

IRINA

I said stop it.
The truth is a funny thing.

BARON

Of course.
Of course.
Okay.

*Baron exits.
Solyony enters.*

SOLYONY

I'm going to tell you something.

IRINA

I wish you would.

SOLYONY

But first, you tell me something.
And then I'll tell you something.
And then we'll pretend that nothing ever happened.

IRINA

Okay.
Okay.
When the Baron proposed to me...
Well?
I thought, and decided,
In the bath.
Well... He's a good man.
Not amazing, but good.
And suddenly my wings grew in the shower
I became more cheerful
I wanted to work.
And then I thought
What trifles. What trivial things.
What stupid things sometimes acquire value in life
Suddenly for no reason at all.
You still laugh at them, you know it's all nonsense
And yet you go and feel that you have no strength to stop
How do I stop/

You simply stop/

I'm going to Moscow/

Now I'm going to tell you something/

Solyony, I have to go to Moscow/

Moscow doesn't exist.
I'm not saying it didn't exist.
It was real.
But Moscow was washed from the Earth.
Anyone who says they can take you back is lying.
Here is the map that's proof
But this isn't a map to Moscow
It's a map of your memory.
It's a map of a myth.
And if you keep your face buried in this sheet of yellowing paper
When they take you there, when they take you away from me,
You will look up and nothing will appear as you think it should.
It will be unrecognizable.
And it will crack your heart because your heart will say Moscow/

Moscow/

Isn't this Moscow/

This should be Moscow/

Who made that map?
Did they see the thing you saw?
When you see what is really there, it will be different
More than different
It will be insignificant
It will be small
It will be the ocean turned to sand
The woods turned to stone
Your skin will crawl and turn numb
Because the thing you wish and where you will be will not be the same.

SOLYONY

IRINA

SOLYONY

IRINA

SOLYONY

IRINA

SOLYONY

IRINA

SOLYONY

Moscow
What is Moscow

IRINA/SOLYONY

SOLYONY

It's somewhere else.

IRINA

But I can't stay here.

SOLYONY

So don't stay here.
Just don't go with the Baron.
Come with me.
This morning,
When I woke up?
I saw a lot of light.
And the smallest things around me became enormous
For no reason.
I ran through the woods –
I passed my hands across the scorched bark of the birches
As the few leaves left broke away in the wind
And turned to dust beneath my feet
None of it matters
But it felt, important.
I felt, I feel –
Alive.
It's full.
It's all full.

I've loved you for so long.

IRINA

Stop.

SOLYONY

I can't get used to everything

IRINA

I don't want to play anymore.

SOLYONY

Come with me and we'll go someplace unknowable
Someplace that hasn't been named yet
The world is so big
There are so many people
And none of us have very much time.