

DIANA & ADELE, p.23-24

Scene 3b (Mothers of Invention)

ADELE (*to Diana*)

Didn't catch your name?

DIANA

Diana Merry. Nice to have another woman on board.

ADELE

Were you really working down the hall in the secretarial pool?

DIANA

It's true. When Alan caught me fooling around with one of the computers, he asked me to join the group. Started out as an intern. The rest is history.

ADELE:

Isn't that something. Diana - could you help me up? I'm having a hard time getting out of this chair.

DIANA

Sure.

(Diana helps Adele out of chair.)

ADELE

I'm pregnant with my first.

DIANA

Does Alan know?

ADELE

Yeah - I guess he thinks my skills are a good fit, so he can overlook this little detail...Been pretty lucky getting work...Have to wonder if the war wasn't going on, whether we would have this job.

DIANA

Alan's first boss was a woman, so he's a little enlightened there...But it's true...Whenever there's a war, there are more opportunities for women – like the women working on ENIAC during World War II...They never got the credit they deserved.

ADELE

Let's not forget Grace Hopper - rear admiral in the Navy when she wrote the first computer manual...I mean, how many people get a battleship named after them! Not something I'd aspire to. Still...Women have a long history as coders.

DIANA

How about Ada Lovelace - mathematician and coder. That was a century ago.

ADELE

Now she was an amazing woman. Balancing a career in mathematics with three kids.

DIANA

Some say she was the first computer programmer. The mother of it all! Too bad she wasn't recognized for her contribution.

Adele and Diana sing (**THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION**)