

Side D - Emily and Amos

Scene Two

(As AMOS disappears, the sound of the biplane gets louder and louder – and soon we're looking at the front half of the plane as it flies through a cloud. CALLIOPE is in the cockpit, flying the plane, and AMOS and EMILY are right behind her. They all wear goggles, and CALLIOPE wears a jaunty flying scarf.)

Start

EMILY. Wow, just look at all those tiny people down there.

CALLIOPE. This is fun, isn't it!

AMOS. *(terrified)* Ah ah ah ah put on the brakes, tell it to stop! I'm not a flyer, I'm not a flyer!

EMILY. Can you go upside-down?

CALLIOPE. Sure, no problem! Do you want me to spin it?

EMILY. Yeah!

AMOS. No, no! No! Don't! Don't do it!

EMILY. Oh, Amos, stop being silly. Flying is fun. It's as safe as walking.

AMOS. Fine, you fly, I'll walk. I'll see you later.

(He starts getting out of the plane.)

EMILY. No, don't!!

(She hauls him back in.)

Oh, look, there's a farm! It's so beautiful. And you were born in farm country, weren't you?

AMOS. I was, I was, but I never thought I'd see one from the top down. I like 'em sideways, with the cows and the ducks and the...

(Suddenly, a thought strikes him. This isn't an excuse: he's remembering something very important.)

Oh my gosh! Wait a second! "Farm country". Quick! Turn the plane around!

CALLIOPE. What?

AMOS. I'm not kiddin'. We gotta go back to the house this second!

EMILY. Amos, what's the matter?!

AMOS. My twin brother is comin' to visit today and I forgot all about it! He lives in Kansas and he's comin' to see me for Christmas!

EMILY. Amos –

AMOS. What'll I do?! He'll get to the house and I won't be there!

EMILY. Amos –

AMOS. He thinks I'm waitin' for him. Now I won't be there and he'll be scared to death!

EMILY. Amos, he'll be fine! I left a note for Uncle Brierly and I told him exactly where we were going, so he's bound to tell your brother, right?

AMOS. I guess...

CALLIOPE. What's your twin brother's name?

AMOS. Amos.

CALLIOPE. No, your brother's name.

AMOS. Amos. My mother thought it would be easier if we had the same name. She'd yell, "Hey, Amos!" and somebody would answer. People say we look alike but it's not true, I'm a lot handsomer. Ha ha! Hahahahahaha!

EMILY. You're having fun now, aren't you.

AMOS. Yeah, I suppose it's not so bad. In fact, it's pretty cool up here, if you want the truth. I mean look at all that snow down there. The trees are white, the houses are white, those two glaciers just ahead of us are white. I mean, you don't see things like that at home. Two huge glaciers without any room in between 'em and us just flyin' straight at 'em. ...Hah... Us just...flyin' ... straight down the middle?! Ahh! What are you doin'?! Are you crazy?! There's hardly even a crack between those two humongous, mouse-destroying –

CALLIOPE. Hold on tight! We're going through sideways!! **THE END**

(The engine roars and the plane banks so steeply that they're literally at a 90° angle to the ground.)