

ANNE 3

MR. FRANK. No one's leaving. We can't panic. If we panic, we're lost. We've survived here for six months together. We're going on. Margot. Anne. The song. Please. *(Margot and Anne hesitate, then falteringly begin to sing.)*

MARGOT and ANNE. *Ma-oz tzur ye-shu-a-si*

EVERYONE. *(Slowly joining in, some humming, some singing the words.)*

Le-cha naw-eh lisha bayah

Ti-kon beis te-fi-la-si

Ve-shum to-daw

n-zaw-bei-ach

L'et takhin ma-be'ach

Mitzar hammnabe' —

(Margot suddenly breaks down, takes off her glasses, sobbing silently. Mrs. Frank rushes to her. The others stop singing, move even closer, as Anne speaks directly to us.)

ANNE. Sometimes I see myself alone in a dungeon, without Father and Mother, or I'm roaming the streets, or the Annex is on fire, or they come in the middle of the night to take us away, and I know it could all happen soon. *(The members of the Annex linger together, shaking hands, embracing.)* I see the eight of us in the Annex as if we were a patch of blue sky threatened by menacing black clouds. We're surrounded by darkness and danger, and in our desperate search for a way out we keep bumping into each other. *(Mr. Dussel slips into the W.C. The two families separate — the van Daans with Peter go into their room, Mrs. Frank and Margot into Anne's room. Mr. Frank, the last to leave, holds Anne close to him. She remains alone.)* We look at the fighting below and the peace and beauty above, but we're cut off by the dark mass of clouds and can go neither up nor down. It looms before us, an impenetrable wall. I can only cry out and implore, "Open wide. Let us out!" *(There is a sob from Margot. Anne rushes to her. The two families cling to each other. The house lights come up, as the light on the stage slowly dims.)*

End of Act One