

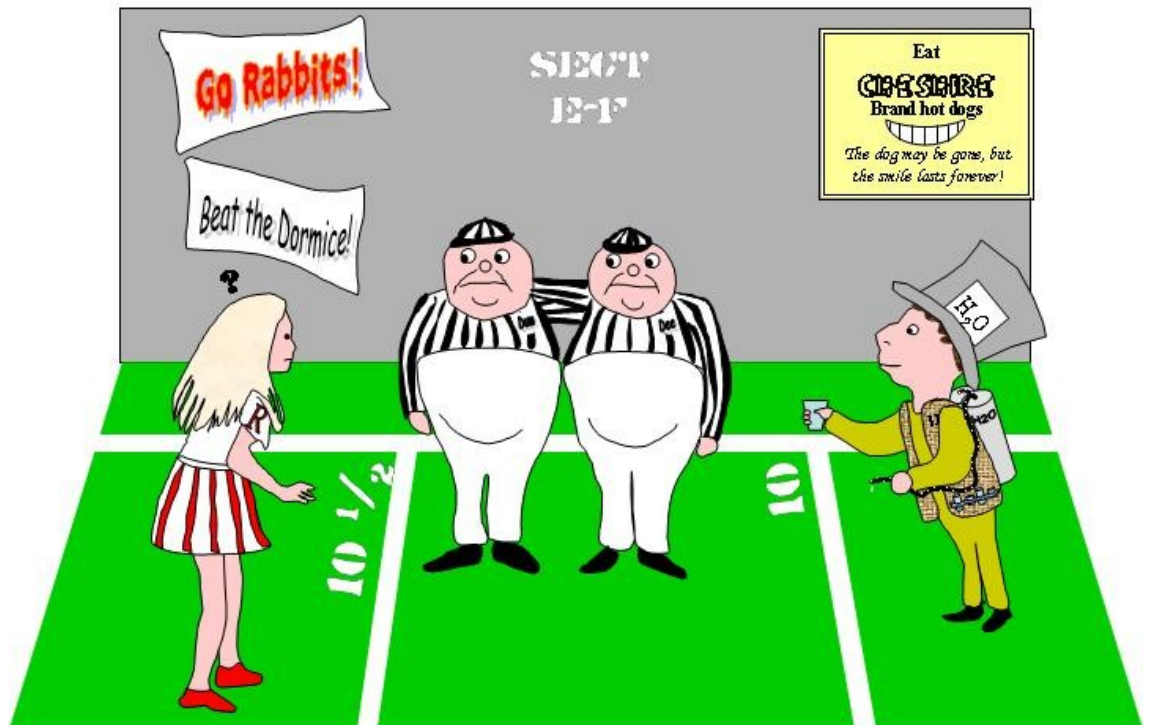
Alice in Football Land

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## SCENES

### **Act I**

#### Scene 1

Riverdale sideline, before the game.

### **Act II**

#### Scene 1

Further down the Riverdale Sideline, Start of the Second Quarter, The Referees

#### Scene 2

End zone, time out, the band.

#### Scene 3

Duncan Sideline, Start of Second Half, The coach

#### Scene 4

Further down the Duncan Sideline, Start of the Fourth Quarter, The Waterboy

#### Scene 5

Riverdale Sideline, Two Minute Warning, The Star Quarterback

### **Act III**

#### Scene 1

Riverdale sideline, before the game.

**Cast**  
19 + total

<u>Lines</u>	<u>Character</u>
329	Alice - Cheerleader who is very confused about what she wants.
105	Hotdog Vendor - Sells Cheshire Brand Hotdogs " <i>The smile remains, even after the last bite!</i> "
59	Tweedle Dee - Referee.
56	Tweedle Dum - Referee
52	Coach - Coach of the Duncan dormice
52	Janey - Alice's best friend.
48	Mike - Alice's childhood sweetheart. He still loves her.45      Announcer
44	Hubert - Riverdale Band Director
32	Waterboy - Duncan waterboy
30	Todd "The Tiger" Sweeney- Riverdale Rabbits Football team captain and all around hunk.

The following roles may be multi cast:

25	May - Head Cheerleader
21	White Rabbit - A very late Easter delivery guy.
17	Lisa - Duncan Cheerleader
13	Sue - Duncan Equipment Manager.
13	Stacy - Duncan Band member
11	Gina - Another cheerleader.
5, 1, 1	Pat, Dinah, Bill - Riverdale band members.
2,3,4	Substitute, Nobody, Anybody - Duncan Dormice football players.
2	Dormouse - Duncan team Mascot
	Additional Riverdale Cheerleaders (3-5)
	Additional band members (3-5)
	Additional Duncan football players (3-5)

*Curtain opens on a football sideline. Upstage is the Sky Backdrop. In front of it is a set of portable stands. Entire cast, with the exception of Alice, announcer, Tweedle Dum, Tweedle Dee and the Hotdog Vendor are in the stands as 'fans' whenever they are not on stage. The fans are holding some 'Go Riverdale' and 'Beat the Dormice' signs and some are wearing rabbit ear. A candy vending machine is upstage L and the floor is green with white stripes. There is a group of Riverdale cheerleaders facing the audience practicing cheers.*

ANN: Well, fans, today is the day. The Duncan Dormice are facing the Riverdale Rabbits for the first game of the season. Those rabbits are going to be tough to beat. Riverdale Quarterback Todd "The Tiger" Sweeney is expected to make All State this season, and I think Duncan will have their hands full with him, but Duncan's famous 'no-name' defense, which shall remain nameless, sure made a name for themselves last year, and were all named to the All Region team! Oh, and a note from the Duncan Head Coach; those of you submitting entries to name the no name defense, please do not send in any more entries with profanity. Thank you.

MAY: Okay girls. One more warm up cheer. How about our Team cheer? (*Team says cheer along with May.*)

When you're up, you're up  
When you're down, you're down  
When you're up against the rabbits  
You're really upside down!

MAY: That was great. Okay, you guys take five, then we'll practice the pyramid.

*(Alice and Janey meet down center)*

ALICE: Janey, I don't know what I'm gonna do. I just know Mike will ask me to the homecoming dance, but I want to go with Todd.

JANEY: Todd the Tiger? But what's wrong with Mike?

ALICE: Janey! I've known him forever. We were in kindergarten together. It's time I found someone new. Besides. He forgot my Birthday back in April, so I'm mad at him.

JANEY: This doesn't have anything to do with Todd being hot, does it?

ALICE: Well...he is kinda cute.

JANEY: Girl, if you don't stop drooling someone is gonna slip and get hurt.

ALICE: I can't help it. He's so cute. That little smile of his. And he's so cool.

JANEY: Don't look now, but prince charming is coming up right behind you.

ALICE: Really? How's my hair? Is my make-up okay?

JANEY: You look fine...except for that thing on your shoulder...it looks like a spider.

ALICE: Ahhh-hhh! Get it off, get it off, get it off!

JANEY: Just kidding, there's nothing on your shoulder. You look fine.

*(Mike enters and walks up behind Alice)*

MIKE: Hello Alice.

ALICE: Oh...Mike. *(Aside to Janey)* Janey! I'll get you for that!

JANEY: Sorry, couldn't help it. I'll just leave you two lovebirds alone.

*(Janey goes upstage to the other cheerleaders)*

MIKE: Alice, I'd like to ask you something. Will you go...

ALICE: Wait a minute, Mike, I have something I want to tell you.

MIKE: Uh...okay.

ALICE: We've known each other for many years- haven't we?

MIKE: Yes, of course, and I'll always...

ALICE: And we've always been friends. Well, I think friends should be honest with each other.

MIKE: Alice, what are you trying to say?

ALICE: We've known each other so long we take each other for granted.

MIKE: What?

ALICE: We each assume the other is always going to be there.

MIKE: I'll always be here.

ALICE: But I won't, Mike... I think we need to see other people. A change of pace. You know what I mean?

MIKE: You mean...you want to date other guys?

ALICE: Yes. You could too, you know.

MIKE: I don't want to date other guys!

ALICE: Not other guys, other girls.

MIKE: I don't want to date other girls either. I like being with you.

ALICE: Oh Mike, you know I'll always be your friend!

MIKE: And I'll always be your friend. But why can't we go out any more?

ALICE: Look; I'll be going to college soon. And we'll be apart... We might as well end it now rather than drag it out.

MIKE: But...we're in the eighth grade. You won't be going to college for four years!

ALICE: Oh, Mike, please try to let go. Don't hang on to the past. Okay?

MIKE: Alice...I...well, okay, I guess, if you say so.

ALICE: So, what was it you wanted to ask me?

MIKE: I...uh...wanted to know if...

ALICE: Yes?

MIKE: I wanted to know if you wanted some popcorn?

ALICE: In a minute, maybe, after we do the pyramid. Thanks. *(Turns and goes upstage to join cheerleaders forming a pyramid)*

MIKE: Sure...no problem... I guess. *(Exits)*

MAY: Okay, ready girls? Pyramid.

*(The girls form a pyramid facing the audience, with Alice on top. The pyramid is shaky and Alice falls off to the upstage side. The rest of the pyramid disbands and all the girls gather around her)*

MAY: Back, back. Give her some room.

JANEY: Alice, speak to me. Say something.

*(Mike rushes in carrying a really cheap rabbit costume)*

MIKE: Alice, Alice. Are you okay?

MAY: I think she's hurt.

GINA: I'll get her some ice.

*(Gina goes to concession stand)*

MIKE: She's waking up. It may be a concussion.

JANEY: Ask her something to see if she's scattered her marbles or something.

MIKE: What's the square root of 49?

JANEY: Ask something she'd know. Like what shop in the mall has the best prices on shoes?

ALICE: (*Waking*) The Sole Connection. Ow! My head hurts. What happened?

MIKE: You fell off the pyramid.

(*Gina comes back from concession stand with ice in a towel*)

GINA: Here's some ice.

(*Mike puts the ice on Alice's head*)

MIKE: There, how's that?

ALICE: Okay I guess.

GINA: You had quite a fall. Wham! Right on the pavement!

MAY: Okay, Gina, that's enough.

GINA: Sounded like a watermelon hitting the highway. We were expecting to see brains squirting out of your ears.

MAY: That's enough! You're upsetting her.

GINA: I'm upsetting her? What about me? I may never eat watermelon again.

ALICE: I think I'm okay now.

MIKE: Are you sure? I could stay here awhile.



ALICE: No, I'll keep the ice on it. I'll be fine. You go get your mascot costume on. I'll be okay.

MIKE: All right, if you're sure...

ALICE: I'll be fine.

MIKE: Okay. See you later.

*(Mike exits)*

MAY: Okay, everyone. She's fine. Let's go practice some of our cheers. Alice, you take a break. Go get a drink of water or something, take a few minutes.

*(other cheerleaders move away, leaving May, Janey and Alice. Janey helps Alice to her feet. Alice is holding the ice to her head.)*

JANEY: Maybe I should help her? She is a bit wobbly.

MAY: Okay, but hurry back. We can't do the pyramid without Alice, so we are going to do the leaning tower of Pisa; and we need you as anchor. *(Exit)*

JANEY: Okay.

ALICE: I'll be fine. You can go ahead.

JANEY: Girl, that boy has it bad for you.

ALICE: Who?

JANEY: Mike, who'd ya think? You are so blind.

ALICE: Oh, we're just friends. That's all.

JANEY: The way he was all "Are you okay? I can stay a while" and you were all "No, I'll be fine." And May was all "Let's get back to practice" and Gina was all "Just like a watermelon on a..."

ALICE: Okay, okay, enough with the watermelon already. Mike and I are through.

JANEY: I didn't see Todd 'the Tiger' run over here to help you.

ALICE: He's probably busy getting ready for the game. He's probably warming up.

JANEY: I'll say. *(Pointing offstage)* Look at the girl he's talking to. He's warming up all right.

ALICE: They're probably just friends. It doesn't mean anything.

JANEY: With friends like that... Well, it's your life. I can't tell you what to do. Go chasing after mister hot while mister wonderful gets away. See if I care.

ALICE: I'm not chasing anyone.

JANEY: Suit yourself. *(Janey joins other cheerleaders)*

Alice: *(Rubbing her head)* My head hurts.

*(White Rabbit comes up behind Alice in a rabbit suit, much nicer than the one Mike had. He looks over her shoulder, then moves to the other one when she turns that way.)*

ALICE: I thought I saw something. Oh, well.

*(Rabbit heads for the concession stand and Alice sees him)*

ALICE: Mike? Hey...Mike! Mike!

*(Rabbit rushes to the concession stand and stops in front of the candy vending machine. Alice follows him)*

ALICE: Mike! Where are you going? Mike?

*(Mike opens the front of the machine, steps in and closes the door behind him. The door of the machine is actually 2 doors. Mike opens both to go through the machine, but Alice only opens one door and it looks like the machine is full of candy.)*

ALICE: Mike? *(Laughing)* What are you doing in the candy machine? *(Looks through the front glass)* Funny...I don't see any room for him in there. *(Opens the machine which is full of candy)* Now that's weird, he's gone. Hey, what's this *(Takes out a box of crackerjacks with a note on it)* 'Eat me'. How strange. But I am very hungry. *(Alice closes the machine, and opens the box, and starts eating)* This is very good, but I wonder why I'm supposed to be eating it. *(She looks in the box, then pulls out a prize.)* What's this? A little compass! Which way is North? *(Holds the compass up, and moves it around finally pointing it offstage)* That way? That's not right. My house is that way, and I know it's not North of the stadium. *(Looks closer at the compass)* Wait a minute...this says 'Rabbit'. Why does this compass point to a rabbit? Oh, it must be Mike. How silly. I'll go see where he is. *(Exit, following compass.)*

*End Act I Scene 1*

*Same set as before but without cheerleaders or concession stands. Backdrop says Sections E - F. There is a camera on a tripod with a hood on it, like a sideline replay booth.*

ANN: What a first quarter. Riverdale was unstoppable. Quarterback Todd Sweeney was 8 of 12 for over one hundred and twenty yards and two touchdowns! Those dormice must be sleeping out there! A reminder for our fans, please do not throw food on the field; we are trying to keep the cheerleaders weight down. Ha, ha! But seriously, folks, please don't throw anything on the field, it may cause someone to get hurt.

*(Alice enters from R following the compass.)*

ALICE: I think I'm lost. I've been walking forever and ever. *(Looking back)* I can barely see the game, it's so far away. I really don't remember this stadium being this big.

*(Hotdog vendor enters)*

HD: Hotogs. Get yer hotdogs here. Two dollars each. Best dogs in town.

ALICE: Excuse me.

HD: Yes ma'am, what'll it be; the foot long, or the hand long?

ALICE: Hand long?

HD: Fits right in your hand. Just the right size.

ALICE: But...I don't eat hotdogs.

HD: You're kidding, right? Everybody eats hotdogs.

ALICE: I don't. You never know what's in them.

HD: These are Cheshire Brand franks. Only the finest *(picks up package and reads label)* meat and...uh...seasoning...artificial color...uh...more meat...some other stuff. Anyway, it's probably better than what you eat.

ALICE: I doubt it.

HD: So, you're not a dog person, huh? You must be a cat person.

ALICE: Well, I do like cats.

HD: You won't eat hot dogs, but you eat cats! (*conspiratorially*) Do you know what's in those things?

ALICE: What? I don't eat cats. I keep them as pets.

HD: Here (*holding out a hotdog*) try a dog for a pet.

ALICE: Yecch!

HD: (*Putting dog on a little hot dog holder*) Comes with his own little bed. Cute, ain't he? You can put him on the floor in your room, and he'll never run away!

ALICE: Some pet! He'd get all moldy!

HD: So... he'd be like a Chia pet. Two pets for the price of one!

ALICE: No thank you. I'm not interested.

HD: So, I haven't seen you in this part of the stadium before. Are you lost?

ALICE: I'm trying to find the White Rabbit.

HD: Rabbit, huh? Nope, never saw him. I did see a dormouse over on the other side of the field, though.

ALICE: That's the Duncan High mascot. I'm looking for the Riverdale mascot. I have this compass, (*takes out compass*) and it always points to the rabbit.

HD: Let me see that. (*Takes compass and looks at it.*) Well here's your problem...It's not pointing to the Rabbit. It's pointing away from this cat.

ALICE: Let me see that. (*Studies the compass*) I never noticed this cat before. I guess you're right. (*Looks over her shoulder*) Is there a cat chasing me?

HD: And you call yourself a cat person! Well, gotta go; these dogs ain't gonna sell themselves! (*Walking R, hollering*) Hotdogs! Get your hotdogs! Chesire Brand hotdogs. The dog may be gone, but the smile lasts forever! (*Looks back at Alice*) But watch out for the tiger! (*Exit*)

ALICE: What? What about a tiger? Did he say watch out for the tiger? (*Looks at compass*)

(*Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee enter. They are wearing referee uniforms and blowing whistles*)

DUM: (*Tweet*) Penalty!

DEE: (*Tweet*) Penalty!

(*Dum throws a yellow flag at Alice's feet*)

DUM: Fifteen yards, (*Makes signal*) for unsportsmanlike conduct.

DEE: You should be ashamed of yourself.

DUM: (*Picking up flag and marching toward Alice, who backs up as he approaches*) Back, back. There. That should do it. That's about fifteen yards.

ALICE: But what did I do?

DEE: What did you do? What did you do? I'll tell you what you did; you...you... (*looking at Dum*) What did she do again?

DUM: You didn't pay for the cracker jacks, that's what you did, uh...didn't do.

DEE: And when you don't not do something that you should have not not done, then you...I'm confused.

DUM: You've got it all wrong, brother, she didn't *do* it. She didn't not *not* do it, so she does get the penalty.

DEE: Can't we *not* not give her a penalty? She seems nice.

DUM: We did *not* not give her the penalty. That means we gave her the penalty.

DEE: What if I *didn't* not not give her the penalty? Then she gets the fifteen yards back.

DUM: Replay!

DEE: Replay!

ALICE: What does 'replay' mean?

DUM: Shhh! Don't interrupt the officials.

*(Dum and Dee go to replay booth and stick their heads in)*

DEE: What a picture.

DUM: And the color. Magnificent!

ALICE: What do you see?

DEE: Quiet!

DUM: Important official business. Back in a minute.

DEE: There! Did you see it?

DUM: Yes, I saw it. Plain as day!

ALICE: What? What did you see?

DEE: I said quiet!

DUM: Perhaps we should add a penalty for excessive crowd noise.

DEE: Is she a crowd?

DUM: Two's company, so three's a crowd.

DEE: And there are three of us.

DUM: (*Tweet*) That's another five yards!

(*Both Dum and Dee walk about five yards to R pulling the booth with them as Alice backs up.*)

ALICE: Oh bother. I'll never get any where like this!

DUM: Okay, I've seen enough.

DEE: Me too!

(*Both exit the booth*)

ALICE: So what's the verdict?

DUM: Not guilty!

ALICE: Great!

DEE: By reason of insanity.

ALICE: Well! I'm not sure I like *that* very much!

DEE: You get the fifteen yards back.

DUM: But you still loose five yards, for crowd noise.

DEE: So that means you go forward ten yards.

DUM: No she goes back ten yards.



DEE: We already went back fifteen. Then another five.

DUM: That makes twenty. (*Looking at the field*) That put her on the thirty.

DEE: Thirty plus ten equals forty. So you move to the forty.

(*Dum and Dee start moving R again but Alice stops them*)

ALICE: I don't mean to argue, but I started on the fifteen. Now you're sending me back to the forty that's a ...twenty five yard penalty.

DUM: She's right!

DEE: Of course!

DUM: (*Tweet, throws yellow flag*) Penalty!

DEE: (*Tweet, throws yellow flag*) Penalty!

ALICE: What did I do this time?

DUM: (*Pointing at Dee*) Not you, Him!

DEE: (*Pointing at Dum*) No it was you, not me.

DUM: You said she had to go back to the forty.

DEE: But you marched off the yardage, so it's your fault.

DUM: Is not!

DEE: Is too!

DUM: Is not infinity!

ALICE: Boys! Why not just forget it and let me go back to the twenty where I started.

DEE: Well, okay.

DUM: But then back five yards; for the crowd noise penalty!

DEE: Right! Twenty minus five is fifteen. Go back to the fifteen!

DUM: Are you sure that's right? Shouldn't she go to the twenty five?

DEE: I'm not sure. Twenty minus five is twenty five? That really doesn't sound right. Must be new math.

*(During the argument Alice tiptoes off L)*

DUM: Let's see *(Thinking)* Twenty, minus five, carry the one...

DEE: Why carry the one?

DUM: It's not too heavy. It's not like I'm carrying the whole twenty.

DEE: I think you're doing it wrong. Just go to the twenty and back-up five yards.

DUM: Look, if I go to the twenty and back up I'll be on the twenty five.

DEE: Depends on which way you're facing when you back up.

DUM: Good point. Hey...where'd she go?

DEE: probably left the game. *(Looking at watch)* it's halftime you know.

DUM: *(Waves hands while blowing whistle)* Halftime.

*End Act II Scene 2*

*Curtain opens on end zone. There is a goal post in the middle of the stage. Pat, Bill and Dinah, and other Riverdale band members are lining up as Humbert, the band director, directs them. Bill is carrying a goldfish bowl, Dinah has a dog whistle and a triangle, and Pat has a small ferris wheel.. Alice enters from R as hotdog vendor enters from left..*

ALICE: *(Looking R then L confused)* Didn't you go that way? How did you get over there?

HD: Oh, so now we're an expert on hotdog vendor travel routes, are we? Well, I guess I should have checked with you first.

ALICE: I'm sorry, I'm just so confused.

HD: Have you had a cat scan lately?

ALICE: What?

HD: A cat scan. Hold on *(Rummages in hotdog bin)* here we go. *(Takes out a cat and moves it all around Alice. After the scan there is a meow sfx.)* one meow. That's very good. I don't think you suffered any permanent damage. *(Puts cat away)* But you should take two of these *(Hands her two hot dogs)* and call me in the morning.

ALICE: Hotdogs?

HD: And that will be two dollars for the dogs, and eighty seven dollars for the cat scan.

ALICE: *(Handing back the hotdogs)* I don't want any dogs, and I didn't ask for the 'cat scan'!

HD: Suit yourself. Well, I gotta get going. *(Starts R)* Hot dogs. Get 'em while they're hot...dogs. Cheshire brand Hot Dogs. And cat scans, X-rays, MRI's, prescriptions filled...

ALICE: Wait. What did you mean about 'Watch out for the tiger'?

HD: *(Looking back at Alice)* Well, tigers can be dangerous, you know.

ALICE: So can bears, and sharks.

HD: Don't be silly; there are no bears or sharks in a football stadium! (*Starts R again*) Hot dogs. Get your hot dogs. (*Exit*)

ALICE: He makes no sense at all!

HUM: All right, all right. Line up and quit goofing off.

ALICE: Excuse me, sir.

HUM: Ah, about time you showed up. You're in the wrong uniform, but it's too late to change. The halftime show starts in five minutes you know.

ALICE: But I...

HUM: Come on, come on, get in line. Where is your tuba?

ALICE: I don't play the tuba. I play a piano.

HUM: Now who ever heard of a piano in a marching band! The very idea!

ALICE: I'm not in the band.

DINAH: Here, you can play this. (*Hands Alice a triangle*)

HUM: There, now let's hear a little something.

ALICE: Uh...okay. (*Rings triangle*)

HUM: Perfect! Wonderful!

PAT: I thought it was off key.

BILL: How can a triangle be off key?

HUM: Good triangulation. But your posture needs work. Stand up straight. Shoulders back. Hold the triangle out straight. Good, good.

ALICE: Please, sir, I just came by to ask if you saw a rabbit.

HUM: A rabbit? There are no rabbits in this band. We do have a gold fish bowl (*Bill comes forward with a goldfish bowl and a straw. He blows through the straw making bubbling noises* ) and a dog whistle (*Dinah come forward and plays a note on the dog whistle, which makes no noise but results in some barking backstage* ) but no rabbits.

PAT: A-hem!

HUM: Yes, Pat, what is it?

PAT: We do have the hamster wheel.

HUM: Well, yes, the hamster wheel. But no rabbits, that's my point.

BILL: Maybe she was confused and is really looking for a hamster.

*(Pat comes forward holding what looks like a miniature ferris wheel. He is holding it by the hub and there are little hamsters in the seats.)*

PAT: Is one of these yours.

ALICE: *(Looking at the wheel)* No, the rabbit was much bigger. *(Pause)* I never heard of a hamster wheel. What does it sound like.

PAT: I'll show you. *(Pat spins the wheel and there is a sound of several hamsters going 'whee')*

HUM: We used to have a larger one, but one day the monkeys got out and, well, the less said about that the better.

ALICE: Well, I really need to go.

HUM: Go? But what about the halftime show? We were going to perform a musical version of The Walrus and the Carpenter.

ALICE: Oh, I remember that one.

HUM: How can you remember it? I just made it up.

ALICE: The Walrus and the Carpenter? That poem has been around for two hundred years!

HUM: Okay, so tell us, miss smarty-pants; how does it go?

ALICE: I'm not sure how it starts... but the part I remember goes:

"The time has come"  
The walrus said,  
"To talk of lot's of stuff;"  
"Of football games and high school bands"  
"And why is math so tough"  
"And why the teacher always yells;"  
"that's it, I've had enough!"

HUM: Pretty good. But it's 'why is English so tough'. It's close enough though.

ALICE: But...wasn't there a part about cabbages and kings?

HUM: That's in the verse about the cafeteria... at least the cabbage part.

ALICE: I'm sure I got it wrong. Everything is so confused today. Maybe it's because I fell down.

HUM: Fell down? Do you fall down a lot?

ALICE: Not usually...but today is a bit different.

HUM: Dinah? Please take the triangle back. (*Dinah takes the triangle from Alice*) We do not need any 'fall-downers' in our marching band, thank you very much.

ALICE: But I didn't want to be in the band in the first place!

HUM: No use begging; my mind is made up. Now run along, before you fall on one of my band members.

ALICE: Okay. Bye. *(Exit L)*

HUM: Okay everyone; The Walrus and the Carpenter. And Dinah, not so loud on the dog whistle; my ears are still ringing!

*(Band starts playing as curtain closes)*

*End Act II Scene 2*

