CLARA AUDITION DIALOGUE

2024

**SCENE 17**

**Drosselmeyer**: Good night, Clara. Sweet dreams.

**Clara**: Good night, Godfather. Do you want to know what I wish for Christmas this year? (He nods) That you don’t have to leave...ever again.

**Drosselmeyer**: I can’t make such a promise Clara.

**Clara**: (clutching the Nutcracker tightly) I’m certain my soldier would never leave me if I asked him to stay.

**Drosselmeyer**: And that is why I brought him to you. He will protect you when I’m not here.

**Clara**: I wish you could take me with you. It’s so difficult for me to wait to hear of your adventures. The waiting seems endless, and I miss you.

**Drosselmeyer**: Perhaps your soldier will share the adventures we’ve had when we traveled the world together.

**Clara**: That seems unlikely. He hasn’t spoken a word to me since your arrival.

**Drosselmeyer**: Perhaps he’ll tell you stories after you’ve fallen asleep and whisper his tales to you while you dream. Now, it’s past your bedtime. Goodnight, sweet Clara.

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