

SCENE FIVE - Bobby, Hope

HOPE

You were rather brave with them.

BOBBY

I don't care for policemen. Not those two, anyway.

HOPE

Policemen protect the peace.

BOBBY

Do they?

HOPE

Usually.

(Pause.)

BOBBY

Didn't I see you down by the amenity this morning?

HOPE

That was me. I was rushing off to work, first day.

BOBBY

Find your way all right?

HOPE

The gleaming tower on the hill? Couldn't miss it.

BOBBY

Beautiful.

HOPE

It's rather shiny, that's true enough.

(Pause.)

BOBBY

Did you mean what you said to those policemen? About everyone having a heart?

HOPE

Well, sure I did.

BOBBY

Because...well, because mine feels awful cold just now.

SCENE FIVE (continued)

Cold? **HOPE**

Or empty. One of the two. **BOBBY**

Not because of me, I hope? **HOPE**

Oh no. Because of something I did. **BOBBY**

Or, rather, something I didn't do. **BOBBY**

If it feels cold, then it must still be there, don't you think? **HOPE**

Unless there's a vacuum where it used to be. **BOBBY**

A vacuum? In your chest? It sounds so implausible. **HOPE**

I did something wrong this morning is all I'm trying to say. I can't seem to get it out of my head. **BOBBY**

The vacuum? **HOPE**

My action. I let someone down that I love dearly. I feel real bad about it. **BOBBY**

Well, maybe that's nature's way of telling you that now's the time to lift someone up? **HOPE**

Really? **BOBBY**

Sure. Do you think you'd be feeling as bad as you do if you didn't have a heart? **HOPE**

I don't know. I suppose not. **BOBBY**

Of course you wouldn't. Because then you'd be dead. **HOPE**