

SCENE SEVEN

CHARWOMAN

Look here, Old Joe, here's a chance! If we haven't all three met here without meaning it!

OLD JOE

You couldn't have met at a better place. We're all well-matched.

CHARWOMAN

Let me be first, Mrs. Dilber second, and the undertaker third. Every person has a right to take care of themselves. He always did.

MRS. DILBER

That's true, indeed! No man more so.

CHARWOMAN

Why then, don't stand staring as if you was afraid, woman; who's the wiser? We're not going to pick holes in each other's coats, I suppose?

MRS. DILBER

No, indeed!

UNDERTAKER

I should hope not.

CHARWOMAN

Very well, then! Who's the worse for the loss of a few things like these? Not a dead man I suppose?

MRS. DILBER

No, indeed.

CHARWOMAN

If he wanted to keep them after he was dead, wicked old screw, why wasn't he natural in his lifetime? If he had been, he'd have had somebody to look after him when he was struck with Death, instead of lying gasping out his last there, alone by himself.

MRS. DILBER

It's the truest word that ever was spoke. It's a judgment on him.

CHARWOMAN