

Audition Sides - Ariel, Shaw

SHAW, now alone, closes his eyes and shakes his head in confusion. Behind him, ARIEL enters.

BEGIN

ARIEL

I heard voices.

SHAW

(turns to her, struggling to hide his distress)

That was your friend, Ren. He sure asks a lot of questions.

ARIEL

And what did you tell him?

SHAW

Well, for a change, I had very little to say.

(smiles ruefully, shakes his head)

I think I'm running out of answers.

TRACK 28: ARIEL COMFORTS SHAW

ARIEL can see how troubled he is.

ARIEL

Daddy? I know this is hard for you, and I know I don't make it any easier. It's just that I don't know if I believe in all the things you believe in. But I believe in you.

He hugs her close. They break apart.

Get some sleep. You have a sermon in the morning.

SHAW

If I can figure out what to say.

ARIEL

You will.

END

ARIEL exits, leaving SHAW alone. He takes a deep breath and exhales, then looks up as if seeking divine intervention.

SCENE 13: THE CHURCH

The church assembles around SHAW, who doffs his bathrobe; he's under-dressed with his minister's garb. He ascends the pulpit.

SHAW

This morning I stand before you with a troubled heart. As your minister, I should be helping you to find the joy in your lives; last night I realized that I haven't been doing that.