

The lights come up on the porch. Maggie is sitting in the swing. There is a bottle of vodka on a table next to her. The Preacher comes out to join her.

THE PREACHER

Here you are.

MAGGIE

Hey.

THE PREACHER

Couldn't sleep?

MAGGIE

No. It was so hot I thought I'd come out here and try to cool off.

THE PREACHER

Well, I just wanted to check on you.

(Seeing the bottle of vodka.)

Is everything okay?

MAGGIE

Don't worry. I'm just lookin' at it.

THE PREACHER

Where'd you get it?

MAGGIE

Oh, I have stashes hidden all over the place. You can pour it out if you want to.

THE PREACHER

No. That's gotta be up to you. Not me. I'll go back in now. Just let you be.

The Preacher starts to leave.

MAGGIE

Hey, Preacher. Do you really think it's possible to wash all your sins away in the tide?

THE PREACHER

Well, I used to think so, but now... I don't really know anymore.

MAGGIE

I wish I could wash all my sins away. All my problems away. I just finished dryin' out, and yet I still want a drink. I'm not goin' to, but I really want one.

THE PREACHER

It's okay. I used to want one every minute, and now it's about every ten minutes. Don't worry it'll pass. I'm here for you.

MAGGIE

You never did tell me why you started drinkin'.

THE PREACHER

I love God and I love sin. Sometimes it's a real hard combination to live with.

(Pause.)

Do you want me to try to wash your sins away?

MAGGIE

(Caught off guard.)

I don't know. It didn't really work the first time I did it. Although, you know, I have absolutely no recollection of ever being saved. Maybe I never was. Maybe that's why I've been drownin' all these years.

THE PREACHER

Well, how about now. It's never too late.

MAGGIE

Do you really think... Oh shit, what are we doin'?

THE PREACHER

It can't hurt anything.

MAGGIE

No, I guess not. But I have no idea in the world where we're gonna do it. The bathtub's not big enough, and the closest lake's about five miles from here.

THE PREACHER

(Picking up the bottle of
vodka.)

This'll work. If Jesus can turn the water into wine, why
can't we turn the vodka into water?

MAGGIE

(Laughing.)

Have you been drinkin' tonight?

THE PREACHER

Come here.

Maggie goes over to the Preacher.
He takes her with one hand and
raises the bottle with the other
one.

THE PREACHER

Dear Lord, I present this woman to you tonight to be saved.
Truly saved this time. Please let this... water wash away her
sins... her problems, instead of causing more. Let her find
peace. Be born again an innocent child of yours. I ask in the
name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen.

MAGGIE

Please let this work.

The Preacher begins pouring the
vodka on Maggie as the lights fade.