

Scene Nine

LIZZIE, twenty-four, 1928. New York. She is taking photographs with a Simplex camera, trying out a new personality.

No.9: Hey, New York!

LIZZIE

Watch the birdie! And - smile!

HEY! PEOPLE ARE GRINNIN'
JUMPIN' A STREETCAR, WALKIN' THE SIDEWALK, TAKIN' THE SUN
SEEMS EV-ER-Y DAY
RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNIN'
'S LONG AS THEY CAN, NEW YORKERS PLAN ON HAVIN' FUN

IT'S LIKE THEY FEEL THE HEAT
RISE UP BENEATH THEIR FEET
MAKIN' 'EM SKIP AS THEY HIT THE GROUND
I WAS LOST AND NOW I'M FOUND

HEY! HEY! HEY! HEY!
HEY! LOOK AT 'EM WAVIN'
LEAVIN' THE SUBWAY, HAILIN' A CAB, WHATEVER THEY DO
AND I GOTTA SAY
THEY'RE ONLY BEHAVIN'
EXACTLY THE SAME WAY I'M BEHAVIN' LATELY TOO

I WANNA SHOUT OUT LOUD
AND ASK THE WHOLE DARN CROWD
BEHIND THOSE WINDOWS HIGH ABOVE
SAY, NEW YORK! ARE YOU IN LOVE?

NEW YORK DAYS
PASS IN A CRAZY HAZE
AT NIGHT THE CITY LIGHTS

BEGIN TO BLAZE
MANHATTAN TASTES
LIKE GASOLINE IN SPRING
THE MOON MAY RISE BUT HOW
YOUR EYES'LL STING!
WHADDYA MAKE OF THIS SHINY RING?

She displays her left hand,
appropriately adorned.

SAY! DIDN'T I MENTION?
I MET A GUY AND THE GUY AND I ARE GONNA GET HITCHED
SO COME ON 'N' PAY
A LITTLE ATTENTION
UNDER MY SPELL THIS FELLA FELL AND HE'S BEWITCHED

I GUESS BY NOW IT'S CLEAR
MY LIFE CAME GOOD THIS YEAR
GOD BLESS NINETEEN-TWENTY-EIGHT
HOLD THAT POSE! YOU'RE LOOKIN' GREAT!

NEW YORK SKIES
FEEL LIKE YOU WON THE PRIZE
THEY FILL YOU FULL OF
BOPPIN' BUTTERFLIES
MANHATTAN QUICKSTEPS
TO A FRENZIED SWING
YOU HEAR IT START 'N' SOON
YOUR HEART'LL SING
OH MY GOD, LOOK AT THIS SWANKY RING!

YES! THE ROCK'S A PRETTY FAKE
SO MAYBE IT'S NOT A FORTY-CARAT SOLITAIRE
BUT NEVERTHELESS
THINK OF THE SPLASH YOU'LL MAKE!
I KNOW HE AIN'T GOT NO DOUGH SO, NO SIR, I DON'T CARE
THIS IS THE CAT'S MIAOW
THE WAY I'M FEELIN' NOW

IS MAKIN' ME QUIVER AT THE KNEES
HEY, NEW YORK! C'MON, SAY CHEESE!

Frank. That's his name. He calls me Lizzie, which I kinda like. He saw me with this Simplex and asked me to take his picture. Must've taken a million of him by now. Frank says my shots are good enough to be professional. You know what? I might try sellin' some to the magazines, at that. Why not? Dizzy Lizzie, Ace Photographer, that's me!

WHO I WAS
I THOUGHT I COULDN'T TELL
BUT FINDIN' HIM
I FOUND MYSELF AS WELL
MANHATTAN SMILES
ON WHO YOU WANNA BE
SO HEY, NEW YORK!
COME ON AND SMILE FOR ME

HEY HEY HEY

HEY, NEW YORK! LOOK AT ME!
HEY, NEW YORK! I'M READY, I'M STRONG!
HEY, NEW YORK! BRING IT ON!
FINALLY, I'M WHERE I BELONG,

HEY!