

MATTIE
IT'S BETTER NOT TO KNOW
WHAT I REALLY MIGHT FIND...

YOUNG JOSIE
I LOVE HIM SO.

I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN
IN A HEARTBEAT

I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN
IN A HEARTBEAT

MATTIE & YOUNG JOSIE
I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN FOR HIM
NO MATTER THE PAIN,
RAINBOWS COME WITH RAIN.
CALL ME INSANE
BUT THEN

MATTIE
I GOTTA SAY
I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN.

YOUNG JOSIE
I GOTTA SAY
I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN.

JOSIE AND MATTIE
I GOTTA SAY
I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN.

[ALLIE'S MEMORY:] JOSIE'S HOUSE/EARP HOME. Lights fade on Young Josie, remain on Mattie, alone in the Earp Home, cleaning and polishing Wyatt's gun. Young Allie enters. Lights remain low on JOSIE and ALLIE in 1944.

YOUNG ALLIE
Put that damn thing down, Mattie!
(Mattie jumps up.)
What do you think you're--?

MATTIE
I'm cleaning your gun for you. See? All nice and shiny.
(She casually hands the gun to Allie, then begins to scurry around the kitchen.)

YOUNG ALLIE
(Putting down the gun, she sees the tattered, dusty shirt.)
What have you been doin' all day?

MATTIE
Why, I--I did the sewin', and I been doin' your shirts, Wyatt.

YOUNG ALLIE
Mattie, it's Allie.

JOSIE

You never knew how Mattie made you girls twist in the wind.

MATTIE

...then Kate come by to say adios... or I went to see her. I ain't sure. I guess time done got away and I--I don't know what happened then.

(She sits up straight. Looks hard at YOUNG ALLIE.)

JOSIE

Played you like a piano.

MATTIE

I know what I'll do, Wyatt--I'll go see that Marcus woman and tell her to get the hell away from my man. You men ain't the only lawmakers here. I'm gonna lay down some laws of my own.

(Mattie picks up Wyatt's gun again. Bess enters.)

YOUNG ALLIE

Bess, give me a hand here!

(Together, Bess and Allie wrestle the gun from Mattie's hand.)

Mattie. You don't know what you're doin'.

MATTIE

I cain't take it, Wyatt. I cain't go nowhere without everybody pointin' and laughin' at me.

(Mattie takes the laudanum bottle from her pocket.)

BESS

(Grabbing the laudanum bottle from Mattie.)

Come on, Mattie, you don't need no more of that stuff.

YOUNG ALLIE

Give it to her.

BESS

Allie--?

YOUNG ALLIE

You heard what I said. Give her the bottle.

(To Mattie, as Bess reluctantly hands the bottle to Mattie.)

Why don't you just lie down for a little while. Clear your head. Maybe have a little nap.

(Young Allie puts her arms around Mattie and eases her down onto the settee, stroking Mattie's head to calm her. Mattie takes several gulps from the bottle.)

MATTIE

(Coldly.) That's a good idea, Wyatt. That's just what I'll do.
(Mattie sinks into a stupor.)

BESS

Allie, what are we goin' to do?

YOUNG ALLIE

We only got one choice. I got to go see that Marcus woman.

BESS

You cain't leave me alone with Mattie.

YOUNG ALLIE

She'll sleep.

BESS

(Panicky.) What if she don't? What if she gets up again before you come back?

YOUNG ALLIE

You go get another bottle of laudanum. She got some hid behind the churn. She don't think I know. Just don't give her too much. God knows how much she's had already. *(Firmly.)* You can handle her, Bess.

(Allie leaves by the front door. Bess heads toward the back door.)

BESS

Oh, Lordy, Lordy...

(Exit Bess. Mattie waits till Bess and Allie are gone, then gets up, picks up the gun and the extra bottle of laudanum, and exits.)

JOSIE

You can't pretend that you were completely innocent, Allie...You know that as well as I do.

ALLIE

I was at the end of my rope!