

(CATHERINE)

CONSERVATIVE WITH A BUDGET
LIBERAL WITH A MEAL
JUST YOUR AVERAGE IDEAL

MY TELLING YOU THIS
MAY SEEM SUDDEN AND STRANGE
IT MAY NOT INTEREST YOU MUCH AT ALL RIGHT NOW
BUT THINGS CHANGE
THINGS CHANGE...

(As CATHERINE continues the song, she is helped by female PLAYERS who act as her back-up singers)

STILL I'LL UNDERSTAND IF I'M NOT YOUR KIND OF WOMAN
ANYONE CAN MAKE
ONE TERRIBLE MISTAKE
AND I'VE NO SPECIAL GLAMOUR
NO BAIT I CAN TWIRL
FOR I'M JUST A PLAIN, EVERYDAY
COMMONPLACE, COME WHAT MAY
AVERAGE, ORDINARY
WONDERFUL GIRL!

FEMALE BACK-UPS

AHHHHH

(SHE finishes the number with a flourish to PIPPIN. HE looks at her a moment, then lies back down on the bed.)

CATHERINE

(To the audience)

God! What a challenge! I was determined to somehow pierce that dedicated apathy. Now... I've always found that no man... no matter what his condition... can resist the charm of a growing boy. So, I sent my son Theo to him...

(THEO enters carrying a duck)

LEADING PLAYER

Enter Theo.

#13a - Theo's Cue

START

A lovable boy and his lovable duck...

THEO

(Trying to wake PIPPIN up)

Pippin... Pippin... say hello to my duck...

(HE pushes the duck into PIPPIN's face)

PIPPIN

How do you do...

THEO

Guess his name.

PIPPIN

Augustus.

THEO

Wrong. His name's Otto. You're not very smart...

PIPPIN

I'm smart enough to know that a duck belongs in a pond and not in my bed!

THEO

(After a beat)

Bite me!

END *(HE stalks off as PIPPIN goes back to sleep)*

CATHERINE

(Goes to him, exasperated.)

Pippin, you have been lying in this bed for seven days now. What is the matter with you?

PIPPIN

It's nothing you could possibly understand.

CATHERINE

Well, try me. Give me a chance.

PIPPIN

All right. I have been searching and searching for something important and fulfilling to do with my life, and I have tried everything I can think of, and I haven't even come close. So I am in utter, abject, complete despair.

CATHERINE

(After a beat)

And that's it?