

SCENE 2

(HUEY'S living room)

(He lives in a fairly nice apartment now. FELICIA is studying sheet music. As she softly sings, she is finishing getting dressed.)

FELICIA

THE SUN IS SINKIN'
AND TIME'S GOT ME THINKIN'...

HUEY (O.S.)

I'm number one, baby! Woo!

FELICIA

AS WE GROW OLD ...

(HUEY enters. He's also finishing getting dressed - buckling his pants, buttoning his shirt.)

HUEY

~~Number one on radio and when the ratings come in, I bet I'm gonna be number one on TV, too. Me, who can't even spell TV. Hey, what's that you singin' there?~~

FELICIA

New song I been writin' some lyrics for, gonna lay it down today.

HUEY

Today? How come I didn't know about this?

FELICIA

Just came up. And you been so busy with your program, didn't want to bother you is all --

HUEY

Since when is you layin' down a song botherin' me?

(kisses her on the neck)

Mm, glad you came for a visit, baby -

FELICIA

Hey sugar, what if we could do more than visit?

HUEY

So be honest - am I the best lover you ever had?

FELICIA

Yeah, okay. But what if we could do more than visit? What if we could get out of Memphis?

HUEY

Whaddya mean?

FELICIA

I mean - what if we could get up north, to New York.

HUEY

Ain't nothin' worth visitin' in New York, baby. Wait - always wanted to see that Coney Island. That in New York?

FELICIA

Don't rightly know. But what if we could stay?

HUEY

In Coney Island?

FELICIA

What if Delray got someone from New York to come down and hear me, someone who could really help --

HUEY

Don't get your hopes up, baby, your brother's been tryin' to do that for years.

FELICIA

But if Delray could get someone here -

HUEY

Besides, the man who's gonna make you famous is me! All you gotta do is come on my TV show!

FELICIA

But up north --

HUEY

And you know what else - I'm takin' you to that Coney Island!

FELICIA

But up north -

HUEY

Just as soon as we figure out where the hell it is.

FELICIA

Up north, I wouldn't have to be sneakin' into your apartment like this. We could be together, we could be happy ...

HUEY

It's like you talkin' Chinese, baby, we are happy, we are together --

FELICIA

We could be safe up north.

(beat)

HUEY

Baby, I got this plan! See, you gonna come on the Cavalcade and folks gonna take one look at ya and they gonna love you the way they love me. How could they not, huh? We ain't gonna have to leave Memphis 'cause we gonna be Memphis. This is our home, baby. And what them fellahs done to you, if I could only go back and ...

(beat)

Hey, this song you was singin' -

#18 LOVE WILL STAND WHEN ALL ELSE FALLS

-- you come on my TV show and sing it for me and Huey's gonna make everything okay -- She begins to hum. I ain't ever lettin' anyone hurt you ever again, I swear that.

FELICIA

THE SUN IS SINKIN'
AND TIME'S GOT ME THINKIN'
AS WE GROW OLD, WILL OUR LOVE STAY STRONG
OR WILL IT DISAPPEAR?

HUEY

You the music of my soul, baby.

(FELICIA nods. HUEY exits.)

FELICIA

TOMORROW'S UNKNOWN
BUT TODAY IS OUR OWN