

WILL

Once upon a time....

GEORGIE

...When, Willy?

WILL

A long time ago.

GEORGIE

How long ago?

WILL

Last week.

GEORGIE

Last week.

WILL

Once upon a time last week...

GEORGIE

...in a city with tall buildings...

WILL

There lived two twins.

GEORGIE

Identical twins?

WILL

They were exactly alike – except for the fact that they were completely different.  
Know what I mean?

GEORGIE

Yes.

WILL

I knew you would.

GEORGIE

How were they alike?

WILL

They looked exactly alike. They talked exactly alike. They were so identical, no one could tell them apart.

GEORGIE

How were they different?

WILL

One had blonde hair. The other was a brunette. One had green eyes. The other brown. One sang very high...

GEORGIE

...The other sang low.

WILL

You knew them too?

(She nods.)

Can you remember their names?

(She looks puzzled.)

Abigail and Norma.

GEORGIE

Which was which?

WILL

That's the most important part. Norma was very, very normal. But Abby was very, very, very special.

GEORGIE

How was she special?

WILL

She was a great number counter.

GEORGIE

Did she count to ten a lot?

WILL

Way beyond. She could count up to *five squillion*. She knew all her multiplication tables by heart and she could even divide.

GEORGIE

I hate Abby.

WILL

Why?

GEORGIE

Because she's special.

WILL

She couldn't help it.

GEORGIE

Why?

WILL

Because she could play the piano.

GEORGIE

A lot of people can play the piano.

WILL

She could play it standing on her head. But because Abby was special, for every thing she could do brilliantly, there was something that she couldn't do at all.

GEORGIE

Like what?

WILL

She was afraid of stairs.

GEORGIE

Stairs are scary.

WILL

I remember. When she was counting or playing the piano on her head, no girl on the entire planet could be happier. But when she had to walk up or down stairs no little girl in the entire galaxy could be more miserable.

GEORGIE

What about Norma?

WILL

She wasn't special at all.

GEORGIE

Why?

WILL

She could count, but only up to *two* squillion. She could add, but only one or two-digit numbers. She couldn't play the piano. And sometimes – if the numbers were small and even – she could almost subtract. Everything Norma wanted was what she already had. So she was never disappointed or frustrated. She was never sad. And she never changed. She was always just plain old Norma.

GEORGIE

She wasn't special?

WILL

The only thing special in her life was Abby.

(Nathaniel appears at the door.)

**GEORGIE**

What happened to them?

**WILL**

Something horrible. Worse than sleeping under a spell for a hundred years, or being devoured by a whale, or fattened up by an evil witch. Do you really want to know?

(She nods her head.)

I warned you.