

FRANCIS (White female, 65+, Supporting Role): A loving friendly woman who has lived and worked on a farm her whole life. Charlie's Great Aunt.

EXT. FARM HOUSE - DAY

Francis sees Charlie and Louie walking up her driveway one late afternoon.

FRANCIS
Good evening.

CHARLIE
Good evening. I am looking for The Hollyhock House? Route 7 Box 246?

FRANCIS
(slowly)
The Hollyhock House... 246 is my address...

LOUIE
I'm Louis Traxler. This here is Miss Charlie Clark.

CHARLIE
We were trying to understand how this address might have come to be listed here...

Charlie hands Francis the photocopy. Francis doesn't look at it but scrutinizes Charlie

CHARLIE
...on this record that was recorded a long time ago.

FRANCIS
(absently)
A little girl named Charlie...

CHARLIE
Huh?

FRANCIS
If you didn't turn out just like your momma, though. Now, honey, you won't remember me but I know you. You are Charles's little girl.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLIE
Charles Clark?

FRANCIS
Why sure! That would make me your
Great Aunt Francis.

(a beat)

FRANCIS
Come into the kitchen. It's been a
while since I had family come by.
Well, my boys check on me but they
aren't much for visiting.

CHARLIE
Did my dad live here?

FRANCIS
He did some. In the summers. He
used this address for his mail
orders. Guess the mail didn't run
too good up where he was in the
Ozarks.

(a beat)

FRANCIS
Are ya'll hungry. I've got some
beans on. I can sure whip up some
cornbread.

CHARLIE
Thank you, but I'm not hungry.

FRANCIS
Well, you know. You eat to keep
from getting hungry.

(a beat)

FRANCIS
Your daddy used to come down every
summer and help his uncle out in
the fields. He carried that old
guitar everywhere. Henry, that was
my husband, told him he was gonna
ruin it dragging it out here in the
dust. But Charles! He used to sit
on the back porch and sing and
sing. Pretty as bird! That was
before we got the indoor plumbing.
When we still had the hand-pumps in
here.

(CONTINUED)

Charlie wanders to the back door.

FRANCIS

You should really take a look at my
petunias out there. They love this
hot weather. As long as I keep 'em
watered!

LOUIE

I didn't know Charlie had relatives
out here, Ms. Francis.

FRANCIS

Everybody's got kin, child. Have a
seat!

END SCENE