

Albert, Rosie

1-1-5
12

WE'D HAVE A LITTLE APARTMENT IN QUEENS,
YOU'D GET A SUMMER VACATION,
AND WE WOULD KNOW WHAT LIFE MEANS.

A MAN WHO'S GOT HIS MASTERS
IS REALLY SOMEONE!
HOW PROUD I'D BE IF
YOU HAD BECOME ONE!

IT COULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A WONDERFUL LIFE!
I COULD HAVE BEEN MISSIS PETERSON,
MISSIS ALBERT PETERSON,
MISSIS PHI BETA KAPPA PETERSON,
THE ENGLISH TEACHER'S WIFE.

OPTIONAL CUT

IT WAS GOODBYE, GEOFFREY CHAUCER,
HELLO, WILLIAM MORRIS,
GOODBYE, N.Y.U.
HELLO, ALMAELOU, 'CAUSE

WHEN YOU WROTE CONRAD'S LAST HIT "UGGA BUGGA BOO"
THEN I KNEW THIS WAS IT
YOU WERE THRU WITH ENGLISH FOREVER.

AN ENGLISH TEACHER
IS REALLY SOMEONE,
HOW PROUD I'D BE IF YOU HAD BECOME ONE.

IT COULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A WONDERFUL LIFE,
I COULD HAVE BEEN MISSIS PETERSON,
MISSIS ALBERT PETERSON,
MISSIS PHI BETA KAPPA PETERSON,
THE ENGLISH TEACHER'S WIFE.

(Music out for dialogue)

ALBERT

(Suddenly rising)

...Rose, I'll make a deal with you! Stay with me, help me get the money to pay Conrad's guarantee, and as soon as I'm out of the red....I'll dissolve the company and go back to the academic life!

ROSIE

Albert, You're on!

(And SHE goes to HER desk,
picks up small file drawer)

ALBERT

Of course it may take a while, but I'm sure that by 1973 or '74 at the latest, we'll...

(SHE slams the file on HIS desk)

....What's that?

START!

ROSIE

Something that's going to push that date up a few years. Pick a name.

ALBERT

Pick what name? What are you talking about?

ROSIE

All right, I'll do it for you.

(SHE picks card)

....MacAfee. Kim MacAfee. Age fifteen, president and recording secretary Conrad Birdie Fan Club Number 2748 of Sweet Apple, Ohio.

(Picking up phone)

Mary, would you get me Sweet Apple, Ohio. The number's....

(Reads from card)

....Capitol 7 double eight two oh. And call me right back.

ALBERT

(Rising, 'as ROSIE hangs up)

Now wait a minute! What's going on here? Who's Kim Whateverhername is?

ROSIE

Kim MacAfee, Albert, is what's going to send you back to college with the biggest hit song this business has ever seen! It's called "One Last Kiss!"

ALBERT

I never heard of it.

ROSIE

You haven't written it yet.

(Leads HIM to piano, seats HIM)

...But when you do and when that one last kiss is from Conrad Birdie on his way into the big cold Army for two long years and when he gives that kiss to one of his fans chosen at random from one million two hundred thousand hysterical teen-agers, it'll make Mr. Birdie the hottest soldier since Joan of Arc!

(During speech SHE has placed a blank piece of sheet music on the piano)

ALBERT

(Rises)

Rose, I'm beginning to see it! We cut the record here in New York...

*

ROSIE

Take Conrad, that greasy bongo-playing car-thief to Sweet Apple....

ALBERT

Let him kiss the kid....

ROSIE

And release the record!

(SHE goes to HER desk, HE goes left)

Albert, you'll make enough money to stay in college the rest of your life!

(SHE sits at HER desk)

ALBERT

(HE goes right, leans over piano to ROSIE)

Rose, it's wonderful! And I promise you, as soon as this thing is settled, it'll be just the two of us, Rose! In perfect bliss! I'll get a job teaching English and....

(It hits HIM)

...Bliss! Kiss! That rhymes!

(HE sits)

I wonder if anyone's ever used it before?

(Enthusiastic again)

...Oh, what difference does it make! It'll be great for the song! Oh one last kiss; it gives so much bliss...what is your dentifrice!

(Music)

ENGLISH TEACHER - TAG (ROSIE)

ALBERT

No, that's too clinical....

(And as HE works away furiously at the piano ROSIE looks at HIM and softly begins to sing)

END!

ROSIE

AN ENGLISH TEACHER,
 AN ENGLISH TEACHER,
 SOME DAY HE MAY BE
 AN ENGLISH TEACHER.

(The PHONE rings. ROSIE Xes L and answers it)

Yes? Well, every phone in Sweet Apple can't be busy; what's going on there? Kim MacAfee just got pinned to who? Never mind, Mary, keep trying and call me right back.

(SHE hangs up)

THEN WE WOULD HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL LIFE!
 THEN I MIGHT BE MISSIS PETERSON,
 MISSIS ALBERT PETERSON,
 MISSIS PHI BETA KAPPA PETERSON,
 THE ENGLISH TEACHER'S WIFE!

(LIGHTS FADE as units move off L and R)