

FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER

Claudia and Jamie at the Train Station

Grand Central Station.

(Claudia & Jamie sit on waiting room bench. Claudia looks very disappointed. Jamie, seeing Claudia so down-hearted, is at a bit of a loss of what to say or do.)

JAMIE *(awkward, searching)*

(trying to put a positive spin on it all)

Well,...ah...at least,...at least it was a positive letter of rejection.

CLAUDIA

(not to be consoled)(upset)

That's worse.

(pause)

(Jamie is again at a loss for what to say.)

JAMIE

(finally)(trying to cheer her up)

So,...ah,...what do we do now?

(an idea)

I know. You must have some sort of a plan, right?

(pause)(no response)

(tries again)

So,...c'mon, Claude, what's the plan, huh?

(pause)(again no response)

(Jamie chances his approach, a new idea)

(more reserved)

All right,...all right, I have a plan.

(decides)

Look, we're low on funds now anyway,...and we're already right here at the train station, ...so,...ah,...maybe...

(says it)

...maybe we should just go home right now. What do you say?

CLAUDIA

(upset)(disagreeing)

Go home – now? But we haven't even got our clothes!

JAMIE

Forget the clothes. They're all gray anyhow.

CLAUDIA

And your radio! How can we face them at home? –without your radio?! With nothing! Nothing at all!

(realizing)(disheartened)

...We've accomplished nothing.

JAMIE

We accomplished having fun. Isn't that why we did this?

CLAUDIA

Maybe in the beginning.

(The disappointment and frustration of the moment starts an argument between the two of them.)

JAMIE *(frustrated)(bit annoyed)*

I don't get you. You started out this adventure by just running away. Then you decided you had to solve a mystery and be a hero.

CLAUDIA *(correcting him)*

Heroine.

JAMIE *(annoyed – at everything)*

What more is there that you want?!

CLAUDIA

(frustrated)(fast)(trying to explain)

I don't know, but I know if I could make a discovery, I'll know how to go back home!

JAMIE

I can tell you how to go back home.

CLAUDIA

How?

JAMIE *(to be funny)*

The New Haven Railroad.

(Jamie laughs at his own joke.)