

ALAN / ARIENE

- 97 -

SCENE SEVEN

(ALAN and ARLENE in the hospital room.)

ARLENE is dressed to go home. A small overnight case sits on the floor. ALAN sits in the chair. ARLENE folds her sweater and puts it in the bag.)

ALAN

Come ... it's time to go.

ARLENE

I'm afraid to go back to that house.

ALAN

It is big. While you were gone, I found myself wandering through it and it kept getting bigger and bigger and bigger.

ARLENE

So big we don't fit in it.

ALAN

It is us now.

ARLENE

Is that enough?

ALAN

I don't know. I'd better go down and deal with the bill.

(HE doesn't move)

ARLENE

The baby held us together.

ALAN

Yes.

(A silent moment.)

ARLENE

I can't go back home.

ALAN

I know.

ARLENE

It's time for us to stop doing the same thing over and over, isn't it?

ALAN

Yes. It is.

LAST

ARLENE

I'll go to mother's.

ALAN

I'll take care of the bill.

(he starts out the door)

ARLENE

Alan, children aside, did you love me?

ALAN

I never thought I didn't. Not for a minute.

ARLENE

Yes, I'd say the same thing.

(ALAN exits into the hallway.)

End

#22 - *And What If We Had Loved Like That?*

ALAN

YOU AND ME, THE PERFECT PAIR
NO ONE QUESTIONED IT; WHO WOULD DARE?
OTHERS FLAMED, BUT THEY BURNED OUT.
WE KEPT ROLLING ALONG.
SO IT'S HARD TO SAY WHAT HAPPENED TO US
SINCE NOTHING REALLY WENT WRONG.
WE KNOW THE WORDS
BUT WEVE FORGOTTEN THE SONG.

AND NOW I'M ASKING IF I LOVED YOU.
WHAT DOES IT MATTER THAT I LOVED YOU?
WHATEVER WAY IT WAS I LOVED YOU,
IT WASN'T ENOUGH
TO GET US THE WHOLE WAY THROUGH.
I NEVER SIMPLY SAID, "I NEED YOU."
I NEVER TOLD YOU WHEN YOU HURT, HOW I CRY.
SOME PEOPLE DARE TO RISK THE FLAK
AND NEVER HOLD THEIR FEELINGS BACK.
AND WHAT IF WE HAD LOVED LIKE THAT,
YOU AND I?