

# SIDE C

NINA: Well, I can't wait to see what everyone's wearing.

MASHA: Okay.

VANYA: What is he going as?

MASHA: He's going as Prince Charming. It took a long time to convince him, so everyone tell him he looks sexy. Not you, Nina. Vanya, you tell him. I'll be right back.  
*(MASHA suddenly takes both of NINA's hands)*

Thank you Nina for being so cooperative.  
*(ends the moment, moves on, exits to the second floor)*

NINA: I wonder what costume she has for me.

VANYA: I'm afraid I know. I believe you're going to be a dwarf like me. Dopey.

NINA: I'm just so happy to be included. I love to be around artistic people, who create things, who act, who value the arts.

VANYA: Well Masha obviously fits that. I'm afraid Sonia and I are just ...two lumps on a log.

NINA: Oh I don't think so. I feel you both have hidden reservoirs that just haven't been tapped. Or maybe you're secretly creating things, and not telling anyone.

VANYA: That's remarkable that you say that. I have been writing something... I haven't told anyone, not even Sonia.

NINA: I thought so. I sensed it. Is it a TV pilot?

VANYA: No, it's a play. In progress. And I was thinking of that play Konstantin writes in *The Sea Gull*. And it's very experimental and mysterious, and I can never tell if it's meant to be a play ahead of its time or just a play that's ... rotten. And so I thought I might like to write my own version of that play, but relate it to now and see if it would... be good or not.

NINA: Oh I'm so honored you told me this. I feel certain it's good. I always feel so sorry for Konstantin when I read that play, they were so mean to him.

VANYA: Well, life is hard for everyone, I guess.

NINA: You remind me of my uncle, only nicer and more artistic. He burps a lot and doesn't speak much. But you don't burp that I've noticed, and you're quiet but then you speak when spoken to. May I call you Uncle Vanya?