

He sits in his chair and puts his feet up on an old needlepoint ottoman. He starts to read the paper.

LORETTA

Where's Ma?

COSMO

Bed.

LORETTA

You're not sleepy?

COSMO

I can't sleep anymore. It's too much like death.

LORETTA

Pop, I got news.

Cosmo puts down the paper and takes his feet off the ottoman.

COSMO

Alright. Let's go in the kitchen.

Cosmo gets up and heads for the kitchen. He hums and continues as Loretta opens champagne.

INT. THE CASTORINI HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Loretta and Cosmo sit at the kitchen table. It's a big tin table with a black-and-white design. Loretta has put two old-fashioned champagne glasses on the table, the split of champagne, a bag of sugar cubes, and a bottle of bitters.

She pours the champagne, drops a little lump of sugar into each glass, and adds a dash of bitters. She hands one of the drinks to Cosmo.

LORETTA

Here.

(She Toasts)

Ti amo.

(Translated: I love
you.)

COSMO

Ti amo.

LORETTA

You look tired.

COSMO

What's your news?

LORETTA

I'm getting married.

COSMO

Again?

LORETTA

Yeah.

COSMO

You did this once it didn't work
out.

LORETTA

The guy died.

COSMO

What killed him?

LORETTA

He got hit by a bus.

COSMO

No! Bad luck! Your Ma and I been
married fifty-two years an nobody
died. You were married, what, two

years, and somebody is dead. Don't get married again, Loretta. It don't work out for you. Who's the man?

LORETTA

Johnny Cammareri.

COSMO

Him? He's a big baby. Why isn't he here with you telling me?

LORETTA

He's flying to Sicily. His mother's dying.

COSMO

More Bad Luck! I don't like his face, Loretta. I don't like his lips. When he smiles I can't see his teeth. When will you do it?

LORETTA

In a month.

COSMO

I won't come.

LORETTA

You've got to come. You've got to give me away.

COSMO

I didn't give you away the first time.

LORETTA

And maybe that's why I had the Bad Luck. Maybe if you gave me away, and I got married in a church, in a wedding dress, instead of at the

City Hall with strangers standing
outside the door, maybe then I
wouldn't had the Bad Luck I had.

COSMO

Maybe.

LORETTA

I didn't have no wedding cake, no
reception or nothing. Johnny got
down on his knees and proposed to me
at The Grand Ticino.

COSMO

He did?

LORETTA

Yeah.

COSMO

That don't sound like Johnny. Where's
the ring?

Loretta shows it.

Cosmo examines it.

LORETTA

Here.

COSMO

It looks stupid. It's a pinky ring.
It's a man's ring.

LORETTA

It's temporary.

COSMO

Everything is temporary. That don't
excuse nothing.

LORETTA

So you'll come to the wedding, right?

COSMO

Let's go tell your Mother.

She smiles. He doesn't. They rise from the table.

THE CASTORINI HOUSE - DARKENED MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

The door to the hall opens, and the light from without dimly illuminates a massive four-poster bed. Cosmo enters, followed by Loretta. He speaks into the dark a calm and measured summons.

COSMO

Rose. Rose. Rose. Rose.

A lamp is switched on by the bed. By ROSE. Rose is in her 60'S, and is very, very beautiful. Her abundant white tresses frame a face of porcelain delicacy.

She's wearing an old and richly beautiful white nightgown.

ROSE

Who's dead?

COSMO

Nobody. Loretta is getting married.

ROSE

Again? Johnny Cammareri.

Cosmo goes and sits on the bed.

COSMO

I don't like him.

ROSE