

ROSE. It isn't proper for us to speak before we've been spoken to. You never tried before. Some people say, "A rose is a rose is a rose," but we rather prefer *goo-si* gossip.

TIGER LILY. Until they stick you with a thorn when you're not looking. It's called backbiting. Very unpleasant behavior.

ROSE. Her face has got some sense, but it isn't a clever one.

TIGER LILY. See what I mean. Truth is, if that girl's petals curled up a bit more, she'd be more *beauteous* than the day.

ALICIA. I don't have petals.

ROSE. How is she supposed to care for her petals if she doesn't know she has them? The inattention to detail.

ALICIA. If you don't hold your tongues, I'll pick you.

ROSE. She isn't very good at making friends.

ALICIA. I'm very good at making friends. *En el mundo mío.*

TIGER LILY. And defensive.

ALICIA. I've been in many gardens before and none of the flowers could talk. I've never thought of the possibility that—

TIGER LILY. It is my floral opinion that you never think.

ALICIA. I always made the false assumption that flowers were rather sweet. *Ya me voy.*

(ALICIA walks off.)

ROSE. Don't try that mushroom. He can't talk!

(ALICIA approaches the mushroom.)

ALICIA. Oh, Mr. Mushroom, are you sweeter than a rose, which is not that sweet, more *beauteous* than a Tiger Lily that wilts when you see her true self? Are you?