

IDA. (Searching for a topic.) So how's business?

SAM. Business is fine.

IDA. That's good.

SAM. Yeah. (Pause. Searching.) I've been having trouble with the help though.

IDA. No.

SAM. Yeah. I don't know, kids today they don't want to work so fast. Not like when we were young. Lately I've been thinking maybe I should sell the shop altogether.

IDA. You're kidding.

SAM. I keep asking myself why is it the kids I hire get younger and younger? The boy I got now looks to me like he's just out of diapers. But then I realize-the kids aren't getting younger. People don't get younger.

IDA. No.

SAM. (Pause.) You uh ... you have a beautiful home.

IDA. Thank you.

SAM. (Re: the piano.) You play?

IDA. A little. The children took lessons when they were young.

SAM. (Looking at the many framed pictures on the piano.) That's quite a family.

IDA. You happen to be looking at a woman who's five times a grandmother.

SAM. I've got my first on the way. Maybe you'll give me some pointers.

IDA. That's the best part. You don't need any. You just enjoy your grandchildren then sit back and smile as you watch them do everything to your children that your children did to you.

(SAM laughs. His eyes focus on a particular picture. IDA notices.)

IDA. That's Murry and me on our twenty-fifth anniversary. At the Concord.

SAM. Merna and I spent ours at Grossingers. I'll never forget it.

IDA. It's nice to have such good memories.

SAM. What good? We were playing mixed doubles on the tennis court, I had a heart attack at the net. My twenty-fifth anniversary present was a double bypass. (Jokingly.) At least it was something I could use.