ANGELA

(To audience)

Tonight is all about leavin' and following your dreams. It's also about angels, all kinds of angels, but most importantly, Honky Tonk Angels. Hi. My name is Angela, Angel-Uh—Get it! And, I am not a actress. I am an honest to God real housewife from Waxahatchie, Texas and I have six kids, a wonderful mama, and my husband's name is—you guessed it—Bubba! He drives a beer truck. And, I'm the queen of this here double-wide trailer. Oh, and I do love to sing— every chance I get—especially good old country songs. This is the story of how me and two other gals became Honky Tonk Angels.

(PHONE RINGS)

Excuse me...just a minute!

(Into phone)

Hello...Oh, hey, baby! Yes, Bubba, it's me, who'd you expect... Marilyn Monroe (pronounced MUN'-ROE)

(She laughs at her own joke)

What? You S.O.B....You promised to take me out tonight! I'm ironing a shirt for you and the kids are all ready to go to mama's.Well, I have had it! You just go'n have big time at your tractor pull you... scum suckin' redneck!

(She hangs up the phone in the trailer and starts writing a note) Dear Bubba, It's just not workin' anymore and you know it. I love our kids and there's a place real deep in my heart that still loves you, but I've got to go out on my own for a while. I hope you will understand.. .and I hope you can remember how to read.. it's time for me to fly.

(There is the sound of a chainsaw. She yells offstage. Tammy Lynn-quit chasin' Bubba jr. with that chainsaw! That's your Daddy's toy! For God's sake!

(On Phone.)

Hey Mama...Mama, that thing I said I was gonna do? Well I'm gonna do it. Gonna do it for my own good. The kids will be no trouble at all!... and I won't be gone forever... I've just got to leave for a while. I knew you'd understand, you are the best mama in the world. Okay, I'll talk to you later, bye! ...Oh, Mama, I love you...bye, bye! Okay, Bubba-you asked for it!!

ANGELA - SIDE 2 - CALLBACKS ONLY

HONKY TONK ANGELS______ 3 person scene

ANGELA

Well, ain't we a sight! A career girl from L.A. whose been divorced twicet!

DARLENE Oh my goodness! I ain't never met anybody whose been divorced.

ANGELA (to Darlene) A sweet little country girl from a place that's hotter than hell!

DARLENE Oh my goodness!

ANGELA ...and me, the queen of a double wide trailer.

SUE ELLEN Why am I not surprised!

ANGELA Want a pork rind? (They decline).

DARLENE Well, I guess I better get busy and practice. (singing) DELTA DAWN WHAT'S THAT FLOWER YOU'VE GOT ON

SUE ELLEN Wait! It's a sign! That's the song I sang when I won "Little Miss Country Music!" Thank you, God, and God bless you Tanya Tucker!

ANGELA Amen! Let's wake up everybody on this bus and have us a hootenanny.

ALL THREE (Singing)

DELTA DAWN WHAT'S THAT FLOWER YOU'VE GOT ON COULD IT BE A FADED ROSE FROM DAYS GONE BY

ANGELA Hey...we sound pretty good. SUE ELLEN Yeah... why don't we do it together?

DARLENE Do what? Sing together?

ANGELA (Trying to say the right thing) Yeah... why not? Misery loves company... Uh... There's safety in numbers... Ummm... Birds of a feather flock together. (to herself) There's a sucker born every minute.

SUE ELLEN

No, seriously, why not? We didn't just end up on this bus by accident-I mean three fugitive women all moving to a strange new place... I don't think this is just a coincidence. I think it was meant to be!

(Sue Ellen assumes a meditation pose.) Ohmmmmm.

ANGELA Hey, are you one of them "new age" nuts from California?

SUE ELLEN (Dropping her meditation)

Well, I have read all of Deepak Chopra's books! But actually after surviving two divorces, earthquakes and movie stars, I've decided to start practicing a little faith in myself. Besides, I'm a little nervous about being on my own.

ANGELA Me too.

DARLENE Me too.

ANGELA Who's Deepok Chopra? One of those rap singers?

(Clap of thunder.)

ANGELA (Tenderly to the young girl.) Don't worry, sugar. I bet our guardian angels are workin' overtime lookin' after us. SUE ELLEN (Suspiciously to Angela.) Are you one of them evangelical nuts from Texas?

ANGELA Okay, Okay... I've got a little faith too, you know.

DARLENE My mama taught me to always believe in a better place and we're gonna find it. I just hope these guardian angels are doing a good job.

ANGELA I hope my babies are okay. But I know mama's taking good care of all six of 'em.

SUE ELLEN She must be a saint.

ANGELA She is.

DARLENE So is mine up there in Heaven.

SUE ELLEN (Sadly) Well you know she's up there lookin' after you.

DARLENE

Yeah, I believe she is. It's my daddy I'm worried about. I mean with me leavin' and all? I think he'll understand, eventually.

ANGELA My husband won't. He doesn't even understand why I have to use hair spray.

SUE ELLEN (aghast at Angela's comment.)

Oh, God! Well, I guess I'm lucky. I didn't leave behind anything but an autographed bowling ball from my first ex, a couple of sawed off shotguns from my second ex, and a boss with hairs in his nose! Let's just hope we can leave the past behind and find better lives.

ANGELA

Yeah, with a little luck, a good honky tonk to sing in, and a little help from our guardian angels.

DARLENE The Honky Tonk Angels!

SUE ELLEN What?

DARLENE That'll be the name of our singing group...the Honky Tonk Angels. I like it!

ANGELA Me too!

SUE ELLEN Me too!

ANGELA Watch out, Nash Vegas, here we come!



BARROOM HABBITS





* reno/ vocal

BARROOM HABBITS



192

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I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU



DELTA DAWN

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