

**ORPHANS**

What recreation room?

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Shoo-shoo-shoo! Shoo!

*(ANNIE tries to run off with all the ORPHANS, but HANNIGAN grabs her)*

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Thanks so much, Officer.

**OFFICER WARD**

She was in one of them Hoovervilles down by the docks. Had a mangy mutt with her, but he got away.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Oh, poor punkin, out in the freezin' cold with just that thin sweater. I hope you didn't catch influenza. Thanks so much, Officer.

**OFFICER WARD**

*(He can't wait to get out)*

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.

**ANNIE**

She's not...

*(HANNIGAN closed ANNIE'S mouth with hand)*

**LT. WARD**

Good Afternoon.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Good afternoon, Officer.

*(WARD exits. HANNIGAN hurls ANNIE down to the ground)*

Now, I'm gonna have your head and the next time you walk out that door it'll be 1953. Well, are you glad to be back? Huh?



**ANNIE**

*(tough)*

Yes, Miss Hannigan.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Liar! What's the one thing I always taught you: Never tell a lie.  
Well, what's the one thing I always taught you?

**ANNIE**

*(tough)*

Never tell a lie, Miss Hannigan.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Pacing, crazily)*

For what you done I could get fired. Have the Board of Orphans stickin' their nose  
in here. Well, you'll pay for it. I promise.

*(There is a knock at the door. HANNIGAN crosses to door and turns  
back to ANNIE and talks to her as though she were a dog)*

Stay!

*(Opening door)*

**GRACE**

*(Entering)*

Good afternoon, Miss Hannigan?

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Yeah?

**GRACE**

*(Extends HER hand)*

Oh, good. I'm Grace Farrell

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(looks at HER hand)*

So?

**GRACE**

...and the New York City Board of Orphans suggested that...



**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Panics)*

Wait! Hold it!! I can explain everything!!! It wasn't my fault. It was Annie, you see, who got into Bundles' laundry bag and ...

**GRACE**

Miss Hannigan, I...

**MISS HANNIGAN**

... and, sure, I know I should of called Mr. Donatelli instead of the cops, but I ...

**GRACE**

Miss Hannigan, I'm sorry, but I haven't the slightest idea what you're talking about.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Wait a minute, hold it, sister, I get it.

*(Referring to Grace's briefcase)*

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

**GRACE**

Miss Hannigan, I am not "peddling" anything. I'm private secretary to Oliver Warbucks.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(interrupting)*

Oliver Warbucks? *THE* Oliver Warbucks?

**GRACE**

THE Oliver Warbucks.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Crosses upstage of GRACE and offers her a seat)*

Love the hat!

*(Sitting)*

I read in Winchell's column that Oliver Warbucks is the world's richest unmarried man.

*(ANNIE positions herself behind HANNIGAN, sitting on the floor, able to make eye-contact with GRACE)*



**GRACE**

*(All business)*

I wouldn't know, I don't read Mr. Winchell. Miss Hannigan, Mr. Warbucks has decided to invite an orphan to spend the Christmas holidays at his home.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

An orphan?

**GRACE**

Yes, an orphan.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

You sure he wouldn't rather have a lady? I got two weeks comin'.

*(A long look from GRACE)*

It's a joke. What sort of orphan did you have in mind?

**GRACE**

Well, she should be friendly.

*(Unseen by Hannigan, ANNIE waves to GRACE)*

And intelligent.

**ANNIE**

Mississippi.

Capital M-I-double S-I-double S-I-double-P-I

Mississippi.

**GRACE**

And cheerful.

*(ANNIE laughs a big laugh)*

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(To ANNIE)*

You shut up. And how old?

**GRACE**

Oh, age doesn't really matter. Say, eight or nine.

*(ANNIE gestures upward to indicate that SHE wants GRACE to say a higher age)*

Ten.



*(ANNIE gestures still higher)*

**(GRACE)**

Eleven.

*(ANNIE gestures to GRACE to stop and then points to her own hair)*

Yes, eleven would be perfect. And oh, I almost forgot, Mr. Warbucks prefers red-headed children.

*(ANNIE stands up, directly behind HANNIGAN)*

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Eleven. A red-head. No, I'm afraid we don't have any orphans like that around here.

**GRACE**

What about this child right here?

*(BOTH looking at ANNIE)*

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Grabbing ANNIE)*

Annie? Oh, no, you wouldn't want her...

*(Struggling for an excuse)*

She's ... she's a drunk ... and a liar! A drunk and a liar.

*(ANNIE struggles to get out from behind HANNIGAN)*

**GRACE**

Yes. I'm sure she's a drunk and a liar. Annie. Come here. Annie, would you like to spend the next two weeks at Mr. Warbucks' house?

**ANNIE**

I would love to. I would *REALLY* love to.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

Hold it.

*(Blows whistle. ORPHANS run on and stand looking at GRACE)*

Now you can have any orphan in the Orphanage, but not Annie.

**GRACE**

Why?



**MISS HANNIGAN**

I just told you.

**GRACE**

*(Deadly)*

I assume, Miss Hannigan, that it has something to do with all that business about the laundry bag and the police. Perhaps I should call Mr. Donatelli at the Board of Orphans and...

*(MISS HANNIGAN laughs)*

**GRACE**

*(Holding out an official-looking document)*

Sign it.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

I'll sign it. I'm an easy gal to get along with.  
If it's Annie you want, it's Annie you get.

**GRACE**

*(sing-songy)*

It's Annie I want.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Sing-songy as SHE signs the paper)*

It's Annie you get.

**ANNIE**

Oh, boy!

**GRACE**

So, if you'll get her coat, I'll take her along right now.

**MISS HANNIGAN**

*(Almost like a bratty little kid)*

Coat? She don't have no coat.

**GRACE**

All right. Then we'll buy her one.



ANNIE

Oh, boy!

GRACE

We'll go to Bergdorf's and get you a warm winter coat.

ANNIE

*(sing-song-y)*

I'm getting a coat.

ORPHANS

*(together, bratty)*

She's getting a coat!

GRACE

Come along, dear. Mr. Warbucks' limousine is waiting outside.

*(Crosses to door)*

ANNIE

Oh boy, I can hardly believe it.

MISS HANNIGAN

SHE can hardly believe it?

# 10 – *Little Girls Reprise**(Miss Hannigan)*

ANNIE

Hey kids, I'm getting out for Christmas. I'll write to ya.

ORPHANS

'bye, Annie!

ANNIE

'bye, kids.

MISS HANNIGAN

'bye, Annie.

GRACE

*(Sincerely)*

Good afternoon, Miss Hannigan.

*(Meaning it)*

And season's greetings.

