

Judy #1

GREG. (*coming forward*) My real name is Sidney Kenneth Beckenstein.
My Jewish name is Rochmel Lev Ben Yokov Meyer Beckenstein,
and my professional name is Gregory Gardner.
Very East Side, and I do not deny it. I'm 32.

CASSIE. (*steps out*) Cassie ... Ah ... Zach, could I talk to you for a minute?

ZACH. Sure, go ahead.

CASSIE. Well, I mean privately. (*She starts for the steps to the aisle.*)

ZACH. Not right now, Cassie. I'm running about an hour behind.

CASSIE. Well, I know, but I ...

ZACH. Next.

CASSIE goes back to the line.

SHEILA. (*stepping forward*) I'm Sheila Bryant. Really Sara Rosemary Bryant,
which I really hate. I was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
And I'm going to be thirty real soon. And I'm real glad. (*She backs into line.*)

BOBBY. (*stepping downstage*) I'm Robert Charles Joseph Henry Mills III,
that's my real name too. I come from upstate New York, near Buffalo.
I can't remember the name of the town ... I've blocked it out.
I was born 25 years ago. (*Back to line.*)

BEBE. (*forward*) My name is Bebe Benzenheimer and I know, I gotta change it.
I'm twenty-two. I come from Boston, and here I am. (*Embarrassed, she backs into line.*)

start JUDY. My name is Judy Turner. My real name is Lana Turner. (*Laughing at her own joke.*)
No, no, no, no, no — it's always been Judy Turner. I'm 26 years old.

JUDY backs up, RICHIE starts out, JUDY stops him and goes on.

JUDY. (*continued*) Oh, I was born in El Paso ... El Paso, Texas.

ZACH. Good. Next.

RICHIE. (*steps out of line*) My name is Richie Walters. I'm twenty-seven.
I was born on a full moon in Herculaneum, Missouri. And I'm black.

AL. I'm Alan Deluca. I'm thirty and I come from the Bronx. [*pumps the air—not in PB*]

KRISTINE. I'm Kristine Ulrich, Kristine Evelyn Ulrich,
and I'll be 23 on September 1. (*She backs into line.*)

AL. (*to KRISTINE*) Tell him where you're from.

KRISTINE. (*takes a step forward*) Oh — I'm from St. Louis, Missouri.
(*She goes back to the line; AL prompts her.*)

Judy #2

36

OTHER AUDITIONERS EXCEPT DON *sing backup syllables under solo lines.*

OTHER AUDITIONERS.

~~BEBE. My God, that Steve McQueen's real sexy. Bob Goulet out, Steve McQueen in! Ba, ba-da-dah, ba-da-dah.~~

~~CASSIE. "You cannot go to the movies Until you finish your homework." Ba, ba-da-dah, ba-da-dah. Ba-da-dah.~~

~~AL. "Wash the car."~~

~~MIKE. "Stop pickin' your nose." Ba-da-da-dah, Ba-da.~~

~~MAGGIE. "Oh, darling, you're not Old enough to wear a bra. You've got nothing to hold it up." Ba-da-dah, Ba-da-dah, ba-da-dah.~~

~~MARK. Locked in the bathroom with Peyton Place. Ba-da-dah, Ba-da-dah, ba-da.~~

~~VAL. Tits! When am I gonna grow tits?~~

~~BOBBY. If Troy Donahue could be a movie star, Then I could be a movie star.~~

*The OTHER AUDITIONERS are now upstage right.
BOBBY joins them. They face upstage.*

~~DON. (*out of pantomime, spoken over music*) Well, when the guys on the block saw Lola, they all wanted to know what the story was, and I told them about this big hot romance we were having, but actually she was going with this ...~~

~~DON steps upstage into darkness and joins the AUDITIONERS.
JUDY moves forward from upstage left.~~

Start → JUDY. (*sung*) Little brat!
That's what my sister was,
A little brat.
And that's why I shaved her head.
I'm glad I shaved her head.
But then my father lost his job so we had to leave El Paso
And we wound up in St. Louie, Missouri.
Well, it was the furthest thing from my mind to be a dancer,
But my mother would embarrass me
So when she'd come to pick me up at school
With all those great, big, yellow rollers in her hair
No matter how much I begged her and she'd say,

(*spoken*) "What are you, ashamed of your own mother?"

(*sung*) But the thing that made my daddy laugh so much
Was when I used to jump and dance around the living room ...

*JUDY goes into pantomime and stays where she is until she sings again.
The AUDITIONERS who sing "Mother" have moved into formation
with MAGGIE center. Lyrics are sung in counterpoint to the end of the number.*

MAGGIE. Please take this message
to mother from me. AL.
Carry it with you Dad would take Mom to Roseland.
across the blue sea. She'd come home with her shoes in her hand.
DIANA.
"Mother, oh, Mother, Mama fat, always in the
wherever I go kitchen cooking all the time.
SHEILA.
Your Maggie is "Darling, I can tell you now,
missing you so." Your father went through life with an open fly."
VAL.
"Mother, oh, Mother, Tits! Where are my tits?
wherever I go CASSIE.
"Listen to your mother.
Your Maggie is Those stage and movie people got there
missing you because they're special."
so." GREG.
"You take after your father's side of the family,
the ugly side."
PAUL.
"Wait until your father gets home."
DON.
Swear to God and hope to die.

*Lights fade on the GROUP, they join the OTHER AUDITIONERS
to reform THE LINE, facing upstage*

JUDY. And it was the [...]

Music attacca.

No. 15

Montage, Part 4

(Judy, Greg, Richie & Company)

JUDY. *(continued)*

[...] first time I'd ever seen a dead body.
But then when I was fifteen the most terrible thing happened.
The Ted Mack Amateur Hour held auditions in St. Louie
And I didn't hear about it till after they'd gone
And I nearly killed myself,

THE LINE turns and walks downstage.

JUDY. *(continued)*

Nearly killed myself.
I tried to walk in front of a speeding streetcar
And I remember noticing boys for the first time.

AUDITIONERS are now on THE LINE and lights come up.

JUDY. *(continued, spoken over music)* Anyway, I remember practicing kissing with Leslie.
She was my best girlfriend. Did any of you ever practice kissing with another girl ...

(sung) So that when the time came you'd now how to? (she listens)

(spoken) No? ... Oh my God.

KRISTINE. (after a moment) Judy? (music stops.)

JUDY. Did you, girl?

KRISTINE. Yeah ... But just a **couple** of times.

SHEILA. Oh, count me in. (music continues.)

JUDY. Thank God! (backing into line) Anyway, I do remember ... **STOP**

~~GREG. (stepping forward, spoken over music) The worst thing in school was every time the teacher called on me ...~~

~~(sung) I'd be hard, I'd be hard.~~

~~(spoken over music) Really, I'd have to lean up against the desk like this. (He demonstrates.) And the teacher would say,~~

~~(sung) "Stand up straight."~~

~~(spoken in rhythm)~~

~~"I can't. I have a pain in my — side."~~

~~(sung) "Stand up straight."~~

~~(spoken over music) Or walking down the hall, you'd have to walk like this,~~

~~(sung) With all your books stacked up in front of you.~~

MIKE. (spoken over music) I thought it was me. I thought I was a sex maniac.

CONNIE & MAGGIE. (sung)

You are!

BOBBY. (spoken over music) I did too. I mean, it didn't go down for three years.

GREG. And the bus was the worst. I'd just look at a bus and ...

(sung) Bingo!

(spoken over music) And then there was the time I was making out in the back seat with Sally Ketchum ... We were necking and I was feeling her boobs, and feeling her boobs, and after about an hour or so she said, "Ooohhhh! ..."

(sung) Don't you want to feel anything else?"

(spoken in rhythm)

And I suddenly thought to myself, "No, I don't."

ZACH. (spoken over music) Did that come as a surprise to you?

GREG. (spoken over music) I guess, yeah. It was probably the first time I realized I was homosexual and I got so depressed because I thought being gay meant being an outcast all the rest of my life, a bum, and I said,

(sung) "Gee, I'll never get to wear nice clothes ..."

(spoken over music) And I was really into clothes, I had this pair of powder blue and pink gabardine pants ...

GREG goes into pantomime as the GROUP breaks upstage from THE LINE.