

FLORA 2

FLORA, THE RED MENACE

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CHARLOTTE. Good. Then I'll just come on over and help.  
 HARRY. Oh no no no no no — you don't have to do th-that.  
 CHARLOTTE. No no no no — it's my treat.  
 HARRY. Honestly.  
 CHARLOTTE. Honestly. Just give me a couple of hours to take care of a few things and I'll see you later.  
 HARRY. Uh-I-um-ah-ah-I  
 CHARLOTTE. Harry, you don't have to walk me to the subway.  
 FLORA. (*Re-entering.*) That's right, Harry — she's a big girl.  
 CHARLOTTE. That's right Harry — I'm a big girl. (*She exits.*)  
 FLORA. I don't trust that woman.  
 HARRY. She's very committed.  
 FLORA. She ought to BE committed.  
 HARRY. To the cause.  
 FLORA. Cause?! She's a piranha — and she's after you.  
 HARRY. Aw — F-Flora — (*changing the subject.*) You're s-still planning to pose tomorrow for m-me with the others?  
 FLORA. Yes. With a sickle in one hand and Charlotte's head in the other — and DON'T change the subject.  
 HARRY. F-Flora — I have to go.  
 FLORA. Go! Harry, you just got here! I thought we were celebrating Valentine's Day.  
 HARRY. I still have to p-p-practice my speech.  
 FLORA. Harry —  
 HARRY. I was painting banners all day at the party office with Charlotte and I d-didn't — get a chance to — I'm . . . I'm sorry. (*He gives her a small daisy.*) Happy Valentine's Day. (*He leaves.*)  
 FLORA. (*She looks at the flower and then calls out after him.*) That's right, Harry. You don't want to disappoint Comrade Charlotte.

START →

[MUSIC #11 DEAR LOVE]

11B

FLORA. Comrade Charlotte. Well, Harry. It's time you knew the absolute truth. I cannot STAND Comrade Charlotte. Charlotte. Charlotte. CHARLOTTE! CHARLOTTE! CHARLOTTE! CHARLOTTE! Do you know what "Charlotte" rhymes with, Harry? HARLOT! Talk about your masses. THERE is a mass for you. What were you and Comrade Charlotte just talking about, Harry? Rights? People's rights? How everybody's got rights? You've got rights. She's got rights. We've

all got rights. Well, Harry. I've got news for you. This is Valentine's Day. I've got rights, too!

~~FLORA  
DEAR LOVE  
WILL YOU SAY BE MY VALENTINE?  
DEAR LOVE  
ARE YOU MAYBE MY VALENTINE?  
THIS DAY COULD FOREVER BE WRITTEN ON THIS  
HEART OF MINE  
IF THIS DAY I AM YOUR VALENTINE~~

I know. I'll go over to his apartment. It's February 14th. It's Valentine's Day. It's also HIGH time! *(She grabs her coat and the box of candy.)* You want to F-F-F-oxtro Harry? I'll show you how to Foxtrot.

end

~~DO YOU KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ON THE VERY  
FIRST DAY OF MAY, HARRY  
WHEN YOU ARE GETTING READY TO MARCH IN  
YOUR PARADE  
YOU KNOW, EXCITED AND HAPPY AND WARM  
ALL OVER, HARRY  
WELL, THE WAY THAT YOU FEEL ON THE FIRST  
DAY OF MAY  
IS THE WAY YOU COULD FEEL ON THIS  
FOURTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY  
I MEAN HAPPY, VERY~~

*(She exits. Street lamps come on and we are now outside.)*

CHORUS.  
DEAR LOVE  
WILL YOU SAY BE MY VALENTINE?  
DEAR LOVE  
ARE YOU MAYBE MY VALENTINE?  
THESE EYES COULD BE LIT WITH A NEW AND  
TRULY DAZZLING SHINE  
IF YOU'D SAY I AM YOUR VALENTINE

FLORA.  
IF THAT ROOM UP THERE WERE MINE  
I'D BOLT THE DOOR AND ONLY ALLOW MY  
HARRY IN