

ACT ONE – SCENE 3

The MacAfee home, Sweet Apple, Ohio

As lights come up, we see URSULA MERKLE, a dark-haired, hyper-enthusiastic young lady of about fifteen, sitting in the window downstage left talking excitedly on the phone.

URSULA. Kim MacAfee, what do you mean you're resigning from the Fan Club! I mean just because Hugo Peabody gave you his pin doesn't mean you have to retire from all social life! Going steady is very important but there are some things more important than very important and the Conrad Birdie Fan Club is one of them.

In event of a technical problem and MacAfee house is not in downstage position, URSULA may add:

I mean, after all, where else can we girls gather together to worship that wonderful creature? I mean, do you realize what you'd be giving up, Kim?

The MacAfee House has moved downstage, the scrim is up and we see KIM upstage right in her upstairs bedroom. The house is a two-story affair, bedroom upstairs, combination family room and kitchen downstairs. KIM is a month or two older than URSULA, very pretty, quite self-possessed.

KIM. *(Into the phone)* I'm sorry, Ursula, but my mind's made up. Of course, I'll still play his records, but things like the Pledge and the Conrad Birdie Scream are past me now.

URSULA. You're giving up the scream? You mean when Conrad Birdie sings, on television, you're not going to go AAAAAAAAAA!!! *(Tragically)* ... Oh, Kim!

Downstairs, MRS. MACAFEE has crossed left and lifted the telephone through the last of the above. She now puts it down and calls upstairs.

MRS. MACAFEE. Kim Dear, would you please get off the phone. I've got some calls to make.

KIM. *(Calling down)* All right, Mother! *(Then back into the phone)* ... Sorry, Ursula, I've got to hang up. You'll explain everything to the other kids, won't you?

URSULA. I suppose I'll have to. 'Bye, Kim ... *(URSULA hangs up. KIM hangs up. URSULA leans out of the window)* ... Kim, are you sure? I mean after all! I mean really, Kim, are you absolutely sure?

KIM. *(Also leaning. THEY evidently live right next door to each other.)* Positive. After all, I'm fifteen years old and it's time I settled down.

Through the course of following song, KIM puts on jeans, huge sweater, socks and a baseball cap.

No. 6

How Lovely to Be a Woman

(see p. 94)

(Kim)

START

STOP