



Genie – Scene 1

**BETTY**

Hi, Carole. Hi, Mrs. K. Carole, you want to study for the history test?

**CAROLE**

I can't. I'm going into the city to sell my RAIN UNTIL SEPTEMBER song.

**GENIE**

What? 12 places turned that down—

**CAROLE**

I got a new guy to go to, Donny Kirshner.

**GENIE**

Where is Donny Kirshner's office?

**CAROLE**

1650 Broadway. Times Square.

**GENIE**

Times Square. If there were only two places on earth, Hell and Times Square, the nice people would live in Hell. That's not a proper place for a 16 year-old girl.

**CAROLE**

Betty'll come. She's 18. Combined, we're 34.

**GENIE**

It's not just Times Square. It's show business. I know how hard it is— every time they send my plays back, it's like a knife. Get your degree and be a teacher.

**CAROLE**

I don't want to do that anymore. I want to be a songwriter. Ma, when I hear a good song, I feel like someone understands me. Even if I'm all alone, it's like I've got a friend in the room. I want to do that for people.

**GENIE**

It's not practical. Girls don't write music. They teach it.

**CAROLE**

Look. AMERICAN BANDSTAND's on right now. If you feel my song isn't as good as whatever hit song they're playing, I won't go.

**GENIE**

Deal.

*They turn the TV on. They hear:*