PAUL Better not, Nicky. You know what Mum says about ‘stranger danger’.

NICKY She looks too tired to hurt anyone.

PAUL We could get a policeman.

NICKY Don’t be silly - that’d take ages. Anyway she hasn’t done anything wrong... And nobody else is doing anything to help her.... Come on!

PAUL OK, but don’t say I didn’t warn you.

[NICKY crosses to KATE, followed by PAUL.]

NICKY Excuse me, are you all right?

KATE (lifting her head) Me? (pulling herself together with great effort) Yes, I just tripped.... I’ll try and....

[KATE pulls herself up with NICKY’S help. NICKY helps her across to the bench, and PAUL puts KATE’S carrier bags on the ground next to her. NICKY sits on the bench next to KATE. While the dialogue is going on, the shoppers are miming (discreetly) and gradually leaving.]

KATE Thanks. You’re very kind.

NICKY Is there anything else we can do to help?

PAUL We could carry these bags home for you?

KATE Home? (shrugs) I’m afraid I am home.

[They look at her, not understanding.]

PAUL You can’t live on a bench!

KATE I don’t. I live over there. (She indicates a large cardboard box.)

[PAUL moves to the box, looks at it, and then moves back.]

PAUL A box? People don’t live in boxes!

NICKY (whispers, embarrassed) Shh! Paul! They do! I’ve seen them on television.

PAUL (out loud) But they’re homeless.

[They both stare at her.]

NICKY Are you homeless, then?

KATE ‘Fraid so.

[Short silence, while they digest this.]
PAUL It must be freezing living in a box in this weather.

[He sits down on the other side of KATE.]

NICKY And what about having a bath, and cooking and things?

KATE Well, I wouldn’t call it a life of luxury. There are places where you can get hot food sometimes.

NICKY It must be awful.

**WHAT HAPPENS?** (Kate, Paul, Nicky, Chorus) (© Track 5/18)

*During the song, any remaining shoppers / traders are packing up, going home.*

Paul: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT RAINS?
Kate: I GET WET!
Nicky: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT SNOWS?
Kate: I GET COLD!
Paul: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU’VE NOTHING TO EAT?
Kate: I’M HUNGRY!
Nicky: AND WHEN YOU’VE NOTHING TO DRINK?
Kate: I’M THIRSTY!

BUT I SURVIVE - I’M STILL ALIVE!
AND WHEN I WAKE UP TO
ANOTHER MORNING -
ANOTHER MORNING OF THE SAME AGAIN -
I DON’T KNOW HOW, BUT STILL I
FACE THAT MORNING,
AND EACH DAY ENDS,
AND THEN IT STARTS AGAIN...

Paul: WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU’RE ILL?
Kate: I SUFFER.
Nicky: WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU’RE SCARED?
Kate: I’M FRIGHTENED.
Paul: WHAT HAPPENS IF YOUR CLOTHES GET TORN?
Kate: I’M SCRUFFY!
Nicky: AND WHEN YOU’RE ALL ALONE?
Kate: I’M LONELY.

BUT I SURVIVE.....etc.

Choir L: WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE’S ILL?
Choir R: SHE SUFFERS.
Choir L: WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE’S SCARED?
Choir R: SHE’S FRIGHTENED.
Choir L: WHAT HAPPENS IF HER CLOTHES GET TORN?
Choir R: SHE’S SCRUFFY!
Choir L: AND WHEN SHE’S ALL ALONE?
Choir R: SHE’S LONELY.

She survives - She’s still alive!
And when she wakes up to another morning -
Another morning of the same again -

Kate: I DON’T KNOW HOW, BUT STILL I
FACE THAT MORNING,
AND EACH DAY ENDS,
AND THEN IT STARTS AGAIN...