

He goes to his room.

FISH: I'm hungry. Lestah, I'm hungry.

ORIEL: Who am I? Fish? I'm your mother.

FISH pushes past ORIEL as though unable to see her.

SCENE 32

FISH finds QUICK in his room with the pictures.

FISH: We fled, Quick. We fled!

QUICK: No, we didn't.

FISH: Yes. We goed in the stars.

QUICK: No.

QUICK moves away and starts to cut out more pictures. ROSE reads. QUICK cuts.

SCENE 33

DOLLY is alone by the train tracks.

DOLLY: Dolly follows the rails most nights, remembers those hot, bucking rails up there where childhood lived, remembers riding the rails with her father, remembers her sisters, and the big sister that hated her, remembers the poison in her heart. Here the moon lights up the steel so it looks deadly cool, and now and then she gets the feeling that she could just lie down there and go to sleep and the whole world, the whole fucking mess would evaporate. It's all too complicated, unless Dolly's as full as a goog, then it's simple, then all of it's straight in a girl's mind. And if she is full, some nights she doesn't walk the tracks alone.

GERRY CLAY approaches.

Of all the men she's met since Sam dragged her down from Geraldton, the one that sticks is Gerry Clay. There's something exciting about him. He's got muscle on him, and besides, he's a Catholic, and dead scared of going to Hell.

~~GERRY: You're a better Dolly. Bet your old man's a millionaire, the way your look~~

~~DOLLY: Him? He hasn't got a pot to piss in. Give us a kiss, love.~~

~~GERRY: He give you a good knock, now and then?~~

~~DOLLY: If he did, I wouldn't be here. You've got a foul mouth, sport.~~

~~*She kisses him.*~~

SCENE 34

~~ORIEL: No one takes much notice of Mr and Mrs Clay when they open their shop on the main road. But walking past one day, Oriel sees the rival business with its big gandy sign, 'G.M. Clay. Ex 2nd AIF. Buy here.' Buy here? Because he served his country in wartime? That's dirty...~~

~~*ORIEL visits the CLAY'S' shop.*~~

~~GERRY: G'day, madam. What can I get you?~~

~~ORIEL: Oh. A dozen eggs, please.~~

~~GERRY: Righto.~~

~~*He serves her.*~~

~~That'll be sixpence ha'penny, thanks. Anything else?~~

~~ORIEL: No thank you. Mr Clay, where did you serve? The sign outside your shop says 'G. Clay. Ex 2nd AIF. Buy Here'.~~

~~GERRY: You'd be Mrs Lamb.~~

~~ORIEL: Where did you fight?~~

~~MRS CLAY: What's it to you, Mrs Lamb?~~

~~ORIEL: Well, if you're going to use it for advertising...~~

~~MRS CLAY: He was in New Guinea. On the Kokoda Trail.~~

~~ORIEL: Infantry?~~

~~GERRY: Sigelman and runner, Mrs Lamb.~~

~~ORIEL: Ok. Fair enough.~~

~~*She's going. MRS CLAY stops her.*~~

~~MRS CLAY: Did your husband serve, Mrs Lamb?~~

~~ORIEL: Not this time. In the First World War. The 10th Light Horse.~~

~~He was at Gallipoli. But we'd never skite about that.~~

~~MRS CLAY: What was his rank?~~

~~ORIEL: Well... private. He was a cook.~~

~~*MRS CLAY giggles.*~~