

Side 9 (pg 14-15)

Clarence, an enthusiastic angel eager to earn his wings, meets with his supervisor Joseph, to discuss a very important task – that of saving of a man’s life...

- **Clarence Oddbody, an Angel (Second Class) (tone 40-60s):** a kind-hearted and optimistic (if slightly quirky), angel, hoping do a good job and earn his wings
- **Joseph, the Superintendent of the Angels (tone 50-70):** the wise and compassionate director of the angels, giving Clarence an extremely important task

CLARENCE. You sent for me, sir?

JOSEPH. Yes, Clarence. A man down on Earth needs our help.

CLARENCE. Splendid! Is he sick?

JOSEPH. No, worse. He's discouraged. At exactly ten-forty-five P.M. tonight, Earth time, that man will be thinking seriously of throwing away God's greatest gift.

CLARENCE. Oh, dear, dear! His life! Then I've only an hour to dress. What are they wearing now?

JOSEPH. You will spend that hour getting acquainted with George Bailey.

CLARENCE. Sir, if I should accomplish this mission - I mean - might I perhaps win my wings? I've been waiting over two hundred years now - and people are beginning to talk.

JOSEPH. What's that book you've got there?

CLARENCE. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, sir, I was reading it when you sent for me.

JOSEPH. Oh fine book, excellent. Well, you do a good job with George Bailey, and we'll see about your wings.

CLARENCE. Thank you! Thank you!

JOSEPH. Now, if you're going to help George, you'll want to know a little something about him. Look: See the town?

CLARENCE. Why, yes. A group of young boys, sledding down a snow-covered hill and onto the ice ... This is amazing!

YOUNG GEORGE. Yippee!!

CLARENCE. Who's that?

JOSEPH. That's your problem: George Bailey.

CLARENCE. A boy?

JOSEPH. That's him when he was twelve, back in 1919. Something happens here you'll have to remember later on.