In this chapter of *The Catcher in the Rye*, the protagonist reflects on his thoughts after breakfast, specifically fixating on nuns he encountered and their humble collection basket. He finds it difficult to imagine his mother or Sally Hayes's mother engaged in similar charitable activities due to their poised lives. This contemplation evokes a deep sadness within him, stirring memories of how trivial yet impactful such mundane scenarios can be.

He decides to take a stroll to Broadway, yearning to find a record store open on Sunday to purchase a rare record called "Little Shirley Beans," which he hopes will delight his sister, Phoebe. The narrative reveals his fondness for the record—a reflection of his desire to connect with Phoebe, emphasizing the strong bond they share. As he walks, he spots a family from church, and their son's joyful singing of "If a body catch a body coming through the rye" lifts his spirits momentarily amidst the bustling streets filled with movie-goers, which he finds unbearably depressing.

Once on Broadway, he quickly finds the record he seeks, feeling a rush of happiness that contrasts with the surrounding crowd's eagerness to watch films, which he detests. This contempt extends to the theatrical world, as he purchases tickets to a show he speculates will impress Sally. His thoughts drift to an experience with a renowned actor, Sir Laurence Olivier, and the contrasting memories of his childhood enjoyment during visits to the museum.

After getting his tickets, he takes a cab to the park, despite his dwindling funds, wanting to avoid the overwhelming ambiance of Broadway. Arriving at the park, he is met with disappointment as the environment feels dreary and uninviting, lacking the usual cheer expected of a holiday season. He searches for Phoebe, recalling nostalgic moments spent in the same park, yet she is nowhere to be found.

Attempting to locate her, he strikes up a conversation with a girl who mentions Phoebe is likely at the museum. Remembering fond excursions with Phoebe in his youth, he decides to walk to the Museum of Natural History, reminiscing about childhood memories and how spaces remain unchanged while people grow and evolve. However, once there, he finds himself uninterested and instead opts to head to the Biltmore, conflicted yet driven by his predetermined plans with Sally.