

AUDITION SCENE FOR TRACY CHANDLER WITH GREG NELSON

For the past several weeks Tracy Chandler has been going under the name of Tracy Dixon, posing as a poor industrious (and fun-loving) waitress. In reality, she is the daughter and heiress of Adam Chandler, a hard-driving millionaire. She's come to Pine Valley without fanfare and with the alias in order to see the town before the town sees her - and to see exactly what her father is up to before taking on the heavy mantle of the Chandler Heiress.

Tracy Chandler has been educated in Europe, staying close to her invalid and comatose mother in the naïve hope that some day Althea would awake and pick up where they left off. But Althea finally succumbed, leaving nothing to hold Tracy on the continent.

She hasn't seen her father since she was sixteen; one or more of his local managers saw to it that she was always well cared for.

When Tracy first landed in Pine Valley as Tracy Dixon, she innocently wandered into trouble: she became tangled in the ropes of a hot air balloon used to promote the gala opening of the restaurant where she'd taken a job as a waitress. If it hadn't been for the quick thinking and courage of a local news photographer, she might have been killed.

The news lensman was Greg Nelson. She was grateful to him and she saw in him a handsome young man who could become a good friend.

They enjoyed many of the same interests and were simpatico on a number of levels. The friendship grew faster than Tracy had planned. By the time she saw what had happened, it was almost too late to reveal, suddenly, that she wasn't the struggling young woman but a millionairess who could have her pick of the world's most eligible bachelors.

Greg has found out through another source who Tracy really is. He has just arrived at Tracy's apartment; she is cooking their dinner and making the salad.

TRACY

Hi, you're late.

GREG

Am I? Sorry.

TRACY

I'll forgive you if I get a kiss.

GREG

I'll help you with the salad.

TRACY

Hey, what's wrong? Are you mad at me?

GREG

What gave you that idea?

TRACY

Forget it. Just give me that kiss. (SHE KISSES HIM INTENTLY, AND HE PULLS BACK.) Come on Greg, what's going on?

GREG

Myrtle told me who you really are?

TRACY

Good old Myrtle.

GREG

She didn't know it was supposed to be a secret.

TRACY

Yeah...Greg...I was going to tell you...but...

GREG

You've been lying all along.

TRACY

It wasn't exactly lying.

GREG

You told me you were an orphan, you didn't have a penny. Now I find out you're Adam Chandler's daughter and the richest woman in Pine Valley. I call that lying.

TRACY

But I had to. I wanted to see what was going on with my dad and what was happening in this town before I told anybody. Then I met you and everything got all screwed up.

GREG

You played me for a jerk is what you did.

TRACY

No, I didn't. You remember that time when we went ice skating and I told you I had something important to tell you? I wanted to spill it all then, but you kissed me and I turned chicken.

GREG

Chicken?

TRACY

I was afraid I'd lose you as soon as you found out. I started to care for you and the more I cared the harder it was to tell you I was Adam Chandler's daughter.

GREG

You're just like your old man. You don't care who you hurt as long as you get what you want.

TRACY

That's not true.

GREG

That's the way I read it.

TRACY

Well there's more to it, Greg. You see, a few years ago I was really crazy about a guy I met in Paris. I thought he loved me too, but then I found out that he was only after my money.

GREG

What made you think I'd be like that?

TRACY

I just couldn't take the chance on being hurt again.

GREG

So you lied. That really helped a lot.

TRACY

Look, Greg. We can start all over again. I'll tell you everything about me. We'll pretend we just met.

GREG

No thanks. I only need to get burned once.

TRACY

I'll let you go if you'll answer one question.

GREG

What?

TRACY

Did you love Tracy Dixon?

GREG

(PAUSE) There never was any Tracy Dixon. (HE
EXITS)

TRACY

Greg, please!