

ACT I
Scene 3

(LIGHTS UP: 3 HOURS LATER
ALEJANDRO'S house in Ashland Heights,
NJ.)

(KNOCK at the door – ALEJANDRO ENTERS
in his pajamas, a bit sleepy. He CROSSES to
the door)

ALEJANDRO

Wait. I'm coming. I'm coming.

(ALEJANDRO opens the door to see FRANK
standing in the doorway and then slams it
shut on him.)

FRANK

Popi, (*pronounced Pah-pee*) please let me in. It's important. It's me Frank.

ALEJANDRO

I don't know any Frank.

FRANK

Popi, I know I deserve that but you have to hear me out. The police called me. Please let me in.

(ALEJANDRO opens the door.)

ALEJANDRO

What did you do to get involved with the police? No son of mine would ever get arrested.

FRANK

Popi, I know I haven't been the best son, but there's something important I have to tell you. May I come in?

(ALEJANDRO motions for FRANK to step
inside.)

ALEJANDRO

Come.

FRANK

Best we sit down.

(ALEJANDRO and FRANK SIT on the sofa)

FRANK

About 9 o'clock tonight I got a call to go down to the police station. They wouldn't tell me anything ... just that it was urgent. (*Choking up*). When I got there they took me to a room to identify

ALEJANDRO

Frankie, what are you trying to tell me?

FRANK

Momi (*pronounced mah-me*) had a heart attack while she was playing the piano at a church tonight. (*beat*) Popi, she's gone.

ALEJANDRO

Gone? (*beat*) No, I don't believe it. Church? What church? Why'd they call you and not me?

FRANK

Your phone is unlisted but the lady at the church had mine ... that's what she gave to the police.

ALEJANDRO

(*tearing up*)

We've got to go back there, Frankie. I have to see my Carmela.

FRANK

No, Popi. She's not there anymore. I've already made all the arrangements according to her wishes.

ALEJANDRO

Wishes? What wishes? That's my job.

FRANK

Popi. She's being moved to the funeral home right now. Father Lopez will be there in the morning to say to the opening prayers. He asked us to be there at 8 o'clock.

ALEJANDRO

(*Overcome with grief crying and pacing.*)

I told her to go to the doctor. She wasn't breathing right but she said it was just a cold and that I should go to work. The bodega always came first. I should have taken her myself.

FRANK

Popi, do you want me to stay here with you tonight?

ALEJANDRO

No, Frankie. Go home to Ariana. Tonight, she'll definitely need her father!

(FRANK rises and hugs ALEJANDRO, then heads for the door.)

ALEJANDRO

Thank you, Frankie. Looks like you are finally taking care of your mother after all.

FRANK

I always thought there would be more time. I was wrong. Can you ever forgive me?

ALEJANDRO

You're my son. What else can I do?

(FRANK nods his head then EXITS.
ALEJANDRO CLOSES the door. CROSSES to
table and picks up a picture of NONA, then
starts to sing.)

ALEJANDRO (SINGING)
OUT OF THE BLUE

OUT OF THE BLUE, SO TENDERLY
I NEVER KNEW GOD CARED FOR ME
TILL I LOOKED IN YOUR EYES AND I REALIZED
YOU WERE LOVE, PRECIOUS LOVE

OUT OF THE BLUE, YOU MADE ME LAUGH
PROVING YOU WERE MY LIGHTER HALF
EVERY MORNING YOU'D SAY AS I WALKED AWAY
"LOVE YOU BABE", "LOVE YOU BABE"

CHORUS: EVERYDAY, I GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE GAME
IN THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS
DISTRACTIONS FROM OUR LOVE

NOW I KNOW WHY TIME IS CALLED A GIFT
IT IS FLEETING YET FOREVER
EACH MOMENT IS THE PRESENT

OUT OF THE BLUE YOU TOOK MY HAND
IN THAT INSTANT, YOU HELPED ME UNDERSTAND
THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE
WHEN THERE'E LOVE TO EMBRACE
NOT A TRACE

CHORUS: EVERYDAY, I GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE GAME
IN THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS
DISTRACTIONS FROM OUR LOVE

NO I KNOW WHY TIME IS CALLED A GIFT
IT IS FLEETING YET FOREVER
EACH MOMENT IS THE PRESENT

OUT OF THE BLUE YOUR EYES LOST THEIR LIGHT
IN A FLASH YOU WERE GONE INTO THE NIGHT
I CAN STILL HEAR YOU SAY, "I LOVE YOU BABE"
OUT OF THE BLUE

(LIGHTS FADE. End of Scene)