

Audition Extract 7. ELIZABETH & BERTIE

*ELIZABETH enters. BERTIE is devastated.*

ELIZABETH Bertie . . .

BERTIE I don't want to loose you.

ELIZABETH How could you possibly?

BERTIE By becoming what we both dread most.

ELIZABETH Dear, dear, man, I refused your first two marriage proposals because, as much as I loved you, I couldn't abide the thought of living in the Royal gilded cage. Then I realized . . . you stuttered so beautifully they'd leave you alone.

BERTIE I won you because I stuttered?

ELIZABETH If I must be Queen, I will try to be a good Queen. The wife of a very great King indeed. You know what you must do.