

CHRIS

(desperate now)
Helen... Norma... Sue!

SUE

Shut up, Chris – just shut up! Not everything's about you.

CHRIS

(calls after them, enraged)
You can all go to hell!

(She storms out.)

(GARDNER crosses to CARRIE in the locker room.)

MISS GARDNER

Carrie? Oh, Carrie, if I'd had any idea it was going to turn out like this, I'd never –

CARRIE

Miss Gardner, you've got to let Chris go. You've just got to!

MISS GARDNER

What are you talking about?

CARRIE

Prom – it's very important to her.

MISS GARDNER

And what's *right* is important to me.

CARRIE

But Prom is everything to those girls.

(haltingly)

It's the one night, they all get dressed up... and they look beautiful. It's like a dream – a perfect dream.

MISS GARDNER

And what about you?

CARRIE

Me? Oh, no, I'm not going. I'm different.

MISS GARDNER

Not that different.

CARRIE

Yes, I am. They've all got someone.

MISS GARDNER

So will you. One day, you'll see. Things change.

(trying another approach)

I'll tell you what. Let's pretend –

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CARRIE

Oh, Miss Gardner –

MISS GARDNER

– just for a minute – *pretend* that the right someone comes up to you, and says, “Carrie, will you be my date for Prom?”

(A pause as CARRIE is almost caught up in the fantasy.)

Well, what would you say?

CARRIE

No.

MISS GARDNER

Carrie! Why not?

CARRIE

I’m... not pretty.

MISS GARDNER

Sure, you are.

MUSIC 10: UNSUSPECTING HEARTS

Come over here.

(taking her to a mirror)

See there, now, that’s a pretty girl.

SO MANY YEARS
YOU FACED THE WORLD ALONE
FRIGHTENED THAT LIFE MIGHT PASS YOU BY

THEN HE APPEARS
SOMEONE WHO SMILES AT YOU
THIS IS NO TIME TO QUESTION WHY

LOVE CAN FIND YOU WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT
FUNNY HOW TWO LIVES CONNECT
THAT’S HOW IT STARTS
TWO UNSUSPECTING HEARTS

LET YOURSELF GO
GIVE SOMEONE HALF A CHANCE
MAYBE HE’S WAITING JUST FOR YOU

YOU NEVER KNOW
THIS COULD BE PARADISE
MAYBE YOUR DREAMS JUST MIGHT COME TRUE

AND YOU NEVER KNOW HOW THINGS MIGHT GO
ONCE YOU SHARE THAT FIRST ‘HELLO’