

SIDE #7: Rose

(A pause. Then ROSE begins)

ROSE

(Cold anger)

I'm used to people walking out. When my own mother did it, I cried for a week. Your father did it, and then the man I married after him did it, and now - Well this time, I'm not crying. This time, I'm apologizing.

(To LOUISE)

To you. I pushed you aside for her. I made everything just for her.

~~LOUISE~~

~~No, Momma.~~

ROSE

But she says I can't make her an actress like she wants to be. The boys walked because they think the act's finished. They think we're nothing without her.

(Now beginning to build in volume
and strength and passion)

She's nothing without me! I'm her mother and I made her! And I can make you now! I'm going to make it up to you for all the years I pushed you in the back. And I will, my baby, I swear I will! I'm going to make you a star!

(She is carried away now by her own
determination and emotion that she
does not see the look that has come
over LOUISE's face. With enthusiasm:)

I'm going to build a whole new act - all around you! It's going to be better than anything we ever did before! Better than anything we even dreamed!

~~HERBIE~~

~~Rose! Listen!~~

ROSE

(Like an express train)

You're right, Herbie! It is for the best! The old act was getting stale and tired! But the new one!? Look at the new star, Herbie! She's going to be beautiful! She is beautiful! Finished?! We're just beginning and there's no stopping us this time!

(She roars violently into:)