CATHERINE: Suppose I wanted to live in Italy.

RODOLPHO: (Smiling at the incongruity) You going to marry somebody rich?

CATHERINE: No, I mean live there—you and me.

RODOLPHO: (His smile vanishing) When?

CATHERINE: Well...when we get married.

RODOLPHO: (astonished) You want to be an Italian?

CATHERINE: No, but I could live there without being Italian. Americans live there.

RODOLPHO: Forever?

CATHERINE: Yeah.

RODOLPHO: (crosses to rocker) You’re fooling.

CATHERINE: No, I mean it.

RODOLPHO: Where do you get such an idea?

CATHERINE: Well, you’re always saying it’s so beautiful there, with the mountains and the ocean and all the—

RODOLPHO: You’re fooling me.

CATHERINE: I mean it.

RODOLPHO: (goes to her slowly) Catherine, if I ever brought you home with no money, no business, nothing, they would call the priest and the doctor and they would say Rodolphe is crazy.

CATHERINE: I know, but I think we would be happier there.
RODOLPHO: Happier! What would you eat. You can’t cook the view!

CATHERINE: Maybe you could be a singer, like in Rome or—

RODOLPHO: Rome! Rome is full of singers.

CATHERINE: Well, I could work then.

RODOLPHO: Where?

CATHERINE: God, there must be jobs somewhere.

RODOLPHO: There’s nothing! Nothing, nothing, nothing. Now tell me what you’re talking about. How can I bring you from a rich country to suffer in a poor country? What are you talking about (She searches for words) I would be a criminal stealing your face. In two years you would have an old, hungry face. When my brother’s babies cry they give them water, water that boiled a bone. Don’t you believe that?

CATHERINE: (Steeling herself) I’m afraid of Eddie here.

RODOLPHO: (steps closer) We wouldn’t live here. Once I am a citizen I could work anywhere and I could find better jobs and we would have a house.

CATHERINE: Would you still want to do it if it turned out we had to go live in Italy? I mean if it just turned out that way?

RODOLPHO: To go there with nothing?

CATHERINE: Yeah.

RODOLPHO: No. (she looks at him wide eyed). No.