

*The two of us would act like we were old
Back when we were beautiful, beautiful, yeah*

But I guess you had to be there

(Katherine and Julie return to chairs
as Andrea crosses down for next scene.)

ANDREA

Well, if you want to get beautiful in Fuquay-Varina, you'll have to make an appointment with Alice, who's been running the Cut 'n Curl right there on Charlotte Avenue for years and years. Now Alice was born into one of the best families in town, believe it or not, but she has stepped off the upper crust and straight into scum, as her mama, Miss Elizabeth, put it. Alice doesn't care, though. Truth is, she's happy. She likes it, owning a shop. She likes closing up, which she's doing right now. She loves the way it smells, in a shop. That was the first thing that got her about it, in fact, in addition to the fact that she has always liked hair. The smell calms her down. It's perfume, and shampoo, and formaldehyde. After she gives a permanent, she sprays Lysol in the air, so there's that, too. It's sweet, but there's an edge to it. Alice likes that. She's got a rose pink shag carpet on the floor. She likes that, too. In this town, you can't get married or have a golden wedding anniversary or go to a dance at the country club without Alice doing your hair. You can't get buried either.

(Andrea and Tina get hand-held
microphones for *Alice in the Looking
Glass.*)

TINA

*At nine o'clock each morning
Down on Charlotte Avenue
The bus driver stops and lets her off
Before the first shampoo
Alice started working there
When she was just a girl
And now she mans the second chair
At Thelma's Cut 'n Curl*

*A trim is just ten dollars,
And the conversation's free
She recreates the latest styles.
Of 1963
With a lipstick-circled cigarette
Constantly aflame
She greets all her clientele
By first and middle names*

*And even though that mirror
Paints a picture all too clear*

TINA & ANDREA