

THE BEES KNEES

John Gardyne and Matthew Miller

PHOEBE stands alone. After a moment MRS BODDLE appears with a scarf.

MRS B Not as warm as it was. Here. You might need this. (Gives scarf).

PHOEBE Thankyou. (Cries) Oh Mrs Boddle, whatever shall I do?

MRS B Now come on. Crying won't help. You've got to be brave.

PHOEBE But this is the end of everything.

MRS B It's not the end - it's the beginning of something wonderful and new. You've got the chance to do something different, something special, something no bee before you has ever been able to do. The rest of us will spend the rest of our lives working away, wondering what's out there in the big wide world. But you - you're going to find out. And one day you'll look back at this moment and know that this was the best thing that could ever have happened to you.

PHOEBE Promise?

MRS B I promise.

She hugs PHOEBE.

MRS You'd best get going before nightfall. Take care of yourself won't you Phoebe?

PHOEBE Yes.

MRS B Promise?

PHOEBE I promise.

MRS BODDLE leaves. PHOEBE alone.

PHOEBE It's getting colder now
The darkness falling
No time to sit around
The world is calling
It's a long long way I know
But however far I go
I'll some day
Find my way
Back home

I had a family
Only this morning
Strange how things fall apart
Without a warning
I suppose you never know
When the winds of change will blow
To break you
And take you

From home

I've heard all the stories they tell
Of countries beyond the horizon
And mountains that reach to the sky
They never tell you if you'll ever find one.

There's nothing more to say
No time for crying
So thanks for having me
I must be flying
Though this is so hard to bear
As I stand here now I swear
I'll some day
Find my way
Back home.

PHOEBE takes one last look back and then sets off on her travels.