

BILLY. My heart's jumpin' up and down under the knife.

JIGGER. Put the knife on the other side.

(CARRIE enters.)

CARRIE. Mr. Bigelow, Julie says you should come and help her.

START *(BILLY exits. CARRIE turns to JIGGER.)*

JIGGER. I don't feel so well.

CARRIE. It's mebbe the clams not settin' so good on yer stummick.

JIGGER. Nope. It's nothin' on my stummick. It's somethin' on my mind.

(He takes CARRIE's arm.)

Sit down here with me a minute. I want yer advice.

CARRIE. *(Sitting on an upturned basket.)* Now, look here, Mr. Craigin, I ain't got no time fer no wharf yarns or spoondrift.

JIGGER. *(Squashing out his cigarette.)* I want yer advice.

(Suddenly throws his arms around her.)

You're sweeter than sugar and I'm crazy fer you. Never had this feelin' before fer anyone –

CARRIE. Mr. Craigin!

JIGGER. Ain't nothin' I wouldn't do fer you. Why, jest to see yer lovely smile – I'd swim through beer with my mouth closed. You're the only girl fer me. How about a little kiss?

CARRIE. Mr. Craigin, I couldn't.

JIGGER. Didn't you hear me say I loved you?

CARRIE. I'm awful sorry for you, but what can I do? Enoch and me are goin' to be cried in church next Sunday.

JIGGER. Next Sunday I'll be far out at sea lookin' at the icy gray water. Mebbe I'll jump in and drown myself!

CARRIE. Oh, don't!

JIGGER. Well, then, give me a kiss.

(Grabbing her arm. Good and sore now.)

One measly little kiss!

CARRIE. *(Pushing his arm away.)* Enoch wouldn't like it.

JIGGER. I don't want a kiss Enoch.

CARRIE. *(Drawing herself up resolutely.)* I'll thank you not to yell at me, Mr. Craigin. If you love me like you say you do, then please show me the same respect like you would if you didn't love me.

END

(She starts to stalk off left. JIGGER is a stayer and not easily shaken off. He decides to try one more method. It worked once long ago on a girl in Liverpool.)

JIGGER. *(In despair.)* Carrie!

(She stops; he crosses to her.)

Miss Pipperidge! Just one word, please.

(He becomes quite humble.)

I know I don't deserve yer forgiveness. Only, I couldn't help myself. Fer a few awful minutes I... I let the brute come out in me.

CARRIE. I think I understand, Mr. Craigin.

JIGGER. Thank you, Miss Pipperidge, thank you kindly. There's just one thing that worries me and it worries me a lot – it's about you.

CARRIE. About me?

JIGGER. You're such a little innercent. You had no right to stay here alone and talk with a man you hardly knew.