

START

CHARLIE

Sorry. You wouldn't believe what's going on in there.

NICOLA

Hey, stranger, don't I get a kiss?

He kisses her quickly.

CHARLIE

Sorry. I'm just excited. Nic, I've found the craziest solution for the factory.

NICOLA

Slow down, Charlie. You said you'd hear us out. Yeah? Like I told you on the phone, some of this is going to come as a shock, but you promised you'd listen with an open mind.

RICHARD steps up to them.

NICOLA (cont'd)

Charlie, you remember my boss Richard Bailey.

RICHARD

I was almost your boss, too. Eh, mate? Sorry about your dad. But I hope, once the dust settles, maybe you'll come back and work with us.

CHARIE answers with a blank stare.

RICHARD (cont'd)

In any event, I have to say that I am cranked on this project. Not all buildings deserve a second life, but yours is special.

CHARLIE

Second life?

NICOLA

Let the man talk, darling.

RICHARD proudly unveils the drawing on the easel.

RICHARD

Price and Son Condominiums! One, two and three bedroom loft style homes with all the amenities...

NICOLA

How exciting is that?

RICHARD

Look at the detail. It's not what you change about a building, it's what you preserve that marks a great conversion.

CHARLIE

What makes you think we're up for conversion?

NICOLA

You promised to hear the man out.

CHARLIE

Price and Son is not for sale.

NICOLA

Actually it is, unless you want to see it foreclosed.

CHARLIE

If you'd listen you'd know that I've found a solution...

NICOLA

Before you make a complete fool of yourself it's time you heard the truth. Selling the building was your father's idea. Yes, your father's idea. He approached Richard months ago.

(To Richard)

Tell him.

RICHARD

It's true. Your dad and I had several meetings.

RICHARD shrugs with embarrassment and then moves away.

NICOLA

You yourself told me that he had a plan. Remember? Well, this was it. The contracts were almost done when he passed. We can show you the papers. Richard came to me first lest you think your father doubted you could run the business. But, don't look so down. This is all good news. The deal Richard's put together will rid you of the factory, settle your family's debts and insure our future with a career-defining selling opportunity. We even get a model flat, rent free, while we're selling.

KINKY BOOTS

Nicola Sides

Side 1 of 2

CHARLIE

(Desperate)

I'm asking you to have a bit of faith...

NICOLA

Stop! Are you deaf? Your father was cashing out! You owe him nothing. The prison door is open. You're free, Charlie. All you need do is walk away.

STOP

START

CHARLIE

(Trying to fend her off)

Not now, Nic...

NICOLA

Don't even think about putting me off, Charlie.

CHARLIE

Sorry, Nic, but I'm up against a bit of a crisis here.

NICOLA

You mortgaged our flat without even discussing it with me? There I am, having me supper - alone as usual - and along comes a man to measure up the garden for the bank note.

CHARLIE

I can explain...

NICOLA

No one can ever say I didn't stand by my man. And I'll stand by you still if you give me but one reason.

DON, on his way to his machine, overhears all of this.

CHARLIE

The reason is right in front of you. Isn't saving Price and Son worth everything?

NICOLA

Where was all this passion when I was trying to make us a new life in London?

CHARLIE

London was for you.

NICOLA

For us.

CHARLIE

For you. You wanted London and I...went along.

NICOLA

Really? Well, you could have fooled me. And what about us? Was getting engaged just for me too?

CHARLIE has no answer.

NICOLA (Cont'd)

And this...Who's this rubbish for? Don't tell me it's for your father. He's probably spinning in his grave over what you've turned his factory into. So who's it for, Charlie? That fancy friend of yours? Doin' special favors for him? Something going on there I should know about?

CHARLIE

Don't be ridiculous.

NICOLA

Well how should I know who you're bunking in with? Certainly hasn't been with me.

CHARLIE

(Indicating the WORKERS)

I'm doing it for them.

NICOLA

Who?

CHARLIE

Them. Our friends. No? We grew up with these people. We've known them all our lives. And now their whole livelihood is riding on what I do.

NICOLA

So you're hankering to be a hero? Charlie to the rescue, is it? Well, how do I get Charlie to rescue me?

Silence between them.

CHARLIE

(Studying her)

You look nice; all done up.

NICOLA

Richard's put me on a new project. Big time stuff. I'm headed back to the city for good. Are you coming?

CHARLIE looks down and sees her shoes for the first time.

CHARLIE

Aren't those the shoes we saw...?

KINKY BOOTS

Nicola Sides

Side 2 of 2

NICOLA

How long was I supposed to wait?

NICOLA gives CHARLIE a kiss on the cheek and leaves.

NICOLA (Cont'd)

So long, Charlie.

STOP



Piano/Vocal

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN THE WORLD

[NICOLA AUDITION]

Music and Lyrics by
CYNDI LAUPER

Vocal Arrangement by
STEPHEN OREMUS

$\text{♩} = 87$

NICOLA:

1 To new__ be - gin - nings Hel - lo__ to

2

3 sun - ny days__ We're up - ward mo - bile__ now Good - bye__ to small - town ways 'Til it's im -

4 5

6 pos - si - ble to find__ a trace of what we left be - hind. And the de - fin - ing el - e - ment is in these

7 8

9 shoes. The most beau - ti - ful thing in the world_____ The most

A⁶ E A

11 beau - ti - ful thing_ in the world_____ Char - lie that I know_____ I know the most

E A C#m D

13 beau - ti - ful thing in the world_____ the most beau - ti - ful thing in the world_____ Char - lie, it's

E A E A

15 beau - ti - ful,_____ it's beau - ti - ful._____ 16

C D