

"Lost in the Stars" Act I; Scene 12

(The lights come up on Stephen in his Shanty Town lodging, where he sits at a table trying to write. Msimangu enters and speaks.)

Msimangu: My friend?
It is very late.

(from page 89, Cry the Beloved Country)

Stephen: I did not know it.

Msimangu: And what have you found?

Stephen: Nothing.

Msimangu: Nothing?

Stephen: No, nothing. Only more fear and more pain. There is nothing in the world but fear and pain.

Msimangu: What is it?
(return to script)

Stephen: I must write a letter.

Msimangu: Who do you write to, my brother?

Stephen: I write to my wife in Ndotsheni. To the mother at home. O Tixo, Tixo! O God of all lost people and of those who go toward death, tell me what to say to her! How can I say this to the mother? That Absalom has done this thing! That I cannot bring him home! That he will perhaps never, never come home!

Msimangu: But my friend, you are a priest. You must ask God to help you, and he will surely help you.

Stephen: I don't know...I don't know.

(He sings "Lost in the Stars) script, p. 51