

Start*(CARRIE, awestruck, gapes at the Prom wonderland around her. GARDNER notices.)***MISS GARDNER**

What are you doing?

**CARRIE**

Trying to memorize it all – every single detail.

**MISS GARDNER**

So tell me, is it everything you dreamed?

**CARRIE**

It's... nice.

**MISS GARDNER**

Just "nice"?

**CARRIE**

It's – it's like being on Mars. Now that I'm here, I'm not really sure what I'm supposed to do.

**MISS GARDNER**

I remember my Prom. I went with the captain of the basketball team. He was 6 feet 7 inches tall! So I went out and bought a pair of these stiletto heels, so that our kiss goodnight would be a little less awkward. Anyway, we went in his pickup truck, which of course broke down, so we had to walk the last half mile to the Prom.

**CARRIE**~~Oh, no!~~**MISS GARDNER**

By the time we got there, my feet were so blistered that all I could do was sit there. I was sure I'd ruined the night – I couldn't dance.

**MUSIC 21: UNSUSPECTING HEARTS – REPRISE**

But instead, we just sat there and talked. And you know what? It turned out to be one of the best nights of my entire life.

end

**CARRIE**  
SO I GUESS I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S EVER FELT THIS WAY  
NOW I'M THINKING, SUDDENLY,  
IF YOU GOT THROUGH THIS, WHY NOT ME?

**MISS GARDNER**  
OH, THE SWEETEST MEMORY'S NEVER PLANNED  
LET LIFE TAKE YOU BY THE HAND  
THAT'S HOW IT STARTS

**CARRIE**  
THAT'S HOW IT STARTS

**MISS GARDNER & CARRIE**  
TWO UNSUSPECTING HEARTS  
*(CARRIE hugs her, and MISS GARDNER hugs her back.)*

**MISS GARDNER**  
Oh, honey...  
*(Just then, TOMMY returns and jests:)*

**TOMMY**  
Better not let me catch you hugging any guys like that.

**CARRIE**  
You won't.

**TOMMY**  
*(handing her the drink)*  
Miss Gardner –

**MISS GARDNER**  
*(raising her glass)*  
Cheers, you two. Have a lovely time.  
*(She walks off.)*

**MUSIC 21A: HOME BY TWELVE (UNDERSCORE)**

**TOMMY**  
Now, how 'bout a dance?

**CARRIE**  
Oh, no, I couldn't.