

Side Eight

Backstage at the Central Movie Theatre.

A single work light illuminates the space. ROSIE and ALBERT are alone.

ROSIE. Well, this is it, Albert ... What do you think?

ALBERT. It looks great, Rose! Now there's something I want to talk to you about ...

ROSIE. *(Interrupting)* 'Course it's been used as a movie house for the past thirty years but I think it'll be fine for the TV show.

ALBERT. It'll be swell, Rose! Now what I wanted to say was ...

ROSIE. *(Again)* They're shipping down the cameras and lights today, and whatever costumes we need we can ...

ALBERT. *(Finally taking ROSIE by the shoulders)* Rose, I'm sure everything'll be perfect!

ALBERT leads ROSIE left as the backstage office starts in from stage left; it is a cramped little dressing room outfitted with a typewriter.

... Now, if you'll just forget about the Sullivan Show for one minute and come into the office there's something very important I want to tell you! About ... about you and I, Rose.

ROSIE. *(By now inside the office)* You and me, English Teacher.

ALBERT. Rose, I'm serious. I want to tell you that I'm very glad you and I ... and me ... are out here together. Being away from New York, Rose ... has made me see all kinds of things in a different light. That's why I want you to know I wrote Mamma and told her no matter what happened ... I have decided to give up Almaelou!

ROSIE. *(Happily embraces ALBERT)* Albert, you didn't!

ALBERT. Yes, I did, Rose. I wrote her the day we left, which leaves three days and three nights for her to get in touch with me and so far not a word! If you ask me, she's accepted the whole thing by now.