

MAYOR, YOUNG JIMMY RAY, STANFORD

JIMMY RAY

There's a whole world outside Zebulon. I want to get to know it.

MAYOR

Who are you getting this from? Where's that book you were reading?

JIMMY RAY

I gave it away.

MAYOR

Good. Let the Jazz Age infect someone else.

STANFORD

Mayor, the Conklins.

JIMMY RAY

The Conklins? In Charlotte? What about them?

MAYOR

They've got a beautiful daughter. Ola.

STANFORD

Well, a daughter with resources.

JIMMY RAY

Stanford, what exactly isn't your business?

MAYOR

The Conklins are a family with produce trucks that drive across this state, and we are the second biggest purveyors of produce for three hundred miles.

JIMMY RAY

You want me to marry someone for her trucks?

MAYOR

That's an equation they don't teach in college.

JIMMY RAY

Where's the romance in that?

(The MAYOR looks over at STANFORD.)

MAYOR

Romance?

STANFORD

(snide)

I have no comment.

JIMMY RAY

(to Stanford)

No comment? What do you think that was?

MAYOR

Just have lunch with her.

JIMMY RAY

I couldn't do that. I know their daughter. She's a dumbbell.

MAYOR

Doesn't have to be her. The Wilsons in Winston-Salem have a daughter and a very active horse farm.

JIMMY RAY

I've met her. She is indistinguishable from the horses.

MAYOR

How about Naomi Weiss? The daughter of tobacco. And she plays the banjo.

(then)

All right, I know.

JIMMY RAY

Daddy, I couldn't carry on a conversation with any of them.

MAYOR

You don't have to carry on a conversation. You ever seen me carry on a conversation with your mother?

STANFORD

It's not necessary.

JIMMY RAY

And that is a tragedy.

MAYOR

Son, the way it works is the business is handed down, and we marry conveniently. In order to live well.

#7 A MAN'S GOTTA DO