## Listening Guide- Our Town-Episode 3

## "The Stars, the Little Moments, Life and Death"

1.	The religious aspect of this is really not the purpose for its inclusion in this
	play at all.
2.	Using the word "provinces" reminds us that this is a word; it's not just
	about this particular place.
3.	They appear to be as as anyone could every find in this part of the
	country in this time period.
4.	This is about the process of being more than it is about accomplishment
	and all that kind of stuff.
5.	From a social science perspective, it's not just the and their lives in Grover's
	Corner that are downplayed, even the social problems of the community are generic.
6.	The act starts with what the stage manager calls an ",",
	and of course he plays the role of the minister.
7.	This again was Wilder pointing out the of the cycles of life and the
	human experience.
8.	We're with these parallel discussions; and there's a bunch of them. There's
	George and Mr. Webb and Emily. There's dialogue that would never actually happen.
9.	And then she says the last words she'll ever say as a living person, "And I mean
	Do you hear, forever and ever."
10.	On the first row is Mrs. Gibbs, Simon Stinson, the drunk choir director and an
	empty
11.	Lugubrious means exactly what it should mean: and dismal, more sad, more dismal.
12.	"Wherever you come near the human race, there's layers and layers of"
13.	In Act 2, the stage manager is playing the role of a; we've last seen
	him preaching in the church.
14.	"We all know that something is eternal and it ain't houses and it ain't names and it ain't
	earth and it ain't even the stars. Everybody knows in their bones that something is
	, and that something has to do with human beings."

15. Instead of seeing time as like we've been seeing the other two acts; now
we're looking at it linearly.
16. Look at the characters; we can see that life isn't The Webb's have lost
both of their children; Mr. Gibbs has lost his wife; Simon killed himself.
17. "One should live as if one had already passed through death and already knew the
enormous in his fleetingness of life, and had living the stoic wisdom
that perhaps the dead have before the spectacle of the living."
18. The stage directions say that is not to be dressed as a grown
woman, anymore, but she's dressed as a little girl.
19. Emily wants to go back to to live again; and everyone says, "Don't
do it! Don't do it."
20. "It is an attempt to find a above all price for the smallest events in our daily lives."
21. She notices that no one else in the room is the things she's noticing. Her
mother's in a hurry.
22. They are all looking up at the, all the dead people in the cemetery,
and we're going to end with the most basic of all archetypes.
23. The protagonist is the; this is a story about the town, not any one single individual
24. He's created a story in a very fairly egalitarian, middle-of-the-road kind of
about what he means when he says, "living in the moment."
25. People go through life thinking that success, however you define success, will bring you
, and we want happiness.
26. Happiness,, power do not correlate in Wilder's calculus in any way;
they don't have anything to do with each other.
27. Happiness is and has always been in existence, and that's why
these characters look at the stars and the moon.
28. He makes a claim that the value in life is far beyond; it's in the
breathing and the quiet, in the peace of ordinary moments.
29. He had been there for many years serving the congregation and he received a call to go
to a much larger Baptist church in; he accepted the call.
30. Finally, his breaks down and says, "I cannot bear to leave. How could we go?"