

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT.  
 WITH YOUR FACE IN A DROOP ON THE STOOP  
 CAUSE YOUR MAMA THE BOSS  
 SAYS YOU BETTER NOT CROSS THAT OLD AVENUE P  
 IN A JUNGLE YOU ARE FREE!  
 THE TOM-TOM BEATS, THE TIGER CAROUSES,  
 THE JUNGLE CREEPS OVER THE RED BRICK HOUSES,  
 AND FOR CHILLERS AND THRILLERS,  
 I TRAIN GIANT GORILLAS  
 TO CHASE MAMAS AND PAPAS,  
 CLIPPETY-CLOPPETY,  
 THUMPING THEIR BREASTS AND ROARING:  
 GET OFFA MY PROPERTY.  
 NO-ONE'S ALLOWED TO SAY MAYBE OR NO.  
 THEY GOTTA GET OUT, THEY JUST GOTTA GO.  
 RIGHT!

ROSIE'S MOTHER. (offstage) Rosie!  
 ROSIE.

IN DREAMS  
 IT SEEMS  
 I ALWAYS SEE  
 AVENUE P AS IT OUGHT TO BE—  
 A TERRIFIC PLACE FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME  
 YOU'LL SEE,  
 I'LL MAKE IT THAT WAY.  
 SOMEDAY.

(CHICKEN SOUP has entered in his carton. ROSIE lifts the box and finds him there.)

CHICKEN SOUP. Are you going to kill me now, Rosie?  
 ROSIE. No, not now. [Music Cue 20A — Underscore] Where have you been? The producer's been waiting and waiting. He even skipped cocktails with his mother uptown just to wait.

CHICKEN SOUP. Why, Rosie?

ROSIE. Because of you, dummy. He wanted you to try out for the big Chicken Soup Finale number in my movie. But he's so mad from waiting I don't think he cares anymore.

CHICKEN SOUP. Chicken Soup is me, Rosie, so I gotta be in the finale. Please, beg him Rosie. Please Ro — let me be in your big finale number with all the costumes and the months and teacups and everything.

ROSIE. OK, I'll ask him. (Looks up at the "producer".) How about it Mr. P.? Give the kid a break. (momentary pause as she waits for an answer) He says OK.

CHICKEN SOUP. Thanks, Rosie.

ROSIE. Now you listen carefully. This is the chance of a lifetime. I'm sending you out a stupid boring kid, and I want you to come back a fantastic bit player star. [Music Cue 21]

CHICKEN SOUP. Yes Rosie, I will. I will.

ROSIE. OK. You start out the whole year. Chicken Soup is January!

CHICKEN SOUP. Hooray for me. (He sings CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.)

IN JANUARY IT'S SO NICE  
 WHILE SLIPPING ON THE SLIDING ICE  
 TO SIP HOT CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.  
 SIPPING ONCE, SIPPING TWICE.  
 SIPPING CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.

IN FEBRUARY IT WILL BE  
 MY SNOWMAN'S ANNIVERSARY  
 WITH CAKE FOR HIM AND SOUP FOR ME.  
 HAPPY ONCE, HAPPY TWICE  
 HAPPY CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.

IN MARCH THE WIND BLOWS DOWN THE DOOR  
 AND SPILLS MY SOUP UPON THE FLOOR.  
 IT LAPS IT UP AND ROARS FOR MORE.  
 BLOWING ONCE, BLOWING TWICE  
 BLOWING CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.

IN APRIL I WILL GO AWAY  
 TO FAR OFF SPAIN OR OLD BOMBAY  
 AND DREAM ABOUT HOT SOUP ALL DAY  
 OH MY ONCE, OH MY TWICE  
 OH MY CHICKEN SOUP WITH RICE.