

SCENE 6

CAROLE'S OFFICE AT 1650 BROADWAY.

CAROLE *plays the piano. DONNY walks by.*

DONNY

Hey, I need a girl song. It's for the Shirelles and I want it by tomorrow. I'm telling everybody. First one I like is it.

CAROLE

Ok, we'll get you something.

DONNY

You ok? How's the baby?

CAROLE

She's good. She's almost 5.

DONNY

Man, five years old already, the time really -

CAROLE

Five *months*.

DONNY

Jesus, people count the *months*? Anyway, is the kid a problem? You're not giving me enough stuff.

CAROLE

It's hard. We don't earn enough from our music yet so Gerry works as a chemist all day and by the time he gets home, he's dead. I've had a new song finished for a week but he's too tired to do the lyrics. Plus, we still live with my Mom which doesn't make things easier.

CYNTHIA WEIL *appears, knocks on the open door.*

CYNTHIA

I'm sorry, I'm lost. It's like a rabbit warren in here. Can you help me find Donny Kirshner's office?

DONNY

I'm Donny.

CYNTHIA

Hi, I'm Cynthia Weil. My Aunt Toni knows your friend Eddie so Toni called Eddie and Eddie called you and you said you'd see me.

DONNY

Remind me. What are you? Singer, composer, secretary -

CYNTHIA

Lyricist.

DONNY

You got something I can listen to?

CYNTHIA

Yes.

DONNY

Where is it?

CYNTHIA

In my throat. It's my voice. I'll sing you one of my songs.

DONNY

I don't do live auditions anymore. Leave me a demo.

CYNTHIA

Yeah, my aunt who knows Eddie who knows you said that's what you wanted but I didn't think that was best.

DONNY

Well, I do. *That's why I said it.*

CYNTHIA

My songs are better live.

DONNY

That's not a great quality for the record business. Leave something.

CYNTHIA

If I leave you something, you might not listen to it.

DONNY

Jesus, you're argumentative.

CYNTHIA

You're the one who's arguing. I'm just saying what I want.*(to Carole)*

Do you know HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN?

CAROLE

Sure, I—

CYNTHIA

Hit it!

CAROLE plays a buoyant version of HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN as
CYNTHIA sings: