

## START

## Side 8- Gretchen, Robert, Bernard, Gabriella

GRETCHEN Yes!...So now I can't be your little fiancée *from beyond the Rhine* any more... You understand don't you?

BERNARD Well, it's a bit sudden! (*To ROBERT*) Pushing it a bit, aren't you?

ROBERT It's not my fault!

BERNARD What about you? Do you love her?

ROBERT Well, I really, really, really like her...

BERNARD Given the circumstances...I won't stand in your way!  
(*both falling on BERNARD's neck*)

ROBERT } Oh, thank you, Bernard! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

GRETCHEN } Oh, thank you, Bernard! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

BERNARD Don't mention it.

GRETCHEN You're not too upset?

BERNARD Yes, of course...But what can you do? Please, kiss! It'll make me feel better...

GRETCHEN Robert, darling.

ROBERT Liebchen.  
(*enter GABRIELLA from bathroom.*)

GABRIELLA There!...Oh, excuse me!...Who's this?

BERNARD Uh oh!

GRETCHEN (*to ROBERT*) Who's this?

ROBERT Who's this?

GABRIELLA (*to BERNARD*) Who's this?

BERNARD Who's this? Who's this? Who's this? Well now...I...I...Let me introduce Robert's fiancée...this is Roberts fiancée...isn't it?

ROBERT Yes. Yes, Robert's fiancée. Who's Robert?

GRETCHEN Robert! Darling!

GABRIELLA Congratulations.

GRETCHEN If only you knew how happy I am-

GABRIELLA Yes. I'm sure you are- and I see you fly as well.

GRETCHEN Ja. Lufthansa.

GABRIELLA Si. Alitalia.

ROBERT        What a coincidence.

GABRIELLA    Yes! We're sisters of a kind...

BERNARD       Yes...of a kind.

ROBERT        Of a kind...

GRETCHEN     I'm delighted to meet you.

GABRIELLA    Me too. You're on stopover?

GRETCHEN     Yes, stopover. You too?

GABRIELLA    Yes, me too. So what brings you here at this time of night?

GRETCHEN     Well, you see- I came to see-  
                   *(ROBERT kisses her to silence her.)*  
 I came here-  
                   *(ROBERT kisses her again.)*  
 I came-  
                   *(ROBERT kisses her.)*

ROBERT        That's what she came for.

BERNARD       That's exactly right!

GRETCHEN     Well no, not exactly...

BERNARD       Yes, yes...well...apart from a couple of details...not important!

GABRIELLA    But why didn't you tell me you were engaged?

ROBERT        Hmm...me?

GABRIELLA    You're a sly one!

GRETCHEN     Because it's only just happened.

ROBERT        That's right...just this second!

GABRIELLA    You were quick. I go into the bathroom, have a bath, and whoosh!  
                   There you are, engaged.

BERNARD       That's it, you see?...Whoosh!

ROBERT        Whoosh! Yes...that's right.

BERNARD       He's a seducer.

GABRIELLA    *(to GRETCHEN)* And where did you meet this seducer?

GRETCHEN     Here.

END