should have hated each other in a week.

MONTY

We should never have done that, Sibella. We know each other perfectly, better than anyone else could. We should have always loved each other. That is, if you loved me as I love you.

(SIBELLA'S eyes tear up.)

SIBELLA

Monty, I *do* love you. And if I had not been so sure that you loved me, I should not have risked marrying Lionel.

MONTY

I won't even try to make sense of that convoluted statement.

(HE pulls his arm away as gallantly as HE can, and exits into dinner.)

SIBELLA

Monty, please—

(SIBELLA takes a moment to compose herself before SHE follows him.)

END