

## Version 1

MAMA: I can't believe you. I'm ashamed in you, Son. Your father worked so hard and you gave it all away in one day. What were you thinking? You are a shame to our family and your father's legacy.

## Version 2

MAMA: I seen your father night after night. He would come in and look at that rug and then look at me. The red was showing in his eyes and you could see the veins moving in his head. I seen him grow thin and old before he was forty. Working and working and working like somebody's old horse. He was killing himself. And you give it all away in a day—Oh, God . . . Look down here and show me the strength.

*Curtain.*

# Original

MAMA: I seen . . . him . . . night after night . . . come in and look at that rug . . . and then look at me . . . the red showing in his eyes seen him . . . the veins moving in his head . . . I seen him grow thin and old before he was forty . . . Working and working and working like somebody's old horse . . . killing himself . . . and you . . . you give it all away in a day—(*She raises her arms to strike him again*)

BENEATHA: Mama—

MAMA: Oh, God . . . (*She looks up to Him*) Look down here—and show me the strength.

BENEATHA: Mama—

MAMA: (*Folding over*) Strength . . .

BENEATHA. (*Plaintively*) Mama . . .

MAMA: Strength!

*Curtain.* (129–130)

Hansberry, L. (1994) *A Raisin in the Sun*. Vintage. (Original work published 1959)

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