

## A WALK IN THE CLOUDS

*Paul has just been thrown off the bus for defending Victoria from some over amorous passengers. He stumbles upon Victoria, sitting by the side of the road, crying.*

**Paul:** I don't think we've been properly introduced. I'm Paul Sutton.

**Victoria:** Victoria Aragon. I'm sorry about the bus.

**P:** Um...

**V:** I feel terrible. All the problems I've caused you. You should just keep going. Who knows what will happen next?

**P:** There's always the possibility of a forest fire, I suppose. Why aren't you on the bus?

**V:** My stop.

**P:** You're waiting for a ride.

**V:** No. No. A miracle. He's going to kill me.

**P:** Who?

**V:** My father.

**P:** If you're still worried about that picture--

**V:** It's not about the picture. Oh, God.

**P:** Look, it's none of my business, but if you'd like to talk about it...

**V:** "I was not meant for the conventions of this world, not meant to be tied down. I'm a...free spirit."

**P:** Who's a free spirit?

**V:** My professor. He and I were...We--We were...

**P:** I don't think just because some free spirit broke up with you--

**V:** I'm pregnant.

**P:** Oh. You're very upset. I can understand that. Definitely understand that. But, Victoria, look at the positive side. It's a new life coming into the world. That's a miracle in itself, right?

**V:** "I will kill anyone who dishonors my family." How many times has he said that? A hundred times, a million times?

**P:** I'm sure it's just a figure of speech.

**V:** My father means what he says. Always. He's--He's very old-fashioned. If I come home this way without a husband, he'll kill me. I know he will.

**P:** How about if you do show up with a husband?

**V:** Who does what, comes for the day and then just leaves?

**P:** Sure. Comes to meet the family, stays one night, leaves in the morning, writes a letter saying he's...

**V:** Abandoned me.

**P:** It happens.

**V:** You're very kind for trying to help me. Maybe it might work...but...there's nobody.

**P:** Miss Aragon.

**V:** Victoria.

**P:** There's me.

## A WALK IN THE CLOUDS (2)

*Paul excuses himself from dinner after being torn apart by Victoria's father. Victoria follows him outside.*

**Paul:** He doesn't pull any punches, does he?

**Victoria:** I'm sorry. You must think they're horrible.

**P:** When I was a kid...every night I'd climb up to the roof of the orphanage, and I'd make a wish on every star I could see.

**V:** That's a lot of wishing.

**P:** It usually boiled down to one wish, really.

**V:** What was that?

**P:** What you have in there.

**V:** Everyone always telling you how you should live your life?

**P:** Better than having no one telling you.

**V:** I don't know about that.

**P:** I do.

**V:** That's no reason for him to treat you that way.

**P:** No. And I was going to say something, but...I thought, "What if it were me? A strange man comes into my house, tells me he's married my only daughter, and I'm the last to know?" Probably act the same way.

**V:** No, you wouldn't.

**P:** I don't know about that.

**V:** I do.

**P:** It's only another eight hours, I'll be back on the road. Anyway, I think the worst part's over, don't you?