

(PROFESSOR BHAER)

I CAN HEAR A DOOR SLAM.
THE HOUSE IS FAR TOO QUIET NOW.
THAT IS HOW I AM.

#20a – To The Beach**SCENE 3**

(A BEACH AND PAVILION IN FALMOUTH ON CAPE COD. September 1865.
MARMEE wheels BETH on in a beach stroller)

If using a chorus, up to 10 beachgoers appear on the beach during the scene change (at SCORE #20A, measure 2) and into the top of the scene. The Chorus of Beachgoers moves as follows as transition music plays: a few boys play tag, an old man walks with a cane, a group of girls sits down in the sand, whispers, laughs, then exits. All beachgoers exit by measure 8

BETH

Marmee, it's so beautiful - the waves, and all the shells.

MARMEE

(SHE picks up a shell and gives it to Beth)

I believe this one's a thousand years old, listen Beth. Remember how we always talked about coming to Cape Cod.

BETH

'And now Jo with her 'wee literary earnings,' as she calls it, has brought us.

MARMEE

I'm so happy to be here with you. Promise me, Beth, whatever's got hold of you, you'll continue to fight it.'

JO

(SHE rushes on with a basket full of stuff)

Look what I bought! A kite for my Beth. Look at the tail? I told the man I wanted all the colors of the rainbow for my sister.

BETH

That is the most beautiful kite I have ever seen.

MARMEE

I shall leave you two.

JO

No, Marmee!

BETH

Stay.

MARMEE

I'll go write a letter to Father and tell him how beautiful the Cape is this time of year.
I love you.

(SHE goes)

JO

Oh, Beth, this is a dream come true. Come, out of the chair. Help me put this kite together.

(SHE helps her out of the stroller)

BETH

Tell me again about New York.

JO

It's a circus.

BETH

(laughs)

A circus?

JO

Clowns. Waltzing camels. Dancing horses. Sometimes you see them right out on the street. And museums. And theaters, Beth, everywhere.

BETH

And the women - are they shameless?

JO

Some of them anyway. It's an amazing place, Beth. I'm going to take you there.

BETH

(laughs)

To New York?

JO

And we'll dine in the best restaurants. And see Shakespeare. And ride the omnibus. And mingle with unsavory characters....

BETH

(interrupts)

Jo, I have something for you. Marmee says this shell is over a thousand years old. And I believe that once upon a time it had an amazing life. If you put it to your ear, it talks to you.

JO

What does it say?

BETH

It says, 'We grow up too fast,' You're a woman of the world now. I'm so proud of you, Jo.

#21 - Some Things Are Meant To Be

JO

When you were first born, not an hour old, I told Marmee -

BETH

'Beth is mine!'

JO

Everyone has someone special in the world, and I have you. My sweet Beth, give me a task to do!

BETH

LET'S PRETEND
WE'RE RIDING ON A KITE.
LET'S IMAGINE
WE'RE FLYING THROUGH THE AIR.

JO

(SHE sends the kite into the air)

WE'LL ASCEND
UNTIL WE'RE OUT OF SIGHT.
LIGHT AS PAPER, WE'LL SOAR.

BETH

LET'S BE WILD, UP HIGH ABOVE THE SAND.
FEEL THE WIND, THE WORLD AT OUR COMMAND.
LET'S ENJOY THE VIEW AND NEVER LAND.

JO

FLOATING FAR FROM THE SHORE.

BETH

SOME THINGS ARE MEANT TO BE:
THE CLOUDS MOVING FAST AND FREE.

JO

THE SUN ON A SILVER SEA.

BETH & JO

A SKY THAT'S BRIGHT AND BLUE.