

VERA

I have a real astronomical discovery for you: the man in the moon is a BITCH!

(VERA storms off. MAME, alone onstage, watches the crescent moon disappear into the flies)

STAGE MANAGER

(Calling)

Nine o'clock call tomorrow morning. Replacement for the moon-lady.

(Seeing her)

Sorry, Moon Lady.

(Now MAME is completely alone. She sinks to the stoop, in utter desolation.

YOUNG PATRICK comes onto stage, in an overcoat, and carrying a cap. He hesitates at the edge of the narrowed circle of light on MAME)

PATRICK

I thought you were very good, Auntie Mame. Everybody noticed you.

MAME

Darling what are you doing in New Haven?

PATRICK

It brought me.

MAME

But how could he bring you, when I've already sold the car?

PATRICK

Oh, we didn't drive; we hitch-hiked.

MAME

But Mr. Babcock thinks you're in that horrible school.

PATRICK

(Sitting beside her)

I told 'em it was sort of a lecture on astronomy, so they let me come.

MAME

Are you ashamed of your Auntie Mame?

PATRICK

I'm proud of you.

(The music begins, softly and tenderly)

PATRICK (Cont'd)

Nobody liked the stinky old show until you came in.

MAME

Oh, Patrick, I'm a failure.

PATRICK

No, you're not. Not to me. Not ever.  
(Singing)

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MY BEST GIRL

YOU'RE MY BEST GIRL  
AND NOTHING YOU DO IS WRONG  
I'M PROUD YOU BELONG TO ME  
AND IF A DAY IS ROUGH FOR ME  
HAVING YOU THERE'S ENOUGH FOR ME  
BUT IF SOME DAY  
ANOTHER GIRL COMES ALONG  
IT WON'T TAKE HER LONG TO SEE  
THAT I'LL STILL BE FOUND  
JUST HANGIN' AROUND  
MY BEST GIRL

MAME

YOU'RE MY BEST BEAU  
YOU'RE HANDSOME AND BRAVE AND STRONG  
THERE'S NOTHING WE TWO CAN'T FACE  
IF YOU'RE WITH ME, WHATEVER COMES  
WE'LL SEE THAT TROUBLE NEVER COMES  
AND IF SOME DAY  
ANOTHER BEAU COMES ALONG  
DETERMINED TO TAKE YOUR PLACE  
I HOPE HE'S RESIGNED  
TO FALL IN BEHIND  
MY BEST BEAU

BOTH

(Rising)  
AND IF SOME DAY  
WHEN EVERYTHING TURNS OUT WRONG  
YOU'RE THROUGH WITH THE HUMAN RACE  
COME RUNNING TO ME  
FOR I'LL ALWAYS BE

MAME

YOUR BEST GIRL

PATRICK

(Offering his arm)  
MY BEST GIRL

(MAME takes his strong young arm,  
and they go off together.

The music rises and the lights fade)

9A

CHANGE OF SCENE