

#### Scene 4

*The visiting room of a mental institution in Ohio. There are three chairs. Dr. Charlotte sits in one. Lee, a woman in her late 30s, sits in another.*

LEE. Do you mind if I smoke?

DR. CHARLOTTE. Yes. Thank you for asking.

LEE. How 'bout I blow it this way?

DR. CHARLOTTE. I'm afraid there's no smoking anywhere on this floor.

LEE. I'll be very quiet then. *(She lights up. Pause. She looks at her watch.)* I should have called, right?

DR. CHARLOTTE. They're getting him. He's in occupational therapy which is in another building on the grounds.

LEE. Oh, I see.

DR. CHARLOTTE. It's good to see you here, Lee. May I call you Lee?

LEE. Sure.

DR. CHARLOTTE. We've missed you on other days, so has Hank.

LEE. I know. I wish I could visit more but ... well ... you know.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Mm-hmm.

LEE. Now, you're not an orderly are you?

DR. CHARLOTTE. I'm a psychiatrist.

LEE. Are you who Hank talks to?

DR. CHARLOTTE. I'm in charge of his therapy. He talks to me and others on staff.

LEE. Well, you know he lies. I'm just telling you that, I mean not because I think he's been saying bad things about me, but I'm sure he has been. I mean I'm sure he has been. But you should know he lies to help you with his therapy.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Mm-hmm.

LEE. For instance he told his guidance counselor at school that I beat him.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Mm-hmm.

LEE. So you see what I mean.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Mm-hmm.

LEE. Oh, see now, you're thinking, oh, I wonder if she does beat him.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Is that what you think I think?

LEE. Don't you?

DR. CHARLOTTE. Do you want me to think that?

LEE. What do you mean?

DR. CHARLOTTE. What do you think I mean?

LEE. What do you mean, what do I think you mean?

DR. CHARLOTTE. What do you think I mean by what do you think I mean? *(Pause.)*

LEE. You wouldn't have an ashtray, would you? *(Dr. Charlotte takes a glass ashtray out and crosses to her.)* Do you want a drag? *(Pause.)*

DR. CHARLOTTE. No. Here. *(She hands the ashtray to Lee.)* We'd like to have you become more involved in Hank's therapy. We'd like you to come more often for visits.

LEE. Doctor, can I be honest with you? What is your first name?

DR. CHARLOTTE. Charlotte.

LEE. Oh, my youngest boy's a Charlie.

DR. CHARLOTTE. Yes.

LEE. Charlotte. I've forced myself through school and I'm about to get my degree. I'm very picky now about the kind of man I'll go with. I keep — I used to keep a very clean house. Hank makes fun of my degree in cosmetology. He terrorizes any man I'm interested in. This last one, Lawrence, Hank made fun of his being on parole, made fun of the way he held his liquor, made fun of his Pinto. The point is, Hank cost me a potentially good relationship. And as for my house.... Hank is not something I can control so what is the point of my visiting?

DR. CHARLOTTE. He says he misses you. *(Hank enters. He is a big 17-year-old covered with motor grease.)*

HANK. Hey.

LEE. Look at you. You look like a pig.