

Side 4 (pg 63-65)

George, in his darkest hour (believing himself to be worth more dead than alive) plans to throw his life away. Just before he can, he is interrupted by Clarence, his guardian angel, who is determined to help George see all the good he's done...

- **George Bailey (tone 30-40):** despondent, a man at the end of his rope. George believes that he's doomed, that his family and friends are ruined, and that everyone he loves would have been better off without him
- **Clarence Oddbody (tone 50-60):** George's ever-hopeful & upbeat guardian angel, who's just prevented George from taking his own life. Knowing George's good nature, Clarence threw himself into the river first, and George dove in and saved him

CLARENCE. I had to act quickly-that's why I jumped in. I knew if I were drowning you would try to save me. And you see, you did, and that's how I saved you.

GEORGE. Oh, that's very funny.

CLARENCE. Your lip's bleeding, George.

GEORGE. Yeah, I got a bust in the jaw in answer to a prayer.

CLARENCE. Oh, no-no-no, George. I'm the answer to your prayer.

GEORGE. How do you know my name?

CLARENCE. Oh, I know all about you. I've watched you grow up from a little boy.

GEORGE. What are you, a mind reader or something?

CLARENCE. Oh, no ...

GEORGE. Well, who are you, then?

CLARENCE. Clarence Oddbody, A-S-2.

GEORGE. "Oddbody ... A-S-2." What's that" A-S-2?"

CLARENCE. Angel Second Class.

GEORGE. Hey, look here, why' d you want to save me?

CLARENCE. 'Cause I'm your guardian angel.

GEORGE. I wouldn't be a bit surprised.

CLARENCE. Ridiculous of you to think of killing yourself for money. Eight thousand dollars.

GEORGE. (*Bewildered:*) Yeah ... just things like that. Now how' d you know that?

CLARENCE. I told you-I'm your guardian angel. I know everything about you.

GEORGE. Well, you look like about the kind of angel I'd get. Sort of a fallen angel, aren't you? What happened to your wings?

CLARENCE. I haven't won my wings yet. That's why I'm an angel Second Class.

GEORGE. Oh, I see.

CLARENCE. But you can help me earn them George, by letting me help you.

GEORGE. You don't happen to have eight thousand bucks on you?

CLARENCE. Oh, no, no. We don't use money in Heaven.

GEORGE. Oh, that's right, I keep forgetting. Comes in pretty handy down here, bub.

CLARENCE. Oh, tut, tut, tut . . .

GEORGE. I found it out a little late. I'm worth more dead than alive.

CLARENCE. Now, look, you mustn't say things like that. I won't get my wings with that attitude. You just don't know all that you've done. If it hadn't been for you-

GEORGE. *(Simultaneously with "you:")* Yeah, if it hadn't been for me, everybody' d be a lot better off. My wife, and my kids and my friends.

CLARENCE. *(To himself)* Hmmm, this isn't going to be easy ...