SAM

Yes?

LILA

May I talk to you?

SAM

Sure...

LILA

I'm Mary's sister.

SAM

Lila.

LILA

Is Mary here?

SAM

Is something wrong?

LILA

I want to know if my sister is here.

SAM

Here?

LILA

With you.

SAM

Where?

LILA

I don't know where. In your store, somewhere in your town... anywhere.

SAM

What's the matter?

LILA

Don't you know?

SAM

What should I know?

LILA

To begin with, where Mary is. Do you?

SAM

No. I take it you don't either? How long?

LILA

Last Friday. She left work, and home... I was in Tucson over the

LILA (cont)

weekend... I haven't heard from her, not even a phone call.

SAM

And you thought she'd come up here, to me? If she had, what reason would she have for not calling you?

LILA

A good reason, I suppose.

SAM

(Slightly exasperated)
Well what do you think, we eloped or something? Or we're living in sin and...

LILA

Mr. Loomis, you're so busy being defensive that you haven't even reacted to the most serious fact of all. Mary is missing.

SAM

I was getting to that!

LILA

What do you know about it?

SAM

Nothing! You're putting me on the defensive.

LILA

Look, if you two are in this thing together, I don't care, it's none of my business... But I want to see Mary. I want her to tell me she's all right and it's none of my business. Then I'll go back to Phoenix and...

SAM

What thing?

LILA

Huh?

SAM

What thing could we be in together?