LYDIA
Why do you care what I do?

MITCH
Of course, I care. Jesus, Lydia, would I still be here if I didn’t care?

LYDIA
You stayed for Sara not me. She’s the one you care about.

MITCH
Mitch looks quietly at Lydia for a moment.

I stayed for you.

MITCH
Mitch sits. Lydia turns away from him, facing the kitchen door. Curly appears at the door, cracking it open.

CURLY
(whispering)
Tinker.

CURLY
(whispering a little louder)
Hey, Tinker.

CURLY
Tinker enters from upstairs. He is wearing his Seabees uniform and carrying his coat.

I’m coming, Curly.

CURLY
Hurry up. We can’t be late.

CURLY
Tinker crosses to Curly, pulling on his coat.

Hold your horses.
Boot camp or bust, Tink.

CURLY

TINKER

All right, all right.

Franny enters from upstairs. She is wearing a nightgown.

FRANNY

Do you really have to go?

Tinker looks longingly at Franny.

FRANNY

Lord, I wish I didn’t.

TINKER

CURLY

Don’t worry, Franny. I’ll bring him back to you.

FRANNY

When will that be?

TINKER

CURLY

I hope I can get back after basic.

FRANNY

But that’ll be weeks and weeks.

CURLY

After boot camp, we’ve got Seabee “A” school. The Navy should let us come home before our first tour.

FRANNY

Can’t you stay a little longer now?

TINKER

CURLY

Sun’s coming up.

I best get him of here before your Mama sees him and shoots me dead.
She won’t.

Have you met your mama?

She doesn’t have any reason to shoot him now.

Franny runs into Tinker’s arms. Tinker twirls her around.

That’s right. I made an honest woman of you, didn’t I?

That’s right.

Tinke puts Franny down. Franny holds out her hand and looks at her wedding ring.

I can’t believe we really did it.

Me either.

Me either.

Thanks for being our witness, Curly.

It was an honor, ma’am.

It’s not how I imagined I’d get married.

I guess no girl dreams of a courthouse wedding, but we had to.
CURLY
(feigning shock)
You had to?!

FRANNY
Don’t say it like that. You make me sound like a girl in trouble.

TINKER
I don’t know how that would have happened.

FRANNY
Hush.

TINKER
I just meant we had to because there was no way I was leaving without having you all sewn up.

FRANNY
You think you have me right where you want me, don’t you?

TINKER
Where I want you is right here.

Tinker pulls Franny to him and kisses her.

CURLY
All right, you two. Time’s up.

FRANNY
Are you sure you have to leave?

TINKER
Yeah, I can’t be late.

Tinker buttons up his coat.

FRANNY
Maybe you could tell them you changed your mind.

TINKER
Even if I could I wouldn’t.
Why not? FRANNY

Duty calls. TINKER

Time to tear down the enemy. CURLY

I've never been one for tearing things down. TINKER

Then why are you going? FRANNY

It's hard to explain. TINKER

Try. FRANNY

It's the most important thing I'll ever do. TINKER

Lyddie? MITCH

I'll write as soon as I get there. TINKER

Lydia? MITCH

Take care of yourself. FRANNY

I will. TINKER

You too, Curly. FRANNY
CURLY

Don't worry. No gold stars for us.

TINKER

Goodbye, Honey.

Tinker kisses Franny.

CURLY
(pulling Tinker out the door)

Come on, already.

Tinker and Curly exit. Franny watches them go and then exits after them.

MITCH

Lydia!

LYDIA

What?

MITCH

Where are you?

LYDIA

I'm . . . here.

MITCH

You okay?

LYDIA

I'm fine.

MITCH

You seem a million miles away.

LYDIA

I'm fine, Mitch.

MITCH

How many did you take today?