

GEORGE
PG. 54

Tom! Tom! Randall! Now wait . . . now listen . . . now listen to me. I beg of you not to do this thing. If Potter gets hold of this Building and Loan there'll never be another decent house built in this town. He's already got the bank. He's got the bus line. He's got the department stores. And now he's after us. Why? It's simple. Because we're cutting in on his business, that's why. And because he wants to keep you living in his slums and paying rent he decides. Joe, you lived in one of his houses, have you forgotten what he charged you for that broken-down shack? Ed. Remember last year when things weren't going so well, and you couldn't make your payments. You didn't lose your house. Think Potter would have let you keep it? Can't you understand what's happening here? Don't you see? Potter isn't selling. Potter's buying! Because we're panicky and he's not. He's picking up bargains too. Now, we can get through this thing. We've got to stick together. We've got to have faith in each other.

Unit 34: *Studio* - Clarence and Joseph

MUSIC: Bridge.

FOLEY: Mart tree tinkles under.

CLARENCE Poor Uncle Billy

It's A Wonderful Life Adapted by Caleb Marshall - 80 -

JOSEPH He feels terrible for losing that money.

CLARENCE What's going to happen?

JOSEPH The Building and Loan will be in real trouble when Mr. Carter finds out it's missing.

CLARENCE But we know where it is!

JOSEPH That doesn't matter.

CLARENCE Of course it matters, I can tell George where the money is and he can get it back from Mr. Potter – Then I'll get my wings!

JOSEPH Clarence all of this happened in the past.

CLARENCE Oh, right.

JOSEPH You must wait until we catch up to the present.

CLARENCE Then I'll tell George about the money...

JOSEPH No.

CLARENCE Why not?

JOSEPH George must make his own decisions.

CLARENCE Then how do I help?

JOSEPH You guide him to the path he should take.

CLARENCE Oh right. The Boss likes free will.

JOSEPH Yes he does. So do we all.

CLARENCE All right Joseph, what happened next?