

FIRST NATIONAL  
A Play in One Act

by  
Michael Flood

Lights up on inside of bank. It is the early 1930s. UL are the teller windows with the vault UR with the DS wall denoted by a scrim allowing the inside to be seen when necessary. The bank president's desk is near the door of the vault. There is a supply closet DL also set apart by a scrim. The front door of the bank is DR and there is a customer counter C.

The bank has emptied for the day. The only people left in the bank are the two tellers in their cages.

ROBERT, a meek, little man of 30 stands at his window nervously eyeing the clock while he counts, recounts, recounts, recounts the same pile of bills.

At the window next to him is LAURA, a timid woman of the same age. Her actions mirror his.

The BANK PRESIDENT passes in front of their windows. Pauses just in front of door.

PRESIDENT

Good night, Mrs. Barchek... Mr. Jones.

ROBERT & LAURA

(In unison.)  
Good night, sir.

PRESIDENT

You won't forget to lock the vault, will you Jones?

ROBERT

No, sir.

PRESIDENT

Good... good. Well, good night. I'll see you both Monday.

Bank president exits.

ROBERT

Bright and early, sir.

LAURA

Yes, sir, bright and early.

ROBERT

Good night, Mrs. Barchek. Don't forget to leave your tally sheet with your box.

LAURA

Of course, Mr. Jones.

LAURA crosses behind Robert, entering the vault. ROBERT is humming to himself quietly, a nervous quiver in his voice. When she emerges she pauses, looks, suspiciously, about the room, then drops out of sight behind the president's desk.

ROBERT

Mrs. Barchek? Mrs. Barchek?

ROBERT closes his box quickly and crosses to the vault, quick looks behind him as he walks in. He tries to whistle but his mouth is too dry.

When he enters the vault, LAURA gets up from behind the desk, crosses to door and checks it, peeking through the shade, and crosses back to vault.

LAURA

Mr. Jones! What... ?!

They both emerge from the vault, ROBERT carrying a large canvas bag.

ROBERT

Mrs. Barchek! I thought you had gone home!

LAURA

(Accusingly.)  
Say, what are you doing?

ROBERT

Nothing. Nothing at all.

LAURA

Are you robbing the bank? (Dawns on her) You are robbing the bank!

ROBERT

Look, Mrs. Barchek, I...

LAURA

You're robbing the bank! Oh, my Gosh! What do I do?! What do I do?!

ROBERT

... am trying to...  
 (Losing control.)  
 Yes! I'm robbing the bank!  
 (Trying to be tough.)  
 Don't make me get mean.

LAURA

(Laughing.)  
 Oh, Mr. Jones.

ROBERT

What?

LAURA

(Still laughing.)  
 I'm sorry.

ROBERT

I could be mean. Why, just last week I was quite threatening.

LAURA

To whom?

ROBERT

(Deferring.)  
 Never you mind. Now, you just stand aside, Mrs. Barchek, or I shall have to take drastic measures.

LAURA

Why are you doing this, Mr. Jones? I thought you liked working here.

ROBERT

I do... I do. I just... never mind.

LAURA

What?

ROBERT

Have you ever found yourself in a situation you can't control?  
Something you had no part of, but, couldn't get away from?

LAURA

Uh...

ROBERT

Never mind. I have to get out of here.

LAURA

Why?

ROBERT

The alarm goes on at six o'clock. Please keep this under your hat  
until Monday.

LAURA

Aren't you scared?

ROBERT

Does it show?

LAURA

Uh... No... So, you're not coming to work on Monday?

ROBERT

I'm not sure that would be terribly wise.

LAURA

I can see your point. I guess I wouldn't suggest that you come  
back. In fact, I wouldn't suggest you doing this at all.

ROBERT

I need to.

LAURA

Need to?

ROBERT

Need to.

LAURA

Why?

ROBERT

(Agitated.)  
It's none of your business. Is it?

LAURA

Sorry. I just thought maybe...

ROBERT

No, no, no, *I'm* sorry. Really I am. Please don't cry... please... I'm just a bit edgy.

LAURA

Why are you doing this?

ROBERT

I can't tell you. Really, I can't.

LAURA

Robert.

ROBERT

Mrs. Barchek?

LAURA

(Sheepishly.)  
Sorry... Mr. Jones.

ROBERT

No, no that's alright.  
(Pause)  
Susan.

LAURA

What?

ROBERT

The reason I'm doing this. Susan... my wife.

LAURA

Oh. Oh! She's not ill, is she?

ROBERT

No. Nothing like that. She has lost some money on the numbers...

LAURA

Oh, that's terrible. A lot of money?

ROBERT

Ten thousand...

LAURA

Dollars?!

ROBERT

Might as well be a million. These are not nice men... apparently. She said they want it Sunday... or else.

LAURA

Or else what?

ROBERT

I haven't the faintest, but i think we're agreed that it couldn't be anything good.

LAURA

You mean you have never met these men?

ROBERT

No. I'm sorry. I don't wish to be rude, but I really must go. I don't want you to get in trouble.

LAURA

Oh, don't worry about me.

ROBERT

Oh, but I do. I don't think I could live with myself if I were the cause of any pain in your life.

LAURA

Really, I can handle myself when I need to.

ROBERT

Wait a minute Why are you still here? Why haven't you gone home?

Suddenly remembering her purpose, LAURA moves quickly back to the door to look out again.

LAURA

No reason. In fact, I was just getting ready to leave now.

ROBERT

Without your hat and coat... and pocketbook. Why are you still here?

LAURA

No reason.

LAURA goes back into the cage to get her things from the coat rack. She takes down her handbag and draws a pistol. She aims it at Robert, her hand shaking profusely.

ROBERT

Mrs. Barchek?! Really, I don't think this is necessary. Give me the gun. Please. Give it to me.

LAURA

No, I need to do this.

ROBERT

Do what? Look at you, you're shaking like a leaf. Please give it to me before someone gets hurt... namely me.

He moves toward her.

LAURA

No! Stop where you are. *I'm* robbing the bank. How much is in the bag?

ROBERT

Nothing yet. I came out to get the key out of my jacket. See, I couldn't get the bag open.

LAURA

Have you gotten it? The key?

ROBERT

Yes. It's unlocked.

LAURA

Good. Give it to me.

ROBERT

But, Mrs. Barchek...

LAURA

I am so sorry, Mr. Jones.

ROBERT

Maybe we could work something out. Look, I need this money to save my wife's life. If you need it as much as I do, we could work something out... split it... there is more than enough here for both of us.

He starts walking toward her.

LAURA

I don't know.

ROBERT

Don't know what? It's very simple, really. We both take whatever we can carry and that's that. Say, why are you doing this, anyway?

LAURA

Never you mind.



ROBERT  
No, no, tell me. I told you.

LAURA  
Same.

ROBERT  
What?

LAURA  
The same as you.

ROBERT  
You're kidding.

LAURA  
No. David has been betting on the dog races.

ROBERT  
How much?

LAURA  
Ten gs. Is that a lot?

ROBERT  
I think that means ten thousand. There's a lot of that going around.

LAURA  
You said it.

ROBERT  
Wait a minute.

LAURA  
What?

ROBERT  
What if... never mind.

LAURA  
No. What?

ROBERT  
No, It's crazy.

LAURA  
And this isn't?

ROBERT  
Got me there.

LAURA

Well?

ROBERT

(Aside.)  
Now is the time to take control of myself. Now is the time..

LAURA

What?

ROBERT

Oh, nothing... A little thing I say when I need some extra courage.

LAURA

Oh.

ROBERT

What does one do when reaches the end of one's rope?

LAURA

Oh, Mr. Jones...

ROBERT

Robert... please.

LAURA

... Robert. You are not planning to do anything rash, are you?

Looking at the bag in his hand  
and then back at the vault.

ROBERT

Rash... hmmm...

LAURA

I meant kill yourself.

ROBERT

Kill my... Oh! Never! I could never do such a thing.

LAURA

Good. That's good. What are you going to do?

ROBERT

What I have to do. She needs money. She's my wife. I'll get her  
the money. What's her's is mine - good and bad. She needs my help,  
so I'll help her.

LAURA

There's no other way? Are you sure?

ROBERT

I'm quite sure. There is no other way. She will come to dire... oh, we've already discussed that and the time is getting shorter by the second. I need to get started on the vault. Do what you have to do, but I have to get started.

LAURA

(Pause.)  
Robert?

ROBERT

(Turning.)  
Yes?

LAURA

May I tell you something?

ROBERT

Anything.

LAURA

I don't love him.

ROBERT

Who?

LAURA

David. I don't love him anymore. I think he is stepping out on me.

ROBERT

I am sorry. But, you know what? I think Susan is doing the same. This whole betting thing sounded a little fishy to me. She has never done this sort of thing before. Well, I guess there is a first time for everything. I wouldn't be surprised.

LAURA

Thank you, very much.

ROBERT

I meant nothing against you. I merely meant that while I have only met him once, he seemed a bit smarmy to me. I would never mean anything against you, Mrs. Barchek..

LAURA

Nor I you. I guess he's no prize.

ROBERT

Why do you want to help him, then?

LAURA

Why do you want to help Susan?

ROBERT  
She's my wife.

LAURA  
So.

ROBERT  
I made vows. I promised a lifetime...

LAURA  
... No matter how short.

ROBERT  
Now, that's not fair.

LAURA  
Do you love her?

ROBERT  
Well, I married...

LAURA  
That's not what I asked you. Do you love her?

ROBERT  
I don't know. Is it possible to love two people at once?

LAURA  
I've never really thought about it. Why do you ask?

ROBERT  
No reason.

ROBERT starts pacing around the room. LAURA follows him, spinning in place.

LAURA  
Robert...

LAURA is interrupted by a light knock on the door. She reaches for the door. ROBERT rushes toward her.

ROBERT  
No! Wait!

LAURA  
What? Why?

ROBERT

It's Susan. She was supposed have been here a few minutes ago. She has never been punctual in all the years I have known her.

LAURA goes back and hides under the president's desk. He unlocks the door and in walks SUSAN, a woman dressed, quite obviously, out of his league. He locks the door behind her.

SUSAN

Are you ready?

ROBERT

No. Not yet. Just give me a few moments.

SUSAN

Robert, I don't have a few moments. I need to be there in an hour.

ROBERT

I thought you said Sunday.

SUSAN

They sent a guy over this afternoon. I have to have it this evening or I won't see Sunday.

ROBERT

Alright. Just give me a minute.

ROBERT heads back to the vault while SUSAN heads to the door and peeks out the window. She then, inconspicuously, unlocks the door.

ROBERT (O.S.) (Con't)

I was thinking, what if we get enough to leave this place and get you away from the temptation? We could go to a small town somewhere - start fresh. What do you say?

(Pause.)

Susan... Susan?

ROBERT emerges from the vault to SUSAN standing at the counter with DAVID.

ROBERT (Con't)

What is this about?

DAVID

Step out, Jocko.

ROBERT

Excuse me? Who are you? Susan...

SUSAN

Do what he says, Robert.

DAVID

Now, where is Laura? Here, Mousy. Here, Mousy. I know you're still here. C'mon out, little Mousy.

LAURA slowly emerges from  
under the desk.

LAURA

I'm sorry, David. I wasn't able to do it yet... I hit a little snag, as you can see.

DAVID

That's okay. We'll take it from here.

LAURA

We?

DAVID

Me and Susan.

LAURA

I knew it! You are cheating on me!

DAVID

You didn't know nothin'! Zip it and park it over by your little friend.

ROBERT

Is this your husband?

DAVID

You zip it, too, buddy!

SUSAN shrugs and crosses to  
ROBERT.

ROBERT

Susan.

SUSAN

Sorry, Bobby-boy.

ROBERT

Sorry? Sorry?!

DAVID

Now, listen here, little man. You and the mouse here get in that closet... Wait. First empty the vault, then get in the closet.

DAVID turns to see LAURA aiming the gun at him.

DAVID (Con't)

Ah, c'mon now, you don't wanna do that.

DAVID starts walking toward LAURA. She shows more determination in her threatening him, but her shaking hands give her away.

DAVID (Con't)

Really, now, Mousy. I know ya don't wanna do that.

He calmly takes the gun from her.

DAVID (Con't)

That's right. Now, go join your little pal.

DAVID grabs LAURA'S arm and tosses her toward the desk chair..

DAVID (Con't)

Sit down. Susan, go in there with him and get the money.

ROBERT and SUSAN head toward the vault.

SUSAN

Come on, Bobby-boy, and don't try anything funny or you'll have to answer to my friend there.

LAURA

How long?

DAVID

Huh?

LAURA

How long has this been going on?

DAVID

Does it matter?

LAURA

Not really, but I feel I've got to know.

DAVID

New Year's.

LAURA

Is that where you met?

DAVID

No. We met at Longmont's cocktail party in November. You were off talking to... whoever you talk to at those things.

LAURA

What did it? Was I not good enough for you? Not pretty enough? What?

DAVID

Nah. Just boring. I'm not the stay-at-home type, y'know?

LAURA

I do now. So what happens now?

DAVID

We... me and Susan, get the money and leave together. We leave you and the mole to take the fall and never look back.

LAURA

You have it all figured out. What are you going to do when she steps out on you?

DAVID

She won't.

LAURA

Leopards don't change their spots...

DAVID

Shut up! You don't know her.

LAURA

Neither do you.

DAVID

Stow it, Mousy. Just a few more minutes and we'll be out of here.

LIGHTS UP in the vault.

SUSAN

Get that pile over there. What are those? Hundreds?



ROBERT

(Not looking at her.)  
Yes.

SUSAN

Well, do it... come on, do it. Put them in the bag, too. Hurry up.

ROBERT

You'll get it when you get it.

SUSAN

Quit stalling, I know the alarm kicks in at six. I am not getting caught. Get it rolling, Bobby-boy.

ROBERT

Quit calling me that. Tell me, do you really think you're going to get away with this?

SUSAN

You thought you were.

ROBERT

No. I guess deep down inside, I knew i would never get away with it. Neither will you.

SUSAN

Whatever you say, just keep filling the bag. Time's a tickin'.

ROBERT

What happened?

SUSAN

What do you mean?

ROBERT

What happened with us?

SUSAN

I'm just not a homebody, that's all. I need excitement in my day. What do I have now? Up at eight; send you off in time for the eight-forty-five; sit around and wait for you to get home at six.

ROBERT

You forgot your activities with... *him*.

SUSAN

It's in there - it's all part of the waiting.

ROBERT

There are other things you could have done.

SUSAN

Sit around listening to Jack Benny, eating bon-bons 'til you grace me with your presence?

ROBERT stares in silence while SUSAN ignores him, inspecting her nails.

ROBERT

Why, on earth, did you marry me?

SUSAN

What?

ROBERT

*Why did you marry me?*

SUSAN

Warmth.

ROBERT

(Bewildered.)  
Warmth...

SUSAN

I needed a warm place to stay.

ROBERT

What about your family?

SUSAN

They couldn't afford the coal.

ROBERT

Why didn't *you* get a job then?

SUSAN

Work? Why? There are limitless men around to take care of me. I knew you'd be happy just to be around someone like me and I hoped you would become something someday. Make a lot of money. Be able to take care of me.

ROBERT stands staring at her, stunned.

SUSAN (Con't)

Please, Robert, how could you have possibly thought that someone like me could ever be with someone like you? You were a... convenience. A means to an end. Don't feel badly, Bobby-boy, happens to the best of 'em. Now... Chop chop, we don't have all night.

ROBERT, reluctantly, goes back  
to filling the bag.

ROBERT

(Under his breath.)  
Of all the stupid... how do I get into these things? What is it  
about me? Well, this is the last. I swear.

SUSAN

Huh?

ROBERT

Nothing. Here. Take it and get out of here.

ROBERT hands the bag to SUSAN  
who turns to leave.

SUSAN

Nice doing business with you.

SUSAN leaves the vault.

DAVID

Got it?

SUSAN

Oh, yes!

DAVID

How much?

SUSAN

More than we need, but enough to keep us happy.

DAVID

Well, let's go.

SUSAN

What about them?

DAVID

What about 'em?

SUSAN

We have to do something with them. Otherwise they'll go to the  
cops.

DAVID

Oh, yeah. What are we going to do?

SUSAN  
We'll lock 'em in the vault.

ROBERT  
No.

SUSAN  
Why not?

ROBERT  
Once the vault is locked it doesn't open again until Monday morning. There isn't enough air. We'll die before morning.

SUSAN looks about the room until she notices the supply closet.

SUSAN  
Get in there.

ROBERT  
For the whole weekend?

SUSAN  
I think you'll be alright. Go on, get in.

ROBERT and LAURA get in the closet and SUSAN locks it. She turns to DAVID.

DAVID  
Well, ready to go?

SUSAN  
Just a minute. Take a look out and see if it's clear.

LIGHTS UP in closet when LAURA turns on light and down on the rest of the bank.

LAURA  
Isn't there a light in here? Ah! Here it is.

ROBERT is sitting on the floor, leaning against the wall.

ROBERT  
I'm really sorry about this. I will find a way to get us out of here.

LAURA

It's alright, Robert. We'll be alright.

ROBERT

We have to get out of here. Think. Think. What have we got in here?

LAURA

(Searching.)  
Paper. Ink. Pencils. Bands.

ROBERT

Are they still out there?

LAURA

(Putting her ear up to door.)  
Still there.

ROBERT

I can't believe this. Can you believe this? David and Susan! How long has this been going on? Do you know?

LAURA

He said since New Year's. Were we at the same party on New Year's?

ROBERT

Susan's mother was sick so she spent the holidays with her. I was home reading that night.

LAURA

(Incredulously.)  
You were what?

ROBERT

Reading. What's so strange? Don't you read?

LAURA

Not on the biggest party night of the year!

ROBERT

I'm not the social butterfly one would think.

LAURA

I know, but, New Year's Eve!

ROBERT

Can we focus on the task at hand, please? How are we going to get out of here?

LAURA

I don't see anything we could use.

LAURA sits down next to  
ROBERT.

LAURA (Con't)

So, what are you going to do when we get out of here?

ROBERT

I don't know. Do you think we can keep our jobs?

LAURA

Why not? There's nothing to say we had anything to do with it.

ROBERT

True, but, they have almost all the money from the vault. The bank will probably go under.

LAURA

Gee, I never thought of that.

ROBERT

What to do? What to do?

LAURA

Robert?

ROBERT

Yes?

LAURA

What is love?

ROBERT

How do you mean?

LAURA

What makes it love? What makes us love? What makes people like us get stuck with people like them?

ROBERT

I don't know. What makes us love another?

LAURA

Another what?

ROBERT

Another person beside our chosen.

LAURA

Good question. Do you remember when I told you that I didn't love David anymore?

ROBERT

Yes.

LAURA

I can't love two people at one time. I don't love him anymore because I fell in love with another man.

ROBERT

You cheated on *him*, too?

LAURA

No! ... No, it was nothing like that.

ROBERT

Maybe you fell in love with the other man because there was something missing at home.

LAURA

Maybe. Either way, I am in love with another man.

ROBERT

You're not alone.

LAURA

You, too?

ROBERT

Not with another *man*, but, yes.

LAURA

Mr. Jones! Who'd a thunk it! Who is she?

ROBERT

Who's your gentleman?

LAURA

I asked you first.

ROBERT stands and starts pacing the small closet. He stops, facing the door, his back to LAURA.

ROBERT

You have to promise me something.

LAURA

Anything.

ROBERT

Promise me you won't laugh.

LAURA

Why? Is it the bearded lady from the circus?

ROBERT

No.

LAURA

Then, who?

ROBERT

Mrs. Barchek... Laura... Do you know what it's like to have something so close you could touch it, but could never have it?

LAURA

Yes. Of course I do.

ROBERT

It's someone I see everyday.

LAURA

On the train?

ROBERT

No. She is the sweetest, most gentle, kind woman I know.

LAURA

She's a prize, huh? You'd better grab while the grabbing's good.

ROBERT

Please, let me finish. I'm not very good at this.

LAURA

Sorry.

ROBERT turns suddenly and faces her during this next speech.

ROBERT

Laura. I have stood next to you for two years now and in that time I have fallen increasingly in love with you. The way you walk. The way you laugh. The way you count your bills. For two years I have stood there and kept my mouth shut for... for what? My marriage? I was a sucker. I have ignored happiness because I was a sucker for... *her*... that tramp. But, you wouldn't do that to me, would you? No, not you, you're wonderful. I love you, Mrs. Barchek! Uh...  
Laura.

LAURA

I know.



ROBERT

How?

LAURA

It really wasn't that difficult. I see you staring at me.

ROBERT

It doesn't matter, though. You're in love with someone else.

LAURA

You are dim when it comes to this, aren't you.

ROBERT

How do you mean?

LAURA

You're the other man.

ROBERT

Me? How could I possibly match up to that... that... Really? Me?

LAURA

Well, now that that's out in the open. What are we going to do?

ROBERT

I wish I had never started this. How are we going to get out of here?

LAURA

Say!

ROBERT

What?

LAURA

Look here - custodial supplies. Bucket, broom, mop...

ROBERT

... And what do we do with them?

LAURA

If we can get them to open the door...

LAURA starts handling the equipment while ROBERT watches, baffled. It then dawns on him what she is thinking.

ROBERT

We could smack them with the bucket...

LAURA  
... or anything else here.

ROBERT  
Then what?

LAURA  
What do you mean?

ROBERT  
What do we do after we have overpowered them?

LAURA  
We get a cop to arrest them.

ROBERT  
Then what? They will tell them everything.

LAURA  
Do you think the police are going to believe them over us - two  
trusted and valued bank employees?

ROBERT  
Even so, I would feel safer with a back up plan.

LAURA  
We knock them cold, turn on the alarm and take off with the money  
ourselves.

ROBERT  
Bucket to the head it is.

LIGHTS DOWN on the closet and  
up on the rest of the bank.

SUSAN  
Is it clear yet?

DAVID  
Yeah, the cop went down to the other end of the block. We have a  
few minutes.

DAVID turns to see SUSAN  
aiming the pistol at him.

DAVID (Con't)  
What the hell is this about?

SUSAN  
I think you know.

DAVID

What are you doing? We're running away together.

SUSAN

You're as dumb as he is. Use your head. If there's enough in there for two to live comfortably for, say, twenty years, how long do you think one can live off of it?

DAVID

But...

SUSAN

Shut up and get in the closet with your pals.

DAVID

Susan!

SUSAN takes a step towards him.

SUSAN

Move it!

DAVID starts toward the closet with SUSAN following a safe distance behind.

DAVID

Wait. You don't love me?

SUSAN

Geez! What is it with you?

DAVID

But, I love you.

With this DAVID turns suddenly to attack her, but she is too far behind him and he swats at empty space.

SUSAN

Nice move, Buck Rogers. Now, open the door and get in.

DAVID unlocks the door. When he opens it he meets, face first, with a mop sending him reeling back into SUSAN. The gun accidentally goes off and DAVID falls to the floor.

SUSAN stands staring down at him, stunned.

Holy cow!  
ROBERT

I ...  
SUSAN

David!  
LAURA

I ...  
SUSAN

Laura?  
DAVID

David, don't talk...  
LAURA

What's all over my... Blood? I've been shot? Damnit! Who shot me?!  
DAVID

Keep quiet. Call an ambulance!  
LAURA

Ambulance. Yes. Right away.  
ROBERT

I can't believe it! Screwy broad!  
DAVID

DAVID passes out.

It was an accident! I didn't mean to!  
SUSAN

SUSAN drops the gun and starts stumbling backwards toward the door.

(Aside to LAURA.)  
The police! What are we going to do?  
ROBERT

Tell them the truth.  
LAURA

I didn't mean to...  
SUSAN

SOUND: Banging on the door and it continues until they open it.

SUSAN regains her composure and tries to run, but trips, hitting her head on the counter, knocking herself cold.

ROBERT and LAURA look down at her in amazement. LAURA looks back at ROBERT with a rye smile on her face.

LAURA

Problem solved.

ROBERT

(Somewhat bewildered.)  
Apparently.

LAURA

We let them in and tell them the truth.

ROBERT

The truth? We'll go to jail.

LAURA

No, the other truth. These two came in while we were closing up and tried to rob the place. She shot him and we apprehended her. We're heroes, the money is safe and we get to keep our jobs. What do we have to worry about?

SUSAN stirs on the floor.

LAURA (Con't)

Better hurry, she's coming to.

ROBERT

Are you sure this will work?

LAURA

(Looking at Susan.)  
Oh, It'll work.

ROBERT opens the door, the officer enters and hurriedly surveys the situation.

OFFICER

What has happened here?!

ROBERT

(Nervously.)  
Well, sir, we were just getting ready to..

LAURA

... close up for the night when this couple came storming in. They threw us out of the way and started to head for the vault. When Mr. Jones and I tried to stop them they overpowered us and locked us in the closet. After a while, they came and opened the door, but Mr. Jones, here, was ready for them. He knocked the man back with a mop and the woman shot him.. the other man, I mean, not Mr. Jones.

OFFICER

Do you know them?

ROBERT

Unfortunately. That's my wife.

LAURA

... That's what makes it all so odd, sir. She was, apparently, having an affair with my husband and he must have talked her into doing it.

OFFICER

That's just too weird. Is he dead?

ROBERT

He's not doing too well, but he's not dead.

OFFICER

Did someone call for help?

ROBERT

I called the hospital. An ambulance is on the way.

SOUND: Siren closing in on the bank.

ROBERT (Con't)

There it is now.

Two orderlies come in with a stretcher.

OFFICER

That one there. Be careful, he's a suspect. I will send an officer to keep an eye on him.

The orderlies shuffle out with DAVID.

OFFICER (Con't)  
Well, we're going to need to get this all sorted out downtown.

The OFFICER helps Susan to her feet and leads her out.

OFFICER (Con't)  
Come on, lady.

ROBERT  
Yes, sir.

SUSAN is still dazed as she tries to hit on the OFFICER.

SUSAN  
Well, hello, big boy.

OFFICER  
Keep it put away, lady. You two coming with me?

SUSAN  
No, sir, we will be there in a few minutes.

LAURA approaches ROBERT.

LAURA  
Shall we?

ROBERT  
Indeed.

They head out the door arm in arm. A moment later ROBERT hurries back in with LAURA following.

ROBERT (Con't)  
I can't believe I forgot!

LAURA  
Forgot what?

ROBERT picks up the bag and takes it to the vault. He closes the vault door.

ROBERT

We're coming back on Monday, aren't we?

LAURA

That would be delightful.

LAURA moves to him and kisses  
him on the cheek while taking  
his arm..

LAURA (Con't)

Now, shall we?

ROBERT

Into the sunset, Mrs. Barchek... uh... Laura.

CURTAIN.