

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leading Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Laban Choice: \_\_\_\_\_  
(choices for THIS monologue)

Monologue from *Lost in Yonkers*  
Eddie (pg 21-22)

EDDIE We're not rich people, boys. I know that doesn't come as a surprise to you . . . but I'm going to tell you something now I hoped I'd never have to tell you in my life . . . The doctors, the hospital, cost me everything I had . . . And everything I didn't have . . . And finally it cost me everything I was *going* to have . . . I was broke and I went into debt . . . Into hock . . . Only I

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#### LOST IN YONKERS

didn't have anything left to hock . . . So I went to a man . . . A Shylock, they call him . . . A loan shark . . . A moneylender . . . I couldn't go to a bank because they don't let you put up heartbreak and pain as collateral . . . You know what collateral is, Arty? . . . If you want to borrow ten dollars, you have to give them something to hold that's worth *eleven* dollars . . . That's for their interest . . . A Shylock doesn't need collateral . . . His collateral is your desperation . . . So he gives you his money . . . And he's got a clock. And when you get your money, the clock starts . . . And what it keeps time of is your promise . . . If you keep your promise, he turns off the clock . . . and if not, it keeps ticking . . . and after a while, your heart starts ticking louder than his clock . . . This man becomes a cloud that darkens your life wherever you go . . . Understand something. This man kept your mother alive . . . It kept that tree outside her window . . . It was his painkillers that made her last days bearable . . . And for that I'm grateful . . . Jay! Remember what I taught you about taking things from people?

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Monologue from *Lost in Yonkers*

Eddie (pg 37-38)

EDDIE (*Without anger*) . . . You're right, Momma. I am the weak one. I am the crybaby . . . Always was. When you wouldn't pick me up and hug me as a child, I cried . . . When my brother and sister died, I cried . . . And I still haven't stopped crying since Evelyn died . . . But you're wrong about one thing. She never turned me against you. She turned me towards *her* . . . To loving, to caring, to holding someone when they needed holding . . . I'm sorry about not bringing the boys out here more. Maybe the reason I didn't was because I was afraid they'd learn something here that I tried to forget . . . Maybe they just learned it today . . . I'm sorry I bothered you on your Sunday. I'm sorry I imposed on your rest. I'm sorry about what they did to you as a child in Berlin. I'm sure it was terrible. But this is Yonkers, Momma. I'm not angry at you for turning me and the boys down. I'm angry at myself for not knowing better . . . Take care of yourself, Momma . . . Never mind the ice cream cones, Bella. I used up all my obligations for this year. (*He crosses to the door*) Come on,

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LOST IN YONKERS

boys. We're going. (*JAY and ARTY are too dumbstruck to move, to have been in the middle of all this*) . . . I said let's go.

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(choices for THIS monologue)

Monologue from *Lost in Yonkers*  
Eddie (pg 23)

ACT ONE

JAY Pop—

EDDIE Let me finish . . . There is no way I can pay this man back . . . So what'll he do? Kill me? . . . Maybe . . . If he kills me, he not only loses his money, it'll probably cost him again for the flowers for my funeral . . . Don't look worried. I'm not going to die . . . I wouldn't tell you all this if there wasn't a happy ending . . . I needed a miracle . . . And the miracle happened . . . This country went to war . . . A war between us and the Japanese and the Germans . . . And if my mother didn't come to this country thirty-five years ago, I could have been fighting for the other side . . . Except I don't think they're putting guns in the hands of Jews over there . . . And if I didn't marry your mother and have two children to support, I'd be fighting for this side . . . I'm too old. So neither side needs me and neither side wants me . . . Except the man with the ticking clock . . . Let me tell you something. I love this country. Because they took in the Jews. They took in the Irish, the Italians, and everyone else . . . Remember this. There's a lot of Germans in this country fighting for America, but there are no Americans over there fighting for Germany . . . I hate this war, and God forgive me for saying this, but it's going to save my life . . . There are jobs I can get now that I could never get before . . . And I got a job . . . I'm working for a company that sells scrap iron . . . I thought you threw scrap iron away. Now they're building ships with it . . . Without even the slightest idea of what I'm doing, I can make that nine thousand dollars in less than a year . . .

JAY That's great, Pop.