

SHEILA
(Walks further Downstage)

START

ZACH
Do you always come on like this?

SHEILA
No, sometimes I'm aggressive ... Actually I'm a Leo ...

ZACH
What's that supposed to mean?

SHEILA
It means the other eleven months of the year have to watch out ... I'm very strong.

ZACH
Maybe too strong.

SHEILA
Am I doing something you don't like? I mean, you told me to be myself.

ZACH
Just bring it down.

SHEILA
Bring what down?

ZACH
Your attitude. Tell me about your parents.

SHEILA
My parents?

ZACH
Your father.

SHEILA
Him?

ZACH
Your mother.

SHEILA
My mother ... My mother was raised like a little nun. She couldn't go out -- she couldn't even babysit.

ZACH
Sheila, don't perform ... Just talk.

SHEILA

(In monotone)

But she wanted to be a dancer and she had all these scholarships and all that. And when she got married, my father made her give it up ...

(Breaking monotone, to the LINE)

... Isn't this exciting? And then she had this daughter -- me -- and she made her what she wanted to be. And she was fabulous the way she did it ... Do you want to know how she did it?

ZACH*

Yes ... But first, your hair ...

SHEILA

What? You don't like it.

ZACH

No ... Let it down.

SHEILA

(Taking the pins out)

That's what I've been trying to do.

(SHE shakes her hair down)

Better ... ?

ZACH

Better ... Go on.

SHEILA

Oh, how she did it ... Well, first, she took me to see all the ballets. And then, she gave me her old toe shoes -- which I used to run down the sidewalk in -- on my toes -- at five. And then I saw "The Red Shoes" --

(The GIRLS on LINE respond)

SHEILA (Continued)

-- and I wanted to be that lady, that redhead. And then, when she saw I really had to dance, she said: "You can't do it until you're eight." Well by then, I was only six,

(Cue for music to fade out - almost segue)

(MORE)

*See Appendix "C" for scene change/variation.

SHEILA (Continued)
and I said "BUT I'VE GOT TO DANCE."
(To the GROUP)
I mean, anything to get out of the house.

ZACH
What?

SHEILA
Nothing.

ZACH
What did you say?

SHEILA
I just said that I wanted to get out of my house.

ZACH
Why?

SHEILA
The truth?

ZACH
Sure, you're strong enough.

(Opening music vamp starts for
next number)

SHEILA
Well ... Let's face it ... My family scene was -- ah ...
not good!

END

(Lights go out on LINE. THEY back up,
turn, walk to back wall, facing Upstage)

"AT THE BALLET"
(SHEILA, BEBE & MAGGIE)

SHEILA
DADDY ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT HE MARRIED BENEATH HIM.
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID, THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.
WHEN HE PROPOSED HE INFORMED MY MOTHER
HE WAS PROBABLY HER VERY LAST CHANCE.
AND THOUGH SHE WAS TWENTY-TWO,
THOUGH SHE WAS TWENTY-TWO,
THOUGH SHE WAS TWENTY-TWO
SHE MARRIED HIM.

(MORE)