ANNIE (sings:)

Ave Maria, gratia plena

AveDominus tecum.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et bene dictus fructus ventris tui Jesus.

MARY

It's a gift, and you absolutely have to let yourself be heard, Skeeter!

(While the song continues, LOTTIE and MARY encircle SKEETER and fuss over her clothing and hair. SKEETER, very still, submits to the attention.)

## ANNIE

Santa Maria Santa Maria Maria ora pro nobis peccatoribus, Nune et in hora mortis, in hora mortis nostrae,

MARY

Now remember, dear. You have show-biz in your blood.

ANNIE

LOTTIE

Amen. Amen. Skeeter, are you listening to your Mama?

(ANNIE curties. Someone tosses a rose. extends her arm, and welcomes SKEETER on stage. LOTTIE adjusts a huge bow in Skeeter's hair. MARY, dressed as Cupid leads SKEETER into the light. CHARLIE strums lead in for SKEETER on ukulele.

SKEETER

"When you wish upon a star, Makes no difference who you

Anything your heart desires Louder, dear!

Can come to you

SKEETER

"If your heart is in your dreams No request is too extreme When you wish upon a star

LOTTIE

MARY

Your dreams come true. Remember, sell yourself,

child!

SKEETER

(shrinking with every word)

"Fate is kind
She brings to those who love
The sweet fulfillment of
their secret longing.
Like a bolt out of the blue
Fate steps in and sees you through.
When you wish upon a star
Your dreams ...come... true."

(All the characters have disappeared, except for CHILD MARY, who applauds.)

SKEETER

Mama...

(CAIT rises from her chair and approaches SKEETER from behind. Cait strokes her hair.

CAIT

Mom.

(Blackout.)

END OF ACT ONE