

ANNIE

SCENE ONE

(#2-MAYBE New York City Municipal Orphanage-Girls' Annex. Shortly after 3:00 a.m. on a chilly morning in early December 1933. Asleep in the dormitory are ORPHANS.)

MOLLY: *(awaking from a dream and crying out)* Mama! Mama! Mommy!

PEPPER: Be quiet!

DUFFY: Can't anybody get any sleep around here?

MOLLY: Mama. Mommy.

PEPPER: I said shut your trap, Molly.

(PEPPER shoves MOLLY.)

JULY: Ahh, stop shovin' the poor kid. She ain't doin' nuthin' to you.

PEPPER: She's keepin' me awake ain't she?

JULY: No, you're keeping us awake-

PEPPER: You wanna make somethin' out of it?

JULY: How 'bout I make a pancake outta you?

(PEPPER and JULY fight.)

TESSIE: Oh my goodness, oh my goodness, they're fightin' and I won't get no sleep all night. Oh my goodness, oh my goodness.

(ANNIE, who is 11, runs in with a bucket. She has been up cleaning.)

ANNIE: Pipe down, all of ya. Go back to sleep. *(to MOLLY)* It's all right, Molly. Annie's here.

MOLLY: It was my mama, Annie.

ANNIE: It was only a dream, honey. Now, you gotta go back to sleep.

MOLLY: Annie, read me your note.

ANNIE: Again?

MOLLY: Please?

(ANNIE takes a crumpled note from her pocket, unfolds it and reads it to MOLLY.)

ANNIE: "Please take good care of our little darling. Her name is Annie."

KATE: *(mockingly; she has heard this note a thousand times)*
"She was born on October 28th. We will be back to get her soon."

PEPPER: "We have left half of a silver locket around her neck and kept the other half -"

PEPPER, DUFFY, KATE:
"- so that when we come back for her you will know that she's our baby."

TESSIE: Oh my goodness, oh my goodness, now they're laughing.

ANNIE: All right. Do you wanna sleep with your teeth insida your mouth or out!

MOLLY: Gee, I dream about havin' a mother and father again. But you're lucky. You really got 'em.

(MAYBE begins.)

ANNIE: I know. Somewhere.

MAYBE (Solos will be assigned)

ANNIE: **Maybe far away or maybe real nearby
He may be pourin' her coffee,
She may be straight'nin' his tie!
Maybe in a house all hidden by a hill,**

MOLLY: **She's sittin' playin' piano,**

TESSIE: **He's sittin' payin' a bill!**

GROUPS: **Betcha they're young. Betcha they're smart.
Bet they collect things like ashtrays and art!
Betcha they're good. Why shouldn't they be?
Their one mistake was giving up me!**

ANNIE: **So, maybe now it's time, and maybe when I wake
They'll be there callin' me "Baby," maybe.**

(Interlude)

GROUPS: **Betcha he reads. Betcha she sews.**

**Maybe she's made me a closet of clothes!
Maybe they're strict,- as straight as a line.
Don't really care, as long as they're mine!**
ANNIE: **So, maybe now this prayer's the
Last one of its kind:
Won't you please come get your "Baby,"**
ALL: **Maybe?**

(ANNIE'S ESCAPE begins. A faraway church bell chimes 4:00 a.m.)

KATE: Annie, whatta ya doin'?

ANNIE: Runnin' away.

TESSIE: Oh my goodness.

ANNIE: My folks are never comin' for me. I gotta go find them.

JULY: Annie, you're crazy. Miss Hannigan'll catch you..

ANNIE: I don't care. I'm getting out of here. Wish me luck.

ALL but PEPPER:
Good luck, Annie.

PEPPER: So long, dumbbell. And good luck.

(ANNIE sneaks on tiptoe across the stage, toward the front door. Suspenseful music plays underneath. As ANNIE reaches to open the door, MISS HANNIGAN flings open her door and, witch-like, stands before ANNIE.)

HANNIGAN: Aha! Caught you! Get up. Get up!

ANNIE: *(getting up, warily)* Yes, Miss Hannigan.

HANNIGAN: Rotten orphan.

ANNIE: *(angrily)* I'm not an orphan. My mother and father left a note saying they love me and they are coming back for me.

HANNIGAN: That was 1922; this is 1933. *(MISS HANNIGAN blows her whistle.)* Get up! Now, for this one's shenanigans, you'll all get down on your knobby little knees and clean this dump until it shines like the top of the Chrysler Building!

TESSIE: But it's four o'clock in the morning.

HANNIGAN: *But it's four o'clock in the morning.* Get to work!

ORPHANS: Yes, Miss Hannigan.

HANNIGAN: Now! *(the ORPHANS run for pails and return to front)* Why any kid would want to be an orphan, I'll never know.

IT'S THE HARD-KNOCK LIFE

ALL: **It's the hard-knock life for us!
It's the hard-knock life for us!**

ANNIE: **'Stead-a treated,**

ALL: **We get tricked!**

ANNIE: **'Stead-a kisses,**

ALL: **We get kicked!**

It's the hard-knock life!

Got no folks to speak of, so,

It's the hard-knock row we hoe!

ANNIE: **Cotton blankets,**

ALL: **'Stead of wool!**

ANNIE: **Empty bellies,**

ALL: **'Stead of full!**

It's the hard-knock life!

Don't it feel like the wind is always howlin'?

Don't it seem like there's never any light?

Once a day, don't you wanna throw the towel in?

It's easier than putin' up a fight.

No one's there when your dreams at night get creepy!

No one cares if you grow or if you shrink!

No one dries when your eyes get wet an' weepy!

From the cryin', you would think this place'd sink! Ohhhhh!!!

Empty belly life! Rotten, smelly life!

Full-of-sorrow life! NO tomorrow life!

SOLO: **Santa Clause, we never see.**

SOLO: **"Santa Clause," what's that? Who's he?**

ALL: **No one cares for you a smidge**

When you're in an orphanage!

It's the hard-knock life!

SOLO: **"You'll stay up till this dump shines like the top of the Chrysler Building!"**

ALL: **Yank the whiskers from her chin**

Jab her with a safety pin.

Make her drink a Mickey Finn.

I love you, Miss Hannigan!

SOLO: Get to work! Strip them beds! I said get to work!

ALL: **It's the hard-knock life for us!**
It's the hard-knock life for us!
No one cares for you a smidge
When you're in an orphanage!
It's the hard-knock life, it's the hard-knock life!
It's! The! Hard! Knock! Life!

(MISS HANNIGAN, enters and whistles.)

HANNIGAN: Good morning, children.

ORPHANS: Good morning, Miss Hannigan.

HANNIGAN: Well?

ORPHANS: I love you, Miss Hannigan.

HANNIGAN: All right. Breakfast.

ORPHANS: Hot mush? Yuck!

HANNIGAN: No, not hot mush. *(The ORPHANS react happily to this news.)* Cold mush.
(They groan.) Now line up.

BUNDLES: Laundry. Laundry man.

ORPHANS: Mornin', Bundles.

BUNDLES: Mornin', kids. Clean sheets once a month, whether you need 'em or not.
(ANNIE, hidden by the ORPHANS, gets into the laundry basket.) Hey, hey, hey,
Aggie. How's the prettiest gal south of 14th Street?

HANNIGAN: Aw, Bundles ya big handsome brute, get out of here with that laundry!

BUNDLES: So long, gorgeous! See ya in January - and Merry Christmas.

HANNIGAN: *(checking floor)* Huh, you call this clean, Annie? This place is like a pigsty...Annie? Annie?

DUFFY: Annie ain't here.

TESSIE: She just went. With Mr. Bundles.

HANNIGAN: Bundles! *(runs out)* Police! Police!

(Blackout. Grinch music plays. ROOSTER and LILY enter with presents, with a Grinch and Max antlers. Focused lighting. They are stalling for the scene change.)

LILY: You're a mean one, Mr. Rooster.

ROOSTER: As charming as an eel.

ANNIE: *(runs in)* Wrong show!

SCENE TWO

(Lights up. A street corner at St. Mark's Place. It is a chilly December afternoon, a few hours later. An APPLE SELLER enters.)

APPLE SELLER: Apples, apples. Two for a nickel.

ANNIE: Excuse me, miss, but could you donate an apple to the orphan's picnic?

APPLE SELLER: *(giving ANNIE an apple)* Why not? Nobody's buying 'em anyway.

ANNIE: Gee thanks!

APPLE SELLER: Say kid, when is the orphan's picnic?

ANNIE: *(smiling and taking a big bite of the apple)* Soon as I take a bite.

(The APPLE SELLER shakes her head at having been conned by a child and wanders offstage in search of customers. A DOGCATCHER enters, looking for stray dogs.)

DOGCATCHER: You seen any stray mutts around here?

ANNIE: No, ma'am.

DOGCATCHER: Good. Then they must all be runnin' wild over to Astor Place.

(The DOGCATCHER exits. ANNIE watches her go and then turns and notices SANDY enter.)

ANNIE: Hey, there's one they didn't get.

(ANNIE gets down on her hands and knees and signals for SANDY to come to her.)

ANNIE: They're after you ain't they? Well, they're after me, too. But don't worry, I ain't gonna let them get you or me. Everything's gonna be fine.

(TOMORROW begins.)

ANNIE: For the both of us. If not today, well...

**The sun'll come out tomorrow.
Bet your bottom dollar that tomorrow there'll be sun!
Just thinkin' about tomorrow
clears away the cobwebs and the sorrow, 'til there's none!
When I'm stuck with a day that's gray and lonely,
I just stick out my chin and grin and say,
"Oh, the sun'll come out tomorrow,
So ya gotta hang on 'til tomorrow, come what may."
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away.
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away!**

(ROOSTER and LILY enter, being chased, dishevelled but with high stamina. They cross quickly behind and exit. LT WARD enters, exhausted. He noticed ANNIE and SANDY. He is happy to have been distracted by a crime that might require less running.)

LT WARD: Hey you! Little girl. Come here.

ANNIE: Yes, officer?

LT WARD: That dog there. Ain't he a stray?

ANNIE: A stray? Oh, no, officer. He's my dog.

LT WARD: Your dog, huh? So, what's his name?

ANNIE: His name? His name is... Sandy. Right, that's it. I call him Sandy because of his nice sandy color.

LT WARD: Okay, let's hear him answer to his name.

ANNIE: Well, you see, officer ... I just got him and sometimes -

LT WARD: Call him!

ANNIE: Here Sandy. Here, boy. Sandy. (*SANDY crosses to Annie*) Good Sandy. Good old Sandy.

LT WARD: Next time you take him out, I want to see him on a leash and with a license or else he goes to the pound.

ANNIE: Yes, sir, I understand.

LT WARD: Now get along before you catch the death of cold in this weather. (*He heads off.*)

ANNIE: Oh, I don't mind the weather.

(*APPLE SELLER enters. She notices ANNIE and SANDY, and joins them, petting SANDY.*)

ANNIE: **When I'm stuck with a day that's gray and lonely,
I just stick out my chin and grin and say,**
BOTH: **"Oh, the sun'll come out tomorrow,
So ya gotta hang on 'til tomorrow, come what may."
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away.
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away!**

(*Blackout.*)

SCENE THREE

(*The lights come up as MISS HANNIGAN goes into her office. TESSIE comes in with a frightened and embarrassed DAISY.*)

JULIA: Miss Hannigan, you know your souvenir pillow from Coney Island?

HANNIGAN: Yeah.

JULIA: Daisy just threw up on it.

(*LITTLE GIRLS begins*)

(*Chants:*) Daisy just threw up on it! Daisy just threw up on it!

HANNIGAN: **Little girls, Little girls
Everywhere I turn I can see them
Little girls, Little girls
Night and day I eat, sleep and breathe them
I'm an ordinary woman with feelings**

**I'd like a man to nibble on my ear
But I'll admit no man has bit
So how come I'm the mother of the year?**

**Little cheeks, Little teeth
Everything around me is little
If I wring little necks
Surely I will get an acquittal
Some women are dripping with diamonds
Some women are dripping with pearls
Lucky me! Lucky me!
Look at what I'm dripping with
Little girls!**

**How I hate little shoes
Little socks and each little bloomer
I'd have cracked years ago
If it weren't for my sense of humor
Someday I'll step on their freckles
Some night I'll straighten their curls
Send a flood Send the flu
Anything that You can do to little girls**

(If there's an Interlude:)

EMILY: You cheated!

ROSE: I did not!

EMILY: You did too!

ROSE: I did not!

EMILY: You did too!

HANNIGAN: Shut up!

**Someday I'll land in the nuthouse
With all the nuts and the squirrels
There I'll stay tucked away
'Til the prohibition of
Little girls!**

(Knock sound cue)

Yeah. Come in.

(LT WARD enters with Annie.)

LT WARD: Good Afternoon. Miss Hannigan, is it?

HANNIGAN: Yeah.

LT WARD: I'm Lieutenant Ward of the 17th Precinct. We found your runaway.

HANNIGAN: (*Seductively*) Oh, thank you, Officer.

LT WARD: Had a mangy mutt with her, but he got away.

HANNIGAN: Oh, poor punkin', out in the freezin' cold. I hope you didn't catch influenza. There's hot cocoa and ginger snaps for you in the ... Recreation room.

ANNIE What recre-?

HANNIGAN Thanks so much again, Officer.

LT WARD: All in the line of duty. (*To ANNIE:*) And you. Don't let me ever hear that you run away again. From this nice lady. (*To MISS HANNIGAN with a little salute:*) Good afternoon.

HANNIGAN: Good afternoon, Officer. (*He exits, she rounds on Annie*) Well, are you glad to be back? Huh?

ANNIE: Yes, Miss Hannigan

HANNIGAN: Liar! What's the one thing I always taught you: never tell a lie.

(*GRACE FARRELL enters*)

GRACE: Good afternoon. Miss Hannigan?

HANNIGAN: If it's beauty products you're peddling, I don't need any. Get out.

GRACE: I'm Grace Farrell, private secretary to Oliver Warbucks.

HANNIGAN: The Oliver Warbucks? The world's richest unmarried man?

GRACE: Mr. Warbucks has decided to invite an orphan to spend the Christmas holiday at his home.

HANNIGAN: What sort of orphan did he have in mind?

GRACE: Well, she should be friendly. (*ANNIE waves to GRACE.*) And cheerful.

(*ANNIE laughs*)

HANNIGAN: You shut up.

GRACE: And oh, I almost forgot: Mr. Warbucks prefers redheaded children.

HANNIGAN: A redhead? Sorry, we don't have any orphans like that.

GRACE: What about this child right here?

HANNIGAN: Annie? Oh, no! You don't want her.

GRACE: Annie, would you like to spend the next two weeks at Mr. Warbucks' house?

ANNIE: I would love to.

GRACE: If you'll get her coat, I'll take her along right now.

HANNIGAN: She don't have no coat.

GRACE: Then we'll buy her one. Merry Christmas. Come along, Annie.

(GRACE and ANNIE start to leave. ROOSTER and LILY enter. ROOSTER bumps into GRACE.)

ROOSTER: Oops pardon me, doll. Hi ya, Sis. Long time no see.

HANNIGAN: Rooster? They finally let you outta prison? What were you in for this time?

ROOSTER: Some old geezer said I swindled him outta eleven hundred bucks.

HANNIGAN: Why'd he say that?

LILY: Because the Rooster swindled him outta eleven hundred bucks.

ROOSTER: Sis, I'd like you to meet a friend of mine.

LILY: Lily St. Regis. *(Proudly:)* I'm named after the hotel .

HANNIGAN: Rooster, do me a favor. Get outta here and take the St. Regis with you.

ROOSTER: Aw, c'mon, Sis. Who was the tomato I bumped into when I come in? Looked like she had a couple of dollars.

HANNIGAN: She works for Oliver Warbucks.

LILY: The Oliver Warbucks. The millionaire?

HANNIGAN: No, the Billionaire, ya dumb hotel. That little orphan Annie is going to live with him.

LILY: Crummy orphan!

ROOSTER: Yeah, livin' in the lap of luxury while the two Hannigan kids ended up on the skids!

(JANE and JULIA enter with a bucket, mischief in their eyes.)

HANNIGAN: Whatta you got there?

JANE: *(Guiltily:)* A dead mouse...

JULIA: *(Excited:)* Wanna see?

LILY: Ewww!

HANNIGAN: **Someday I'll land in the nuthouse
With all the nuts and the squirrels
There I'll stay tucked away
'Til the prohibition of
Little girls!**

(Blackout)

SCENE FOUR

(Lights up. The living room of the Warbucks mansion. The Servants stand ready. GRACE and ANNIE enter through the door. ANNIE is wearing shoes and a new fur-collared coat.)

DRAKE: Ah, good afternoon, Miss Farrell.

GRACE: Good afternoon, Drake, everyone.

SERVANTS: Miss.

GRACE: Has Mr. Warbucks arrived yet?

DRAKE: No, Miss. We're expecting him any minute. Everything is in order, Miss. Mrs. Pugh has prepared his favorite dinner.

MRS. PUGH: Kentucky fried chicken. *(That's actually in the script.)*

GRACE: Everyone, this is Annie. She'll be with us for Christmas. Annie, this is everyone.

ANNIE: Hi, everyone.

SERVANTS: Hello, Annie.

DRAKE: May I take your coat, Miss?

ANNIE: Will I get it back?

GRACE: Of course, dear. Now, what do you want to do first?

ANNIE: The floors. I'll scrub them first; then the windows.

GRACE: Annie, you won't have to do any cleaning. You're our guest.

(I THINK I'M GONNA LIKE IT HERE begins.)

and for the next two weeks, you're going to have a swell time. Now...

Cecille will pick out all your clothes.

CECILLE: Green is her best color; no, blue I think.

GRACE: **Your bath is drawn by Missus Greer.**

MRS GREER: Soap no, bubbles, I think.

GRACE: **Annette comes in to make your bed.**

ANNETTE: The silk; no, the satin sheets, I think.

ANNIE: **I think I'm gonna like it here.**

ALL: **When you wake, ring for Drake.**

**Drake will bring your tray. When you're through,
Missus Pugh comes to take it away**

GRACE: **No need to pick up any toys**

ANNIE: That's okay, I haven't got any, anyway!

GRACE: **No finger will you lift, my dear.**

ALL: **We have but one request: please, put us to the test.**

ANNIE: **I know I'm gonna like it here.**

**Used to room in a tomb,
where I'd sit and freeze.**

Get me know. Holy cow!

Could someone pinch me please?

(A SERVANT pinches ANNIE)

She didn't mean it.

We've never had a little girl

SERVANTS: **We've never had a little girl**

ANNIE: **I'm very glad to volunteer.**

SERVANTS: **We hope you understand your wish is our command**

ANNIE: **I know I'm gonna like it here.**

SERVANTS: *(Simultaneously:)* **We know you're gonna like it here.**
Welcome!

WARBUCKS: *(As the applause dies, offstage:)* Where is everybody? *(OLIVER WARBUCKS, comes bustling in.)* Hello, everybody.

SERVANTS: Sir.

GRACE: Welcome home, Mr. Warbucks.

WARBUCKS: It's good to be home. Messages?

GRACE: President Roosevelt wants you to call him at the White House.

WARBUCKS: I'll get back to him tomorrow. ... Who is that?

GRACE: This is Annie, Mr. Warbucks: the orphan who will be with us for Christmas.

WARBUCKS: That's not a boy. Orphans are boys.

GRACE: I'm sorry, sir, you just said "orphan," so, I chose a girl.

WARBUCKS: Well, I suppose she'll have to do. Annie, huh? Annie what?

ANNIE: Oh, I'm just Annie, Mr. Warbucks, sir. I haven't got any last name. I'm sorry I'm not a boy.

WARBUCKS: Not at all. I couldn't be happier. Drake, dismiss the staff. Well Annie, I guess we ought to do something special on your first night. Would you like to go to a movie?

ANNIE: Gosh, Mr. Warbucks, I've never been to one.

WARBUCKS: Then you'll go to the Roxy. And then an ice-cream soda.

ANNIE: Golly!

WARBUCKS: Grace, you take Annie to the movies.

GRACE: Yes, sir.

ANNIE: *(disappointed)* Aw, gee.

WARBUCKS: Something the matter, Annie?

ANNIE: It's just that...well...I thought you were going to take me.

WARBUCKS: (*Chuckles.*) Oh, no, I'm afraid I'll be far too busy tonight.

ANNIE: Aw, gee.

WARBUCKS: Now, Annie... I've just been away for six weeks. And when a man is running a multi-billion-dollar corporation...

ANNIE: Oh, sure. I know. That's okay, Mr Warbucks.

WARBUCKS: (*regards ANNIE*) Drake, get our coats.

DRAKE: (*offstage:*) Yes, sir!

ANNIE: (*smiling*) Aw, gee!

GRACE: Which car will you be wanting, sir?

WARBUCKS: This child's been cooped up in an orphanage. We'll walk.

GRACE: Walk to the Roxy?

WARBUCKS: Why not? It's only 45 blocks.

GRACE: Yes, sir.

(*Blackout. Newsies music. Orphans with newspapers enter.*)

SCENE FIVE

NEWSIES: Strike! Strike! Strike! (*etc.*)

SERVANT: (*After 7-10 strikes:*) Wrong show!

(*Newsies shuffle off apologetically.*)

WARBUCKS: Ah, smell those bus fumes! There's no air like the air of New York. Come on, you slowpokes! We gotta get to the Roxy before the prices change.

(*N.Y.C. begins.*)

WARBUCKS and GRACE: **N.Y.C.! The shimmer of Time Square,**
 WARBUCKS: **The pulse**
 GRACE: **The beat,**
 WARBUCKS and GRACE: **The drive**
 WARBUCKS: **N.Y.C.! you might say that i'm square,**
But wow! I come a-live.
 ALL: **The city's bright as a penny arcade.**
It blinks, it tilts, it rings.
 ANNIE: **To think that I've been here all my life**
and nev-er seen these things!
 ALL: **N.Y.C.! The whole world keeps coming,**
By bus, by train; you can't explain their yen for...
 STAR-TO-BE: **N.Y.C.! Just got her this morning**
Three bucks, two bags, one me!
N.Y.C! I give you fair warning:
up there, in lights I'll be!
 ALL: **Go ask the Gershwins and Kaufman and Hart**
The place they love the best.
Though California pays big for their art
Their fan mail come addressed
To N.Y.C.! To-mor-row a pent-house
That's way up high -
 STAR-TO-BE: **To-night? The "Y."**
Why not? It's N.Y.C.
 ALL: **N.Y.C.! You're standing room only.**
You crowd, you cramp.
You're still the champ!
A-men for N. - Y. -
 HANNIGAN: **Keep it quiet down there!**
 ALL: **C....**

(The line of NEW YORKERS breaks up, some wander off up to the Roxy, the others exit stage left and stage right, going about their own business.)

USHERETTE: Immediate seating... there is immediate seating.

POPCORN SELLER: Popcorn! Fresh Popcorn!

WARBUCKS: Popcorn, what do you say to popcorn? I haven't had popcorn since...

(ANNIE yawns and leans against WARBUCKS' sleeve)

Give in. Don't fight.
Good girl. Good night.
Sleep tight in N.- Y.- C.-

SCENE SEVEN

(Lights up on Warbucks' office in his mansion. Late morning of the following day. WARBUCKS is seated at his desk, talking on the telephone. GRACE is nearby with a steno pad.)

WARBUCKS: *(into the phone)* Yes...Yes, Mister President. Listen, Mister President, why don't we bury the hatchet and you come over here with Mrs. Roosevelt for supper Christmas Eve? *(disappointed)* You will? Wonderful. Goodbye, Mister President. *(hangs up the phone)* Grace, find out what Democrats eat.

GRACE: Yes, sir.

WARBUCKS: The package from Tiffany's?

GRACE: Arrived this morning.

WARBUCKS: Fine. I'm going to give it to her and then tell her that I want to adopt her.

GRACE: She's going to be the happiest little girl in the world.

WARBUCKS: Get her down here.

GRACE: Yes, sir.

(GRACE exits. ANNIE enters. She is now wearing a red dress and her hair is curled to look for the first time as she does in "Little Orphan Annie.")

ANNIE: Hello.

WARBUCKS: Annie, can we have a man-to-man talk?

ANNIE: You're sending me back to the orphanage, right?

WARBUCKS: Of course not. *(pause)* Annie, I was born into a very poor family and both of my parents died before I was ten. So I made a promise to myself- someday, one way or another, I was going to be rich. Very rich.

ANNIE: That was a good idea.

WARBUCKS: But, I've lately realized something. No matter how much money you've got, if you have no one to share your life with, if you're alone, then you might as well be broke. You understand what I'm trying to say?

ANNIE: Sure.

WARBUCKS: Good.

ANNIE: Kind of.

WARBUCKS: Kind of?

ANNIE: I guess not.

WARBUCKS: Rats. ... Uhm. This is for you.

ANNIE: For me? Gee, thanks, Mr. Warbucks.

WARBUCKS: It's a silver locket, Annie. I noticed that old, broken one you always wear, and I said to myself, "I'm going to get that kid a nice new -

ANNIE: *(recoiling)* NO! I don't want a new one.

WARBUCKS: Annie, what is it?

ANNIE: This locket, my mom and dad left it...when they left me at the orphanage. And a note, too. They're coming back for me. I know I'm real lucky, being here with you for Christmas. But...the thing I want in all the world.....is to find my mother and father. And to be like the other kids, with folks of my own.

(YOU WON'T BE AN ORPHAN FOR LONG begins.)

WARBUCKS: It'll be all right ... I'll find them ... I'll find your parents for you.

ANNIE: Really?

WARBUCKS: Really.

ANNIE: Oh, boy, I gotta go write a letter to the kids about this! Thank you, Mr. Warbucks. Thank you.

WARBUCKS: **What a thing to occur:
Finding them, losing her.
Oh, you won't be an orphan for long.**

SCENE EIGHT

HEALY: Welcome back to America's favorite radio program, The Oxydent Hour of Smiles, starring your old softy, Bert Healy. And good evening, Oliver Warbucks, it's nice of you to drop by.

WARBUCKS: Good evening, Bert Healy, I am now conducting a nationwide search for Annie's parents. Furthermore, I'm offering a certified check for fifty thousand dollars to any persons who can prove that they are Annie's parents.

HEALY: So, Annie's parents, if you're listenin' in, write to Oliver Warbucks care of this station. Thank you, Oliver Warbucks. Well, I see the old clock on the wall that another of our Thursday-night get-togethers has gone by faster than you can say Oxydent. The toothpaste of the stars. This is Bert Healy saying ...

**Hey, hoboman, hey, Dapper Dan,
you've both got your style, but, brother,
You're never fully dressed without a smile!
Your clothes may be Beau Brummely,
they stand out a mile, but, brother,
You're never fully dressed without a smile!
Who cares what they're wearing
On Main Street or Saville Row?
It's what you wear from ear to ear,
and not from head to toe,
that matters.**

BOYLANS: **So, Senator, so, janitor,
so long for a while.**

HEALY joins: **Remember, you're never fully dressed,
though you may wear your best.
You're never fully dressed without a
Smile, smile, smile!
Smile, darn ya smile!**

SCENE NINE

(The scene has shifted to MISS HANNIGAN'S office in the orphanage. A moment later, the ORPHANS have sneaked into the office and listened to The Oxydent Hour of Smiles on the radio.)

DUFFY: Gee, Annie on the radio, coast-to-coast. She's famous.

CLARA: Wish I was on the radio.

DAISY Me, too!

PEPPER: Who wants to be on the dumb old radio?

TESSIE: I do.

(YOU'RE NEVER FULLY DRESSED WITHOUT A SMILE begins.)

So, for all of the "Hour of Smiles" Family, this is Bert Healy saying...

**Hey, hoboman, hey, Dapper Dan,
you've both got your style, but, brother,**

ALL: **You're never fully dressed without a smile!
Your clothes may be Beau Brummely,
they stand out a mile, but, brother,
you're never fully dressed without a smile!**

JULY: **Who cares what they're wearing
On Main Street or Saville Row?
It's what you wear from ear to ear,
and not from head to toe,**

KATE: **that matters.**

ALL: **So, Senator, so, janitor,
so long for a while.
Remember, you're never fully dressed,
though you may wear your best.
You're never fully dressed without a
Smile, smile, smile!
Smile, darn ya smile!**

(HANNIGAN, ROOSTER, and LILY enter)

HANNIGAN: BED!

(Orphans flee.)

HEALY: Once again we bring you the romance of Hellen Trent, who sets out to prove that just because a woman is 35 or more, romance in life need not be over.

HANNIGAN: Oh man, I hope not.

(HANNIGAN switches off the radio. EASY STREET begins.)

ROOSTER: **I remember the way our sainted mother
Would sit and croon us jer lullaby**

HANNIGAN: **She'd say, kids, there's a place that's like no other
You got to get there before you die**

ROOSTER: **You don't get there by playing from the rule book**

HANNIGAN: **You stack the aces**

ROOSTER: You load the dice
 BOTH: Mother dear
 Oh, we know you're down there listening --
 How can we follow your sweet advice to

ROOSTER: Easy street, Easy street
 Where you sleep till noon

HANNIGAN: Yeah, yeah, yeah

BOTH: She'd repeat, "Easy street
 Better get there soon."

LILY: Easy street
 LILY, HANN: Easy street

ALL: Where the rich folks play
 Move them feet

HANNIGAN: Move them ever-lovin' feet

ALL: To easy street
 When you get there stay

ROOSTER: It ain't fair
 How we scrounge for three of four bucks
 While she gets Warbucks

HANNIGAN: The little brat!
 It ain't fair this here life is drivin' me nuts!
 While we get peanuts, she's livin' fat!

LILY: Maybe she holds the key that little lady

HANNIGAN: To gettin' more bucks

ROOSTER: Instead of less
 Maybe we fix the game with something shady

LILY: Where does that put us?

ROOSTER: Give ya one guess...

ALL: Yes!
 Easy street, Easy street
 Annie is the key!
 Yes sirree, yes sirree, Yes sirree!

(Interlude)

Easy street Easy street
 That's where we're gonna -- Be!

SCENE TEN

(ANNIE is seated with WARBUCKS and GRACE on either side.)

GRACE: I'm sorry, Annie, we've spoken to more than a thousand people claiming to be your parents, but none of them knew about the locket. I'm so sorry.

ANNIE: That's okay. You did your best. I guess a kid can get along without folks

WARBUCKS: Grace?

GRACE: Yes, sir?

WARBUCKS: Do you have those papers I gave you the other day?

GRACE: Right here!

WARBUCKS: Annie. I want to adopt you.

ANNIE: Adopt me?

WARBUCKS: What do you think? Yes or no?

ANNIE: If I can't have my real mother and father, there's no one in the world I'd rather have for a father than you, Mr. Warbucks!

(Big hug. As ANNIE and WARBUCKS embrace, GRACE starts to join them, but then catches herself, realizing that it is their moment and steps back in embarrassment.)

WARBUCKS: Annie, this isn't going to be an adoption, it's going to be a celebration! We'll have everyone from the orphanage here tomorrow for a big Christmas party.

ANNIE: Miss Hannigan, too?

WARBUCKS: *(generous)* Why not?

(I DON'T NEED ANYTHING BUT YOU begins.)

WARBUCKS: Annie, I'm the luckiest man in the world!

ANNIE: And I'm the luckiest kid.

BOTH: **Together, at last! Together, forever!
We're tying a knot they never can sever!**

WARBUCKS: **I don't need sunshine, now, to turn my skies to blue**

BOTH: **I don't need anything but you!**

ANNIE: **Yesterday was plain awful.**

WARBUCKS: **You can say that again.**

ANNIE: **Yesterday was plain awful.**

WARBUCKS: **But that's**

ANNIE: **Not now,**

BOTH: **That's then!**

ANNIE: **I'm poor as a mouse,**

WARBUCKS: **I'm richer than Midas,**

BOTH: **But nothin' on earth could ever divide us!**
 And if tomorrow, I'm an apple seller, too,
WARBUCKS: **I don't need anything**
ANNIE: **Anything**
BOTH: **Anything! I don't need anything but you!**

(DRAKE leads in ROOSTER and LILY, in their disguises as Ralph and Shirley Mudge.)

DRAKE: Sir.

WARBUCKS: What?

DRAKE: Sir.

ROOSTER: Excuse us, folks, we don't mean to interrupt ... Shirley, look. There's our Annie.

ANNIE: Who are you?

LILY: Honey, we're your mom and dad.

ROOSTER: Mudge is the name. Ralph Mudge. And this here is the wife, Shirley.

LILY: And you're Annie Mudge.

WARBUCKS: Annie Mudge?

ROOSTER: We was sick and broke, honey, and didn't know where to turn, and a man give us a chance to work on his farm up in Canada.

LILY: We loved you, Annie, but we had to leave you behind.

GRACE: We've seen a great number of people who've....

ROOSTER: Here's Annie's birth certificate.

GRACE: (takes the birth certificate and reads) "Baby girl, Name, Ann Elizabeth Mudge, born October 28th, 1922 -"

ANNIE: That's my birthday.

LILY: Ralph, look! Annie's wearin' the locket!

ROOSTER: When we left Annie at the orphanage, we left half of a silver locket with her and kept the other half. *(fits it quickly to ANNIE'S locket)* Yes. It fits perfectly.

WARBUCKS: Mr. Mudge, what about the money?

ROOSTER: Well, we ain't got much, but we'd be glad to give you whatever...

WARBUCKS: You haven't heard that I've offered a certified check for fifty thousand dollars to anyone who can prove they are Annie's parents?

ROOSTER: No, sir. Anyway, we don't want no money.

LILY: On the other hand, Ralph, remember that little pig farm out in New Jersey? With fifty thousand dollars, we could afford to bring Annie up right. In the country.

WARBUCKS: Would you mind if Annie stayed here until tomorrow morning, Christmas? Then you could come back and pick up Annie and the check.

ROOSTER: Whatever you prefer, sir.

LILY: Bye, Annie, love.

ROOSTER: Until tomorrow morning, honey. And then you'll be spendin' the rest of your life with us. *(ROOSTER bumps into GRACE)* Oops, pardon me, doll. Merry Christmas.

*(Suspicious, GRACE watches as ROOSTER and LILY exit. **MAYBE REPRISE** begins. All are deeply steeped in gloom.)*

WARBUCKS: Well....this is... wonderful news.

GRACE: Sir, I have the strangest feeling that I've seen that Mr. Mudge before, that he's not who he says he is.

WARBUCKS: Then I won't give her up 'til we're certain.

GRACE: But how...?

WARBUCKS: I'll find a way. I'll go straight to the top! Even if he is a Democrat.

SCENE ELEVEN

ANNIE: **Silly to cry. Nothin' to fear.
Betcha where they live's as nice as right here.
Betcha my life is gonna be swell.
Lookin' at them, it's easy to tell.
And Maybe I'll forget how nice he was to me
And how I was almost his baby... maybe.**

(ANNIE sits glumly as WARBUCKS and GRACE enter.)

ANNIE: Merry Christmas, Mr. Warbucks, Miss Farrell.

WARBUCKS: You're up early.

ANNIE: *(brightly)* You're up early, too.

WARBUCKS: We've been up all night, dear. F.B.I. men coming and going. And Annie, did you know that President Roosevelt is here?

ANNIE: Really!?

(ROOSEVELT enters in his wheelchair, accompanied by LT WARD.)

ANNIE: Merry Christmas, President Roosevelt.

ROOSEVELT: Merry Christmas, Annie. Annie, early this morning, F.B.I. Director Hoover telephoned me with some very sad news. He succeeded in tracing the identity of your parents.

ANNIE: Yes. Mr. and Mrs. Mudge.

ROOSEVELT: No, dear. David and Margaret Bennett.

ANNIE: But -

WARBUCKS: Annie...

(WARBUCKS looks to ROOSEVELT for help.)

ROOSEVELT: Annie, your mother and father passed away. A long time ago.

ANNIE: You mean I'm an orphan, after all.

WARBUCKS: Are you all right, Annie?

ANNIE: Yes. Because I know they loved me. And they would have come for me... if they weren't...

WARBUCKS: *(crossing to ANNIE)* I love you Annie Bennett.

ANNIE: *(hugging him)* And I love you, too. *(They embrace and then:)* Now, who the heck are Ralph and Shirley Mudge?

GRACE: Nobody knew about the locket except us.

ROOSEVELT: And the F.B.I., of course.

ANNIE: And Miss Hannigan.

WARBUCKS, GRACE, ROOSEVELT: *(finally understanding)* And Miss Hannigan.

(DRAKE enters. He has an envelope)

DRAKE: Miss Hannigan, sir, and the children from the orphanage. Oh, Mr. Warbucks, this has just come from the F.B.I.

(Drake hands the envelope to WARBUCKS and lets in MISS HANNIGAN, the ORPHANS, and SANDY. WARBUCKS opens the envelope, takes out a paper, and reads. He hands the paper to GRACE, who reads it, smiles, and shakes her head.)

ANNIE: Hi, kids. Sandy!

ORPHANS: Annie! Annie! Hi, Annie! PRESENTS!

WARBUCKS: Ah, Miss Hannigan. I'm delighted to meet you.

HANNIGAN: Same here, and I'd know you anywheres.

WARBUCKS: Miss Hanngan, let me introduce you to everyone. This is my butler, Drake.

HANNIGAN: *(Dismissive:)* Sure. *(DRAKE exits.)*

WARBUCKS: And this is the President of the United States.

HANNIGAN: *(Dismissive:)* Sure.

WARBUCKS: And you know Miss Farrell.

(MISS HANNIGAN does a doubletake, then goes to the President, and bows to him, as though he were royalty. Drake hands the envelope to WARBUCKS.)

DRAKE: Won't you please come in, Mr. and Mrs. Mudge.

(ROOSTER and LILY enter in their disguises as Ralph and Shirley Mudge.)

ROOSTER: Good morning.

ALL: *(Cheerfully)* Good morning!

LILY: Merry Christmas, one and all.

DRAKE: *(Going overboard)* Merry Christmas!

WARBUCKS: Thank you, Drake.

ROOSTER: Well, we don't want to bother you. On Christmas and all. We just come to pick up Annie-and the check.

WARBUCKS: Ah, yes, of course, the check. Here it is, Mr. Mudge. Fifty thousand dollars. Certified.

ROOSTER: *(taking the check)* Certified. Pay to the order of..."The jig is up"?

WARBUCKS: Yes, the jig is up, Daniel Francis Hannigan. Also known as....

GRACE: *(reading from the F.B.I. letter)* Rooster Hannigan. Also known as Ralph Mudge.

(LILY whacks ROOSTER with her purse.)

ROOSEVELT: *(Imitating Annie:)* Bye, Mom. Bye Dad.

WARBUCKS: *(indicating HANNIGAN)* And I believe you'll find that this woman is their accomplice.

HANNIGAN: I've never seen these people till yesterday!

LILY: Ahh, come off it, Aggie.

HANNIGAN: Annie. Annie. Tell 'em how good and nice I always was to you.

ANNIE: Gee, I'm sorry, Miss Hannigan, but remember the one thing you always taught me: Never tell a lie.

HANNIGAN: Brat! *(She flees, pursued by LT WARD.)*

ANNIE: Miss Hannigan is gone for good!

ORPHANS: Hooray!

WARBUCKS: And you won't have to work anymore.

ORPHANS: Hooray!

ROOSEVELT: Yes, children, for you, and perhaps for all of us, this Christmas is going to be the beginning of a wonderful new life. A new deal! Hey, I rather like that: "A New Deal"!

(TOMORROW REPRISE begins.)

WARBUCKS: So do I, Franklin. A New Deal.

WARBUCKS: **The sun'll come out tomorrow**
ANNIE joins: **Bet your bottom dollar that tomorrow, there'll be sun**
GRACE joins: **Just thinkin' about tomorrow**
Clears away the cobwebs and the sorrow, 'till there's none!
ROOSEVELT (spoken:) When I'm stuck with a day that's gray and lonely,
I just stick out my chin and grin and say...
- C'mon everyone! -

(SERVANTS and ORPHANS enter)

ALL: **"The sun'll come out tomorrow**
So you gotta hang on 'til tomorrow, come what may."
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away.
Tomorrow! Tomorrow! I love ya, tomorrow!
You're always a day away!

THE END