

Mollie Malloy appears in doorway. She moves slowly into the room.

MCCUE

Well, well -- Miss Mollie Malloy.

MURPHY

Hello, Mollie.

WILSON

How's tricks, Mollie?

MOLLIE

I've been lookin' for you tramps.

ENDICOTT

Kid, those were pretty roses you sent Earl. What do you want done with them tomorrow morning?

MOLLIE

(tensely)

A lot of wise guys, ain't you?

SCHWARTZ

(uncomfortably)

You're breaking up the game, Mollie.
What do you want?

MOLLIE

I want to tell you what I think of
you -- all of you.

Hildy appears in the doorway and comes into the room.

MURPHY

Keep your shirt on.

MOLLIE

(to Murphy)

If you was worth breaking my fingers
on, I'd tear your face wide open.

Hildy goes to desk and begins typing away.

MURPHY

What are you sore about, sweetheart?
Wasn't that a swell story we gave
you?

MOLLIE

You crumbs have been making a fool
out of me long enough!

BENSINGER

(rising and coming
over)

She oughtn't be allowed in here!

MOLLIE

(flaring)

I never said I loved Earl Williams
and was willing to marry him on the
gallows! You made that up! And about
my being his soul-mate and having a
love-nest with him.

ENDICOTT

You've been sucking around that cuckoo
ever since he's been in the death-
house. Everybody knows you're his
sweetheart.

She blows up.

MOLLIE

That's a lie! I met Mr. Williams
just once in my life when he was
wandering around in the rain without
his hat and coat on, like a sick
dog, the day before the shooting. I
went up to him like any human being
would and I asked him what was the
matter, and he told me about being
fired after working at the same place
for fourteen years, and I brought
him up to my room because it was
warm there.

She is typing away, stops to look over at Mollie, then
resolutely turns away, studies her stuff, and begins typing
again.

MURPHY

Aw, put it on a phonograph!

MOLLIE

Just because you want to fill your lying paper with a lot of dirty scandal, you got to crucify him and make a stooge out of me!

ENDICOTT

(to Mollie)

Got a match?

MOLLIE

(heedless)

I tell you he just sat there talking to me -- all night. And never once laid a hand on me. In the morning he went away, and I never saw him again till that day at the trial!

The boys laugh.

She lashes out at them.

MOLLIE

Go on, laugh! I'd like to know some curses bad enough for your greasy souls! Sure, I was his witness -- the only one he had. Yes -- me -- cheap little Mollie Malloy! I'm everything the District Attorney said I was. And still I was the only one with guts enough to stand up for him! I told the truth and the District Attorney knows it! That's why you're persecutin' me! Because Earl Williams treated me decent and not like an animal -- and I said so!

MURPHY

(finally irritated)

Go into your dance! This is the Press Room. We're busy.

WILSON

Why don't you go and see your boyfriend?

ENDICOTT

(winks at the others)

But you'll have to hurry up -- he
left a call for seven A.M.

MOLLIE

(through her teeth)

It's a wonder a bolt of lightning
don't come down and strike you all
dead!

From o.s. comes sound of the gallows. Mollie gasps.

ENDICOTT

(suddenly uncomfortable)

Don't get hysterical, kid.

MOLLIE

(begins to sob)

Shame on you!

MOLLIE

(hysterically)

A poor little fellow that never meant
nobody no harm! Sitting there alone
this minute with the Angel of Death
beside him, and you cracking jokes!

MURPHY

If you don't shut up, we'll give you
something to cry about!

Hildy looks o.s. and rises determinedly.

MEDIUM SHOT - MOLLIE BACKING AWAY FROM MURPHY

She is still sobbing. Hildy comes into scene and puts her
arm around Mollie.

HILDY

(gently)

Come on, Mollie. This is no place
for you.

(she leads Mollie
toward door)

MOLLIE

They're not human!