**Somebody Everybody Listens To by Suzanne Supplee**

(Spoken with a fake, “real” Southern accent)

Hey y’all! My name is Retta Lee Jones and I’m from Starling, Tennessee. I can’t wait to get out of this town. I’m headed to Nashville. I’m wanna make it big in the country music scene… I wanna be “somebody Everybody listens to!” High school diploma in hand, goodbyes said, and $514.76 in my wallet, I am on my way!

Well, it didn’t take me long to discover that Nashville can be brutal! I immediately suffered a series of events that bout drove me crazy! There was an encounter with a cop, a wreck, and would you believe a sobriety test?! And then a robbery! Just to name a few. Needless to say…I’m broke! Then I met, Ricky Dean - tow truck driver, auto mechanic and all around nice guy! He says he needs a temporary receptionist and I can work for him in exchange for work on my BORROWED car. Living in your car and taking baths in a convenience store sink were not part of my plans. Eventually I found a job singing at a hotel - if you can call it a hotel! It’s old and seedy, and the only people who come to hear me sing on a regular basis are old - I mean really old! Then I get news of a family crisis, and had to head back home, Not sure if I'll get another chance to come back to Nashville again…

(Passage from book)

“Or maybe, for once, it would fall into place. Maybe this one phone call was *my* big break, the thing that would lead to the big dream I’d been carrying around in my heart forever – the Grand Ole Opry and my voice on the radio.”

To find out if Retta Lee Jones gets her wish, you’ll have to read “Somebody Everybody Listens To”.

*As a side note, the story also contains biographical notes of famous country singers before each chapter.*

*~April Milton & Angela Germany*