

[Faint, illegible text from the reverse side of the page.]

GERRY. Aggie—don't go yet. I want to talk to you. I'm getting very worried about our progress.

AGGIE. What progress?!

GERRY. (*Laughs ruefully.*) I know what you mean. We've never been this far behind on a show.

AGGIE. It's not your fault, Gerry. We've never had the illustrious *author* in our hair before, either! If Phyllis didn't keep *rewriting* the damned show while the cast is trying to *learn* it—!

GERRY. She's *promised* not to change anything *else*, Aggie.

AGGIE. What do you want to bet she's going to show up here with seven new pages?!

GERRY. Oh, *don't*, Aggie! *They* haven't learned the last batch of rewrites!

AGGIE. Small wonder, the way, Polly keeps inviting Phyllis to dinner, and getting her part fattened! It's almost as big as *she* is, now!

GERRY. Aggie, don't *you* start with the fat-jokes, please! I'm having enough trouble with *Saul*!

AGGIE. If Polly had her way, this play would be a one-woman *monologue*!

GERRY. Well, at least Phyllis is letting us do her play *free*!

AGGIE. Naturally! Nobody would pay *money* to do it!

GERRY. Be fair, Aggie—it's not *that* bad.

AGGIE. Oh—I suppose not. But if Polly keeps padding her part—!

GERRY. She won't. I'll have to put my foot down. Three days until dress rehearsal—we'll be lucky if we learn the lines we've *got*!

AGGIE. Oh, I don't know about that—some of the *mistakes* tonight are better than the *original* lines! If you'd just let the cast alone, this show could be a riot!

GERRY. Aggie, "Murder Most Foul" is *not* a *comedy*! Phyllis Montague would *scream* if the audience started *laughing* at it! She'd pass right out on the floor!

AGGIE. Well, then, you'd better have the smelling-salts handy for opening night.

GERRY. Oh, Aggie—!

(*But before they can continue, PLAYERS start returning to the stage, sipping coffee, so they let it drop.*)

GERRY. (*Starts off.*) Is there anything left in the pot? (*Will exit during:*)

SAUL. (*Who has just taken a sip, makes a terrible face.*) Not if you're lucky!

LOUISE. (*Off.*) I heard that, Saul Watson!

Low
Hans
Billy

Billy

Billy
Hans