

BUT WE'VE GOT A JOB FOR A GENERAL
WHO'S RETIRED!

MUSIC 9A: "GENERAL" SCENE CHANGE

(THEY exit, the curtain closes, and the scene changes to...)

Scene 7: The Barn Rehearsal Hall – the next day

(MARTHA enters in front of the closed curtain with some old props, wearing a Follies-style hat.)

MARTHA

(Humming to herself.)

"There's no business like show business, like no business I..."

Start

(SUSAN appears, popping out from curtain.)

SUSAN

What are you doing?

MARTHA

Honey, you scared the life out of me.

SUSAN

Where did you get that silly hat?

MARTHA

Never mind. Come on give me a hand setting up the barn for rehearsal.

SUSAN

But the barn is where I work on my history report.

MARTHA

The American Revolution will still be there tomorrow. Now come on! We've got show folks coming any minute.

SUSAN

Grandpa says show business is frivolous.

MARTHA

Frivolous? Do you know what Patrick Henry said?

SUSAN

"Give me liberty or give me death."

MARTHA

Do you know where he said it?

SUSAN

Where?

stop

MARTHA
On the stage of the Winter Garden Theatre. Class dismissed!
(Calls out:)

Ezekiel! Ezekiel Foster!

(EZEKIEL enters in front of curtain, too. A taciturn, very slow-moving fellow.)

Ay-yup.

EZEKIEL

Open up the curtain.

MARTHA

Ay-yup.

EZEKIEL

(EZEKIEL exits, pretty much in slow-motion.)

Who is he?

SUSAN

He came with the barn.

MARTHA

MUSIC 9B: BARN CURTAIN

(The stage curtain opens, revealing the barn, with a piano. BOB and PHIL enter.)

Well, it's a barn, all right.

BOB

Mr. Wallace, the barn is my classroom.

SUSAN

Wait a moment, do I smell a piano in this classroom? Yes, I do. Odeur de Steinway, number five.

PHIL

Mr. Davis, you didn't really smell the piano.

SUSAN

I can detect a spinet at fifty feet.

PHIL

Don't confuse the child.

BOB

(PHIL has sat at the piano and starts to play a little.)

MUSIC 9C: ALWAYS - PIANO SOLO

MARTHA
You know, Mr. Wallace, this woman here in town, she not only sings and dances...