

TRACY

Got it.

(huff, puff)

I'm trying to keep up!

(huff, puff)

POSITIVE

Don't try so hard Just hold on to my rope and you'll feel my strength. We'll get to your treasure in no time!

NEGATIVE sees TRACY gaining strength and pushes IN-BETWEEN in for the distraction. IN-BETWEEN is very sleazy and a double-minded double-talker.

IN-BETWEEN

Wow, doing great there, Trace. What's with the scratchy rope? Don't you think you might be able to do this on your own now? I mean, is she really so amazing that you can't do this without her? I saw her just let that big bully over there--

(points to NEGATIVE)

--stop you right in your tracks. I don't know, but it seems to me, she hasn't really been there for you and you *could* do this yourself...

TRACY

Yeah. Huh. I'm experienced now. Maybe I *can* do it myself.

IN-BETWEEN

Well, *nothing* is ever a sure thing, but I can't help *wondering* if the treasure *might* actually be bigger if you didn't have to share it with old What's-Her-Smile.

TRACY

Her attitude does seem kind of too good to be true...

TRACY starts to follow IN-BETWEEN's motions up and down as they continue on the hike.

IN-BETWEEN

(hiking with knees bending)

Which usually means it is....

(hiking on toes)

And maybe you'll get all the credit if you just prove you can do this by yourself...

(hiking with knees bending)

I mean, I don't *know* if you could, but it's possible, I suppose...

(hiking on toes)

TRACY

(stops their hiking)

I can see the headlines now! Tracy Trekker Takes Treasure Totally On Her Own! Yeah...

Okay, I got this! Feelin' pretty good right now. I think I can do it without the rope...

As TRACY lets go of the rope, IN-BETWEEN double-talks her, going from side to side and all around her, trying to get her very confused.

IN-BETWEEN

(hiking on toes)

Nice! I like the glory grabbing.

(hiking with knees bending)

Not sure if I like the shoes or hair...

(up)

But I do like the independent spirit!

(down)

Of course, you could get lonely.

(up)

But then again, you get to pick how everything goes when you're not beholden to some stronger power...Hmm...

(chuckling)

I wonder if she actually *did* know just the way to go and you're totally blowing it right now by not depending on her.

(down)

On the other hand, there's no physical proof that the treasure is real anyway...

(up)

Although, I suppose it could be really priceless...

(down)

But I doubt it...

(middle)

But then why do other people want it?

(down)

Or maybe it's just something for your next garage sale....

(middle)

But then again...

By the end of his speech, TRACY is leaning over, out of breath, hands on her knees, exhausted from reacting to his double-minded-ness.

TRACY

Dude! Make up your mind! Why do I even MESS with you? I'm more worn out juggling all these what-ifs than I was climbing up the mountain! I feel like I can't move at all!

(looking around in a panic)

Which doesn't really matter anyway... because now.....I'm LOST!

NEGATIVE joins IN-BETWEEN

NEGATIVE AND IN-BETWEEN

(smugly)

And that's just the way we like it.

TRACY

Help!

POSITIVE

(turning quickly back in to the scene, smiling)

That's all I need to hear!

POSITIVE throws TRACY the end of the rope. TRACY grabs a hold of it.

POSITIVE

It's on to the High Treasure! And.....ready! And trust!..... And don't forget to pray!

TRACY is holding the rope and happily marching behind POSITIVE across stage and back out through the audience.