

THE *Lotte Senya* COMPETITION SONGBOOK

“But You’ll Be Fine” from *The Pact*
Music by Derrick Byars, Lyrics by Tia DeShazor

ELISE

Hey! Are you sure you’re up for this? (to BETH)

JUST A QUICK WORD OF WARNING, THEN I’LL LET YOU GO
THE GIRLS, THEY *DO* NEED SUNBLOCK
I HOPE THIS DOESN’T OFFEND YOU, BUT A WEEK AGO
THE NURSE AT SCHOOL WAS IN SHOCK
SOME OF THE SMARTEST PEOPLE
STILL THINK THAT THERE’S A MAGIC SHIELD FROM THE SUN IN OUR SKIN
BUT THE MELANOMA STUDIES ARE IN
AND OUR DEATH RATES ARE ON THE INCLINE - BUT YOU’LL BE FINE!

BETH walks out to her car. *ELISE* runs out after her with something in her hand.

ELISE

JUST A BRIEF EXPLANATION, THEN I’LL GO SIT DOWN
THE GIRLS, PREFER THESE BAND-AIDS
IT MIGHT BE HARDER TO FIND THE KIND THAT COME IN BROWN
ONLINE THEY COME IN ALL SHADES
SOME OF THE KINDEST PEOPLE
STILL THINK THAT WE SHOULD FIT IN ONE SINGLE COLOR OF NUDE
BUT IT’S THIS DELUDED RUDE ATTITUDE
THAT EXISTS JUST TO KEEP US IN LINE - BUT YOU’LL BE FINE

ELISE runs back up the porch stairs waving goodbye, and then quickly comes back.

ELISE

Okay, bye! Wait...

AND NOW THAT I THINK THIS THROUGH

I HOPE YOU DON’T FEEL CONDESCENDED TO
IT’S NOT WHAT I MEANT TO DO
I LOVE IT WHEN THE GIRLS SPEND TIME WITH YOU

YOU GIVE THEM THINGS THEY'LL NEVER GET FROM ME
LIKE ALL THOSE HORSES AND THE HIKES AND ALL YOUR 'CAREFREE'
AND THOSE LAZY AFTERNOONS UNDER YOUR FAVORITE TREE
IT'S THAT VISION OF VERMONT- IT'S OFTEN HARD FOR ME TO SEE

ELISE

Okay, you totally got this. Bye-have fun!!

ELISE goes inside and shuts the door. She pulls out her cell phone.

(A breath, then finally, to BETH on the phone:)

Wait, one more thing!

JUST A LAST LITTLE COMMENT, THEN I'LL REEL IT IN
THE GIRLS, THEY SEEM QUITE FEARLESS
BUT YOU HAVE NEIGHBORS WHO RARELY EVER SEE DARK SKIN
SO THERE ARE THINGS YOU MIGHT MISS
SOME OF THE NICEST PEOPLE
STILL THINK WE NEED TO HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER THEIR SPACE
SO I'LL BE RIGHT BY THE PHONE JUST IN CASE
SOMEONE CRAZY MISTREATS WHAT IS MINE- BUT YOU'LL BE FINE

I TRUST YOU, I TRUST YOU, I'M TRUSTING YOU!
I TRUST YOU, I TRUST YOU, MY FRIEND, AND YOU'LL BE FINE!

Hello?