

# Audition Side - CHARLES

## Start

*(CHARLES rushes on.)*

**CHARLES:** Lydia! We have to go home.

**LYDIA:** I don't have a home.

**CHARLES:** Look, I know things have been difficult—

**LYDIA:** She was my whole world! And she left us. And you won't even say her name.

**CHARLES:** *(erupting)* BECAUSE IT HURTS TOO MUCH!

**(CHARLES):** *(and then... a confession)* She was my world too, Lydia. That's why I've been trying so hard to build a new one.

**LYDIA:** But Dad, there's no one in it. We left each other behind. We're all alone.

**CHARLES:** (*stunned*) You're right... You know your mother knew this was going to happen. I mean, not *this*. I don't think anyone could have predicted this. But a few nights before she... before the end... Emily took my hand and she said, "I know you want to fix it... but we just have to hold onto each other and live through it." I thought she was talking about us... (*meaning CHARLES and EMILY*)

**(CHARLES)**

.. I think she was talking about..

(*He gestures to LYDIA.*)

us.

**End**