

BARNETTE OR MEG SIDE

(Barnette Lloyd, 26, enters carrying a briefcase. He is a slender, intelligent young man with an almost fanatical intensity that he subdues by sheer will.)

BARNETTE. How do you do? I'm Barnette Lloyd.

MEG. Please to meet you. I'm Meg McGrath, Babe's older sister.

BARNETTE. Yes, I know. You're the singer.

MEG. Well, yes...

BARNETTE. I came to hear you five different times when you were singing at that club in Biloxi. Greeny's I believe was the name of it.

MEG. Yes, Greeny's.

BARNETTE. You were very good. There was something sad and moving about how you sang those songs. It was like you had some sort of vision. Some special sort of vision.

MEG. Well, thank you. You're very kind. Now...about Babe's case —

BARNETTE. Yes?

MEG. We've just got to win it.

BARNETTE. I intend to.

MEG. Of course. But, ah ... *(She looks at him.)* Ah, you know, you're very young.

BARNETTE. Yes, I am. I'm young.

MEG. It's just, I'm concerned, Mr. Lloyd —

BARNETTE. Barnette. Please.

MEG. Barnette, that, ah, just maybe we need someone with, well, with, more experience. Someone totally familiar with all the ins and outs and the this and that's of the legal dealings and such. At that.

BARNETTE. Ah, you have reservations.

MEG. *(Relieved.)* Reservations. Yes, I have...reservations.

BARNETTE. Well, possibly it would help you to know that I graduated first in my class from Ole Miss Law School. I also spent three different summers taking advanced courses in criminal law at Harvard Law School. I made A's in all the given courses. I was fascinated!