

***As Small as Stars* by Will Murdock**

MARY and GEORGE

MARY

I did not mean to make fun.

GEORGE

It's not right, Mary, a shadow is supposed to stay in its place.

MARY

Now who's changed his tune?

GEORGE

My tune has not changed, my tune has...

MARY

Yes?

GEORGE

... Moved. Just like my shadow.

(He goes about his wild movements.)

MARY

George, please. You'll throw something out of joint.

GEORGE

I must catch him at it again. I fear he is trying to break away— that he might come back and take my place.

MARY

Please, get a hold of yourself. What will they think at work?

GEORGE

I intend to end this now. No shadow of mine is going to gallivant off in another direction without express written permission.

MARY

Oh, yes, George. Will you put him in time out?

GEORGE

It works for Michael.

MARY

George. I think you should lie down.

GEORGE

I will not lie down! I will not. Do not tell me I am dreaming Mary. I know what I saw.

(MARY visibly bristles.)

MARY

(Deliberately.)

I know what you think you saw.

GEORGE

Do not. Do not be unkind, Mary. My shadow is coming undone. And if it is not... then I am coming undone.

(GEORGE crumples to the floor.)

MARY

Oh, George.

(She slowly walks to him and kneels beside.)

If you've come undone, I'll stitch you back together. If your shadow tries to run, we'll nail him to the floor.

GEORGE

I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I should not be this way. I know I should not be.

MARY

You can be any way you need.

GEORGE

But you should not have to see me this way.

MARY

(She grabs his cheeks and makes him look at her.)

I've been waiting to see you this way for a long, long time.