

SCRIPT – ANNIE – SIDE 1

(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. We was ridin' on the ferryboat. And she was holdin' me up to see all the big ships. And then I couldn't find her no more.

(ANNIE holds a hanky for MOLLY)

ANNIE: Blow. It was only a dream, honey. Now, you gotta go back to sleep. It's after three o'clock.

MOLLY: Annie... read me your note.

ANNIE: Again?

MOLLY: Please?

ANNIE: Sure, Molly.

PEPPER: Here it comes again.

ANNIE: *(Takes a crumpled note from her pocket, unfolds it and reads it to MOLLY)* "Please take good care of our little darling. Her name is Annie."

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

PEPPER: *(Mockingly)* "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, now they're laughing.

ANNIE: *(To the Others)* All right. Do you wanna sleep with your teeth insida your mouth or out! *(Lovingly folds her note and puts it back in her pocket)*

SCRIPT – ANNIE – SIDE 2

(ANNIE ENTERS. SHE is now dressed in 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. *(Takes the Tiffany's package from his desk and hands it to ANNIE)* I was in Tiffany's yesterday and picked this up for you.

ANNIE: For me? Gee, Thanks, Mr. Warbucks. *(Opens up the package and looks at the gift. She is clearly unhappy with it, but pretends to like it)* Oh. Gee.

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 locket." *(Starting to take off ANNIE'S OLD LOCKET)* Here, we'll just take this old one off and...

ANNIE: No! I don't want a new one.

WARBUCKS: *(Following ANNIE as she cowers back from him)* Annie, what is it?

ANNIE: *(Going gradually into hysterics and tears; fingering her locket)* 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 one thing I want in all the world... *(Crying)* ...is to find my mother and father. And to be like other kids, with folks of my own.

SCRIPT - MR. WARBUCKS – SIDE 1

WARBUCKS: *(OFFSTAGE)* Where is everybody? *(OLIVER WARBUCKS, trailed by a uniformed CHAUFFEUR, comes bustling in. WARBUCKS is carrying a bulging briefcase and the CHAUFFEUR is carrying two suitcases. WARBUCKS takes off his overcoat and hands it to DRAKE)* Hello, everybody.

SERVANTS: Sir.

GRACE: Welcome home, Mr. Warbucks.

WARBUCKS: It's good to be home.

DRAKE: How was your flight from Chicago?

WARBUCKS: Not bad... only took eleven hours. Grace?

GRACE: *(Eagerly)* Yes, sir?

WARBUCKS: Messages?

GRACE: *(consulting a notepad)* President Roosevelt wants you to call him at the White House.

WARBUCKS: I'll get back to him tomorrow.

GRACE: *(Trying to introduce ANNIE to WARBUCKS)* Mr. Warbucks...

WARBUCKS: All right, good to see you all again.

SERVANTS: Sir.

WARBUCKS: Drake, dismiss the staff.

DRAKE: Yes, sir.

(The SERVANTS, not including GRACE, EXIT; WARBUCKS turns to speak to GRACE and, for the first time, notices ANNIE)

WARBUCKS: And, Grace, if you'll get your notebook... 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. *(Frowningly approaching ANNIE, assessing her)* Annie, huh? Annie what?

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

WARBUCKS: *(Obviously not meaning it)* Not at all. I couldn't be happier. Grace, we'll start with the figures on the iron-ore shipments from... Toledo to... *(Made uncomfortable by the presence of ANNIE, aside to GRACE)* What are we supposed to do with this child?

GRACE: *(Aside to WARBUCKS)* It is her first night here, sir.

WARBUCKS: *(Aside to GRACE)* Hmm. *(To ANNIE)* Well, Annie, I guess we ought to do something special on your first night. *(Has an idea)* Would you like to go to a movie?

ANNIE: (*Checking GRACE to see if this would be all right; GRACE nods "yes"*) Gosh, Mr. Warbucks, I've never been to one.

WARBUCKS: Then you'll go to the Roxy. And then an ice-cream soda at Rumpelmayer's and a hansom cab ride around Central Park.

ANNIE: Golly!

WARBUCKS: Grace, forget about the dictation for tonight. Instead, you take Annie to the movies.

GRACE: Yes, sir.

ANNIE: (*Obviously disappointed about something*) Aw, gee.

WARBUCKS: Something the matter, Annie?

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

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

ANNIE: Aw, gee.

SCRIPT - MR. WARBUCKS – SIDE 2

WARBUCKS: Ah, finally. *(Opening the envelope, taking out a letter, and reading it)* Agent Gunderson located the manufacturer of Annie's locket. In Utica, New York.

ANNIE: Oh, boy! *(CROSSES to WARBUCKS, excited)*

WARBUCKS: Over ninety thousand were made and sold.

ANNIE: Aw, gee.

WARBUCKS: Annie, I'm afraid the F.B.I. doesn't think that there's a chance in a million of tracing your parents through the locket. I'm sorry. *(Takes the locket from the envelope and puts it on ANNIE)*

ANNIE: *(CROSSING to the settee and sitting down dejectedly)* That's okay. You did your best. Anyway, I guess a kid can get along without folks. You didn't turn out so bad.

WARBUCKS: Grace?

GRACE: Yes, sir?

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

GRACE: Right here!

WARBUCKS: *(CROSSES to the settee with ANNIE and sits)* Annie. I want to adopt you.

ANNIE: Adopt me?

WARBUCKS: 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! *(They 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: *(Picking up ANNIE and swinging her around)* Annie, this isn't just going to be an adoption, it's going to be a celebration! And you can have anyone in the world you want to come to it. Who would you like?

ANNIE: Well, I guess I'd like Miss Farrell here. And Mr. Drake. And Mrs. Pugh. And, well, everybody here.

WARBUCKS: Drake?

DRAKE: *(ENTERING)* Yes, sir.

WARBUCKS: Tell the staff to get spiffed up. They're going to be the guests at Annie's adoption party.

DRAKE: Yes, sir! *(Skips off for joy)*

ANNIE: Oh, and the kids.

WARBUCKS: It'll be way past their bedtime now. But I'll tell you what, we'll have everyone from the Orphanage here tomorrow for a big Christmas party.

ANNIE: Miss Hannigan, too?

WARBUCKS: *(Generous)* Why not?

SCRIPT - MR. WARBUCKS – SIDE 3

(DRAKE leads in ROOSTER and LILY, in their disguises as RALPH and SHIRLEY MUDGE)

ROOSTER: Excuse us, folks... 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?

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

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

ROOSTER: I expect you'll be wantin' proof of who we are. Here's our driver's licenses and Annie's birth certificate. *(Takes them out and offers them to GRACE)*

GRACE: *(Takes the birth certificate and reads)* "Baby girl, Name, Ann Elizabeth Mudge, born to Ralph and Shirley Mudge. New York, New York, October 28th, 1922."

ANNIE: October 28th, that's my birthday.

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

ROOSTER: *(To WARBUCKS and GRACE, taking out a piece of locket)* 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 and then puts it back in his pocket)* Yes. It fits perfectly.

LILY: Oh, thank God, Ralph, she's our Annie.

WARBUCKS: Mr. Mudge, what about the money?

ROOSTER: Well, we ain't got much, but we'd 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 to 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. *(As ROOSTER and LILY step back toward the door; ROOSTER bumps into GRACE, as in SCENE SIX)* Oops, pardon me, blonde. Merry Christmas.

(Suspicious, GRACE watches as ROOSTER and LILY EXIT STAGE RIGHT. ALL, especially ANNIE, are deeply steeped in gloom)

WARBUCKS: Well... this is...

GRACE: Wonderful news.

WARBUCKS: Drake. Champagne.

DRAKE: Yes, sir.

WARBUCKS: We must celebrate. Because we've just had the most wonderful news in the world. Annie has found her mother and father. I propose a toast. *(ALL raise glasses)* To Annie Mudge.

GRACE: To Annie Mudge. *(ANNIE looks at the glasses, extended in toast, and bolts upstairs and EXITS. GRACE follows ANNIE halfway upstairs)*

GRACE: Annie!

WARBUCKS: I've lost her. I've lost Annie.

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 – to the President of the United States. Even if he is a Democrat!

SCRIPT – GRACE – SIDE 1

(GRACE FARRELL ENTERS, carrying an attache case)

GRACE: Good afternoon. Miss Hannigan?

MISS HANNIGAN: Yes?

GRACE: I'm Grace Farrell, private secretary to Oliver Warbucks. *(Sits in the office chair, STAGE LEFT of the desk)*

MISS HANNIGAN: The Oliver Warbucks? The millionaire?

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

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

GRACE: Well, she should be friendly. *(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)*

MISS HANNIGAN: *(Kicks ANNIE to quiet her)* You shut up. And how old?

GRACE: Oh, age doesn't really matter. Oh, say, eight or nine. *(ANNIE gestures upward to indicate she wants GRACE to say a higher age)* Ten. *(ANNIE gestures still higher)* 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.

MISS HANNIGAN: Eleven? A red-head? Sorry, we don't have any orphans like that.

GRACE: What about this child right here?

MISS HANNIGAN: *(MISS HANNIGAN rushes in between GRACE and ANNIE and pins ANNIE behind her back)* 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.

MISS HANNIGAN: You can have any orphan here, but not Annie.

GRACE: Perhaps I should call the Board of Orphans and...

MISS HANNIGAN *(MISS HANNIGAN laughs)* If it's Annie you want, it's Annie you get.

GRACE: It's Annie I want.

ANNIE: Oh, boy!

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

MISS HANNIGAN: She don't have no coat.

GRACE: Then we'll buy her one.

ANNIE: Oh, boy!

SCRIPT - ROOSTER & LILY – SIDE 1

ROOSTER: Hi ya, Sis. Long time no see.

MISS 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.

MISS HANNIGAN: Why'd he say that?

LILY: (*ENTERING*) Because the Rooster swindled him outta eleven hundred bucks.

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

LILY: Jersey City!

MISS HANNIGAN: Rooster, do me a favor. Get outta here.

ROOSTER: So who was the blondie I bumped into when I come in? Looked like she had a couple of dollars.

MISS HANNIGAN: She works for Oliver Warbucks.

LILY: The Oliver Warbucks?

MISS HANNIGAN: Annie, one of the orphans from here, is gettin' adopted by him.

LILY: Crummy orphan!

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

SCRIPT - ROOSTER & LILY – SIDE 2

MISS HANNIGAN: A fifty-thousand-dollar reward. Fifty thousand! What I couldn't do with fifty thousand dollars.

(ROOSTER and LILY, in disguise as RALPH and SHIRLEY MUDGE, ENTER the orphanage hallway)

ROOSTER: *(Humbly, as RALPH MUDGE)* Excuse me, ma'am, are you the lady that runs this here Orphanage?

MISS HANNIGAN: Yeah, whatta ya want?

LILY: *(As SHIRLEY MUDGE)* Ma'am, was you workin' here eleven years ago?

MISS HANNIGAN: Yeah.

ROOSTER: Well, we had a terrible troubles back then and had to leave a baby here. On the front stoop.

LILY: Our little girl. Our Annie.

MISS HANNIGAN: You're Annie's parents? I can't believe it. Where'd you say you come from again?

ROOSTER: A little farm up in Canada where they've got lots of chickens and ducks and geese and roosters. *(HE crows and removes his glasses and hat and LILY pulls off her hat to reveal, in part, their disguise devices. ROOSTER and LILY, laughing and enjoying the success of their disguises, follow MISS HANNIGAN into her office)* Gotcha, Sis!

MISS HANNIGAN: Rooster! I never woulda knowed it was you in a hundred years.

ROOSTER: Fooled ya, Aggie. And we're gonna fool Warbucks, too. *(Sits in chair STAGE LEFT of desk)*

LILY: Get ourselves fifty thousand big ones.

ROOSTER: We need your help, Sis, for details about Annie that can help us pull this thing off.

MISS HANNIGAN: What's in it for me?

ROOSTER: Three-way split.

MISS HANNIGAN: Half.

LILY: Half?

MISS HANNIGAN: Half.

ROOSTER: OK. Twenty-five grand each. But we gotta do it fast. Get the money, get the kid and get outta town.

MISS HANNIGAN: The kid's the problem. What would we do with her afterward?

ROOSTER: No problem. *(Flips open a long switchblade knife)* When I want something to disappear, it disappears. *(With sleight-of-hand, makes the knife disappear)* For good. We get the fifty grand, we blow this crumby town, and then Lil and me'll meetcha...

MISS HANNIGAN: Where?... Oh, yeah.

SCRIPT – OTHERS – SIDE 1

(DRAKE, the English butler, is supervising the work of the SERVANTS of the house, who are bustling about at work: CECILLE and ANNETTE, a pair of French maids; MRS. GREER, the housekeeper; MRS. PUGH, the cook, standing with pad and pen writing out a menu; and FOUR MANSERVANTS. GRACE FARRELL and ANNIE ENTER through the door.)

DRAKE: Good afternoon, Miss Farrell.

GRACE: Good afternoon, Drake. Everyone.

SERVANTS: Good afternoon, Miss.

GRACE: Has Mr. Warbucks arrived yet?

DRAKE: No, Miss. We're expecting him any minute.

ANNIE: Do you really live here, or is this a train station?

GRACE: We really live here. *(To SERVANTS)* Now, would you all come here for a moment, please?

DRAKE: Quickly everyone.

GRACE: This is Annie. She'll be with us for Christmas. *(To ANNIE)* Annie, this is everyone.

ANNIE: Hi, everyone.

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 I'll get to the windows.

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

SCRIPT – ORPHANS – SIDE 1

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

PEPPER: Shut up!

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

MOLLY: Mama. Mommy.

PEPPER: I said shut your trap, Molly. *(Shoves MOLLY to the floor, DOWNSTAGE CENTER)*

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: *(ANNIE, who is 11, runs in with a bucket. SHE has been up cleaning)* 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. We was ridin' on the ferryboat. And she was holdin' me up to see all the big ships. And then I couldn't find her no more. *(ANNIE holds a hanky for MOLLY)*

ANNIE: Blow. It was only a dream, honey. Now, you gotta go back to sleep. It's after three o'clock.

MOLLY: Annie... read me your note.

ANNIE: Again?

MOLLY: Please?

ANNIE: Sure, Molly.

PEPPER: Here it comes again.

ANNIE: *(Takes a crumpled note from her pocket, unfolds it and reads it to MOLLY)* "Please take good care of our little darling. Her name is Annie."

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

PEPPER: *(Mockingly)* "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, now they're laughing.

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

SCRIPT – ORPHANS – SIDE 2

(A faraway CHURCH BELL chimes four a.m. ANNIE goes up to the window looking out into the street, then returns to her bed and starts putting some things into a small basket. The ORPHANS are dimly seen, waking up as ANNIE turns on a flashlight)

PEPPER: Now what?

KATE: Annie, whatta ya doin'?

ANNIE: Runnin' away.

TESSIE: Oh my goodness.

ANNIE: *(Puts on her sweater)* My folks are never comin' for me. I gotta go find them.

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

TESSIE: And give you the paddle.

ANNIE: I don't care. I'm getting' outta here. *(With a basket under her arm)* Okay. I'm ready. Wish me luck.

ALL EXCEPT PEPPER: Good luck, Annie.

PEPPER: So long, dumbbell. And good luck.