COMPUTERS:

Proceed to Crying Room and wait with other Rejectees.

ALICE:

But . . . but . . . (She walks to stage left "Crying Room door" and peers in.)

COMPUTERS:

Bleack! You have been rejected. You are not allowed to enter Wonderland because you do not fit. Proceed to Crying Room and wait with other Rejectees. Bleack! You have ... (etc., continuing to repeat, fading to silence before Alice's next speech)

ALICE:

Oh, those poor little things. They look so unhappy. And the room is so cold and bare. I can't go in there, (She wipes a tear from her eye during the introduction to 2. "Who Am I?", then returns to downstage center where she sits cross-legged and sings.)

2. WHO AM 1?













The Mouse, having approached Alice as the song ends, reaches out to touch her in sympathy.

ALICE:

Oh! (Startled, she leaps to her feet and backs away from the animals, who are now surrounding her.)

The animals answer Alice eagerly and excitedly, speaking in rapid succession.

DUCK:

We're nobodies.

PARROT:

'Bod-ies!

DODO:

Losers.

PARROT:

Los-ers!

CRAB:

Rejectees.

PARROT:

'Jec-tees!

EAGLET:

Dead as a . . .

DODO:

Dodo!

PARROT:

Dodo!

DODO:

(speaking with annoyance to Parrot) You don't have to repeat . . .

PARROT:

Pete! (Covers mouth shyly, and smiling, becomes quiet.)

MOUSE:

(stepping forward to Alice) Who are you?

ALICE:

(quickly) I'm Alice. (besitantly) I mean . . . (looking around suspiciously) I mean — Mary Ann. (suddenly with tears) Oh, I don't know who I am, where I am, or . . . whether I'm coming or going, It's all so confusing! (She sobs.)

DUCK:

(to the other animals) If she keeps crying like that, we're all going to drown.

EAGLET:

(wiping feathers) Oh dear, these are my very best feathers.

All of the animals quickly begin to grumble and complain about Alice's crying, as they busily brush the tears away from their costumes.

CRAB:

(elbowing Mouse aside) Here, I'll speak to her, I'm older than you, (to Alice) Get hold of yourself, young lady. We're all in the same boat. And we're going to sink, if you don't stop blubbering this instant.

ALICE:

(drying her eyes quickly) Yes. Yes. You're right, of course. I had just promised myself I wasn't going to sit around and cry, but then . . .

CRAB:

(briskly) That's better. Now. You say you're lost, From where are you lost?

ALICE:

I . . . I'm not sure. But before things got so confusing, I was living with my family. (remembering) Oh, I know. We went to the theater. We were going to see a play. And then this rabbit came running . . .

The animals again speak in rapid succession.

DODO:

Rabbit . . .

PARROT:

Rabbit!

DODO:

Did she say Rabbit?

PARROT:

Rabbit!

All of the animals comment negatively to each other at the mention of the Rabbit.

ALICE:

Yes, and I followed him . . .

CRAB:

Hmpf! Well, that explains that!

ALICE:

What? Explains what?

CRAB:

(crossly) Never mind. What does your family look like?

Family . . . look like? Oh, well, there's Mommy. And Daddy. My sister. And Dinah. ALICE:

And they all look . . .

Who's Dinah? EAGLET:

(eagerly) Why, Dinah's my cat. You'd love her. She's so cute and soft, and she purrs so ALICE:

nicely by the fire . . . And she's really good at catching mice. Oh! (She stops suddenly as she sees that the Mouse, who began to bristle at the first mention of "cat," is now shaking with fear and rage.) I beg your pardon! We won't talk about cats any more

if you'd rather not.

(indignantly) We, indeed! As if I would ever talk on such a subject! My family hates MOUSE:

cats. They're mean, ugly, nasty and vile!

ALICE: But . . .

They're killers! EAGLET:

Killers! PARROT:

As soon eat a body as look at it! DUCK:

(parroting these words as spoken by Duck) Body! . . . At-it! PARROT:

Oh my! Oh dear! (greatly concerned, as some of the animals hurry toward stage left ALICE:

and the others begin to edge away from her)

Better put an end to this. DODO:

(speaking to ducklings) Come away, little duckies, it's high time you were all in bed. DUCK:

I'm gettin' outa here! EAGLET:

Outa here! Squawk! Outa here! Outa here! PARROT:

(taking a few steps after the animals) Oh, please don't go. Please don't leave me . . . ALICE:

(the last to crawl off the stage) I really must be getting home: the night-air doesn't CRAB:

suit my throat.

ALICE:

Please . . . Oh, dear, I wish I hadn't mentioned Dinah. Nobody around here seems to like her. (Returns to downstage center.) Oh, Dinah, I'm sorry. You're the best cat in the world. I shouldn't have let them talk about you that way. What do they know? They're nobodies. They said so themselves. They were rejected. (Sighs, looking down-

cast.) Just like me.

As Alice has been talking to herself, a very cool and casual Caterpillar — he is the hip guru of Wonderland bas entered from stage right and strolled caterpillar-style, slowly and rhythmically, toward Alice. (Use the 2-measure vamp described in page 34 footnote.) He does not speak and Alice does not see him until he is standing close to ber. Caterpillar carries an elegant walking stick and a giant pasteboard leaf, with which be calmly fans himself. He speaks with a slow and rhythmic Southern drawl.

CATERPILLAR: (drawing the word out with a low, husky, musical tone) Hi.

(looking up in surprise) Oh! Hello! ALICE:

CATERPILLAR: And who . . . are . . . you?

I . . . I hardly know, sir, at this moment . . . at least . . . I know who I was when I got ALICE:

up this morning, but there have been so many changes since then.

CATERPILLAR: Ex-plain.

ALICE: I can't explain myself, I'm afraid, because I'm not myself, you see.

CATERPILLAR: I . . . don't . . . see.

ALICE: I'm afraid I can't put it any more clearly. I don't understand it myself, to begin with,

and being so many different people and places all in one day is very confusing.

CATERPILLAR: Not . . . to . . . me.

ALICE: Well, maybe you haven't found it that way yet, but wait until you start wrapping your-

self up in a cocoon - you will some day, you know - and then after that, you'll turn into a butterfly. I'll bet you'll think all those changes are a little queer, won't you?

CATERPILLAR:

Not . . . a . . . bit.

ALICE:

Well, maybe your feelings are different. All I know is, it would feel very queer

to me.

CATERPILLAR:

You? And . . . uh . . . who . . . are . . . you?

ALICE:

(for the first time in the play, a little crossly) Didn't we just go through this

(imitating Caterpillar) "Who ... are ... you" business already?

CATERPILLAR:

Unm-hmm.

ALICE:

(clearly showing temper) Well, I think you ought to tell me who you are first.

CATERPILLAR:

(unperturbed by Alice's display of temper) Why?

ALICE:

(exasperated) Well! (Turns and walks away defiantly toward stage left.)

CATERPILLAR:

(quietly, rbythmically, speaking in an ascending musical scale) You better come

back.

Alice stops in her tracks, facing stage left, and stands impatiently waiting, without speaking.

CATERPILLAR:

I have . . . something important . . . to say to you.

She turns and walks slowly back to Caterpillar during the introduction to 3. "Keep It Cool."

3. KEEP IT COOL

(Caterpillar, Alice and Chorus with optional Clarinet and Flute)



^{*}These two measures, repeated as needed, may be used as a vamp for Caterpillar's entrance and exit,







^{*}Emphasize buzzing sound of z's; minimize vowels, in scat-singing style.







