

Scene V

Sophia and Svetlana in the metro. They talk. They do not know each other.

SVETLANA (*on the phone*): Whatever you say, love. I know, we'll manage. I'll let you go now.

SOPHIA: Their sweet talk all sounds the same.

SVETLANA: He means it.

SOPHIA: You're lucky. How long?

SVETLANA: Almost two years.

SOPHIA: I don't usually do this ...

SVETLANA: It's OK. It's nice to talk to someone.

SOPHIA: Two years and you still love each other?

SVETLANA: Is that a long time? I've been here three years, and no one's spoken to me on the metro before.

SOPHIA: I usually just stare straight ahead in silence, like everyone else. Sometimes I read. To not attract trouble. That's how I was raised. You know?

SVETLANA: I do.

SOPHIA: You have a funny accent. Where are you coming from?

SVETLANA: I'm Ukrainian.

SOPHIA: Gogol?... Klitschko?⁵... Kidding ...

SVETLANA: You're good. Most people say Chernobyl.

SOPHIA: What about him, the man on the phone?

SVETLANA: Syrian. His name is Omar.

SOPHIA: Nice. And you're getting along? I don't mean to intrude ... love is just fascinating. Is there

⁵ Famous Ukrainian boxer.

