

DARLENE - SIDE 1 - INITIAL AUDITION

DARLENE:

(Looking to heaven)

Mama, ya know I ain't been happy since what happened to my boyfriend a while back. And Daddy's turned mean since you passed on to heaven ... maybe he's just unhappy, too. I keep thinkin' about everything. Sometimes my memories of Billy Joe scare me some. They scare me a lot... I have bad dreams at night about him, but during the day I got dreams in my heart and I know that I gotta sing those bad dreams away. Billy Joe, you was a dreamer, too. And your dream was the same as mine... to make music; but you musta realized you'd never be able to leave this place to chase that dream of yours. So you went up there on Choctaw Ridge...and though I tried to stop you, you threw that old six string guitar you bought for five dollars when you was 10 years old off the bridge and into into the river. It shattered into a thousand pieces... and so did your dream. You went to work; one more hard day up at that sawmill, and then I guess you decided to follow your dream into that dark water.

Since then, I've made a decision. I'm not goin' the same way, Billy Joe. I'm not goin' to be scared no more! I'm goin' to get out of here, I'm gonna follow my dream down the highway and not sell it down the river like you did. Mama, I've talked it over with brother and Becky, and they'll look after Daddy while I'm gone. I think they'll be okay, if Becky doesn't kill Brother first. He better quit comin' home drunk from poker games in the middle of the night, or I think she might turn into one of those "Desperate Housewives." Mama, why can't men and women just get along?

DARLENE - 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 twice!

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.)

Ohmmmmmm.

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!

DARLENE:

Spoken: I was walking home from school on a cold winter day, took a short cut thru the woods and I lost my way.

G D/F# Em7 C G Emin7 C D

It was getting late and I was scared and all alone, then a kind old man took my hand and led me home.

G D/F# Em7 C G Emin7 C D

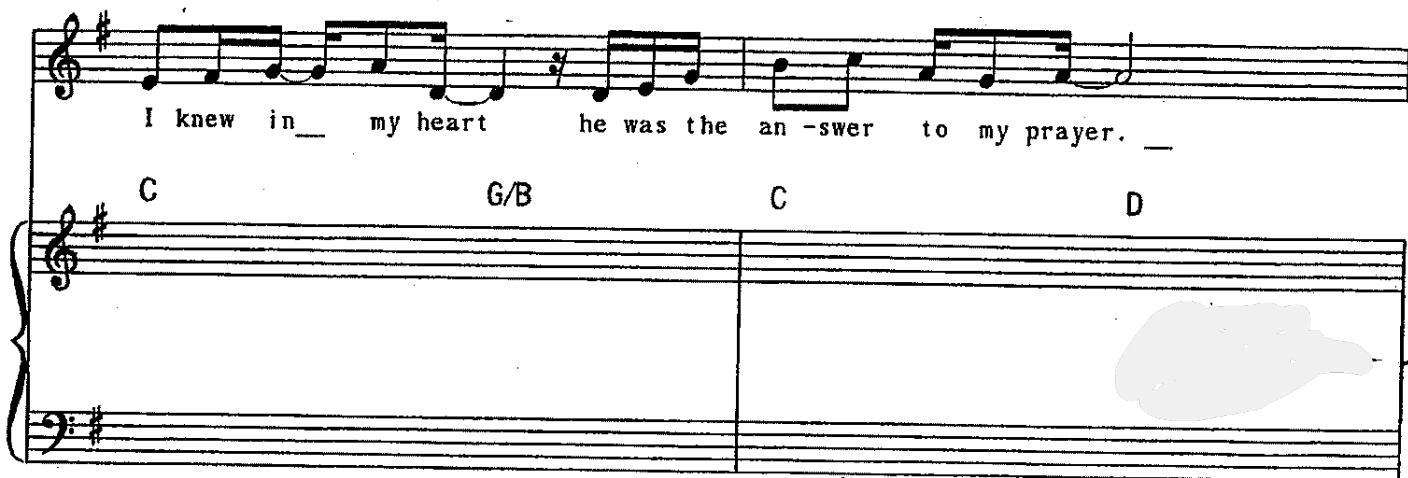
simile (slightly heavier)

Ma - ma could-n't see him, oh, but he was stand- ing there. and

C Bmin7 C D

I knew in my heart he was the answer to my prayer.

C G/B C D



Oh, I believe there are angels among us,

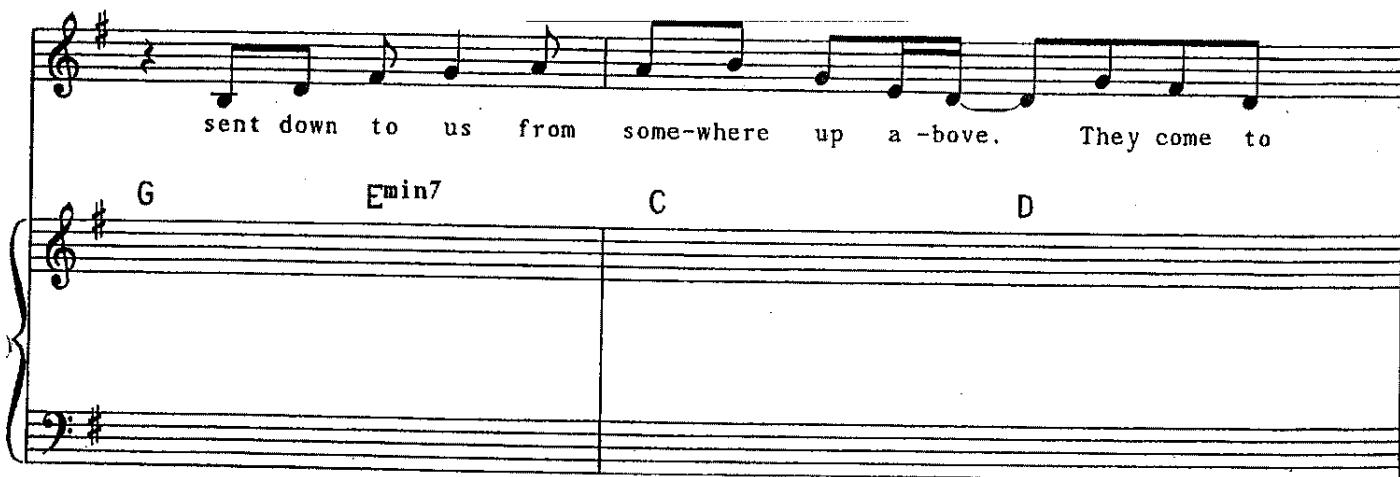
C/D ~~MM~~ D G Emin7 Amin7 D7

+ Bass, String Pad (if possible)



sent down to us from somewhere up above. They come to

G Emin7 C D



you and me in our dark-est hours to show us how to live, to

G Emin7 C D7 C G/B

teach us how to give to guide us with the light of

C D7 C D

(END DARLENE / START SUE ELLEN:

love. When

G Bmin7 C D7

- String Pad

life held trou-bled times__ and had me down on my knees,__ There's

G D/F# E^{min}7 C

al - ways been some-one to come a - long and com-fort me. A

G E^{min}7 C D

kind word from a stran - ger,__ to lend a hel - ping hand, a

G D/F# E^{min}7 C

phone call from a friend just to say I un-der-stand.

G Emin7 C D

Ain't it kind of fun - ny, at the dark end of the road, that

Cmaj7 Bmin7

some-one lights the way with just a sin- gle ray of hope. Oh,

C (legato) G/B C D

SUE ELLEN
ANGELA

I be-lieve there are an-gels a-mong us, sent down to us from

G Emin7 Amin7 D7 G Emin7

+ String Pad, Guitar

some-where up a-bove. They come to you and me in

C D G Emin7

our dark-est hours to show us how to live, to teach us how to give to

C C C G/B C D

END

guide us with the light of love.

C D G

DARLENE:

They wear so many faces, show up in the strangest places,

Cmaj7 Bmin7

Grace us with their mercy in our time of need Oh.....

C Bmin7 Amin7 Dsus D7

RALL.....

FANCY

LEAD 27 G A C D

GIRLS 27

START

DARLENE!

LEAD 29 C7 B7 E7

GIRLS 29 ma - ma

LEAD 32 E D

dabbed a lit - tle bit of per - fume on my neck and she kissed my check and I

32

LEAD

34

A C

saw the tears well up in her trou- led eyes when she star- ted to speak she

LEAD

36

E D

looked at our pit- i- ful shack and then she looked at me and took a rag- ged breath your

LEAD

38

A C

Pa's run off and I'm real sick and the bab- y's gon- na starve to death she

FANCY

LEAD

40

E

han - ded me a heart whaped lock - et that said to thine own self be true and I

40

LEAD

42

A

shiv - ered as I watched a roach crawl a - cross the toe of my high heel shoe it

42

LEAD

44

E7

soun - ded like some - bo - dy else that was talk - ing ask - in' ma - ma what do I do and

44

FANCY

LEAD 46 **A7** **B** **E**

just be nice to the gen - tle - men Fan - cy and they'll be nice to you

LEAD 48 **C** **D** **E7**

GIRLS 48

here's your one chance Fan - cy don't let me down

her's your one chance Fan - cy don't let me down

LEAD 50 **G** **A** **E7**

GIRLS 50

here's your one chance Fan - cy don't let me down

here's your one chance Fan - cy don't let me down

Lord for -

FANCY

52

G A C D

GIRLS

give me for what I do but if you want out well it's up to you now

54

C7 B7 E7

LEAD

get on out girl you bet-ter start mov-in' up - town well

END

A

57

E D

LEAD

that was the last time I saw my Ma one night I left that l-o-u-e - ly shack 'cause the

D A A' G' G' E' D

94 TAKE YOU TO HIS MAN - SION IN THE SKY

94 TAKE YOU TO HIS MAN - SION IN THE SKY

94 Piano

START

98 DEL - TA DAWN WHAT'S THAT FLOW - ER YOU HAVE ON COULD IT BE

98 DEL - TA DAWN WHAT'S THAT FLOW - ER YOU HAVE ON COULD IT BE

98

Handwritten: *D/F#*

027 A FAD - ED ROSE FROM DAYS GONE BY AND

027 A FAD - ED ROSE FROM DAYS GONE BY AND

02 Piano A

Handwritten: *D7/F#*

106 DID I HEAR YOU SAY HE WAS A MEET - IN YOU HERE TO - DAY TO

106 DID I HEAR YOU SAY HE WAS A MEET - IN YOU HERE TO - DAY TO

106 D G D

Handwritten: **END**

110 TAKE YOU TO HIS MAN - SION IN THE SKY

110 TAKE YOU TO HIS MAN - SION IN THE SKY

110 D A A7