

LITTLE SALLY SIDE

LITTLE SALLY

Say, Officer Lockstock, I was thinkin'. We don't spend much time on hydraulics, do we?

LOCKSTOCK

Hydraulics, Little Sally?

LITTLE SALLY

You know, hydraulics. Hydration. Irrigation. Or just plain old laundry. Seems to me that with all the talk of water shortage and drought and whatnot, we might spend some time on those things, too. After all, a dry spell would affect hydraulics, too, you know.

LOCKSTOCK

Why, sure it would, Little Sally. But...How shall I put it? Sometimes - in a musical - it's better to focus on one big thing rather than a lot of little things. The audience tends to be much happier that way. And it's easier to write.

LITTLE SALLY

One big thing, huh?

LOCKSTOCK

That's right, Little Sally.

LITTLE SALLY

Oh. Then why not hydraulics?

(Pause.)

(LOCKSTOCK chuckles.)

LOCKSTOCK

Run along, then, Little Sally. Wouldn't want you to miss last call. Ms. Pennywise won't hold the gate forever, you know.

LITTLE SALLY

Oh, yeah, right. Thanks for the coin! Bye!

PENNY SIDE

PENNY Yes, do whatever you feel you need to, but please, spare the child.

HOT BLADES HARRY Old woman, you've been grasping and conniving all your days. Why so giving now?

PENNY Because... Hope is my daughter.

ALL [Gasp?!]

PENNY And I am her mother.

ALL [GASP?!!]

PENNY Yes, Hope, it's true. I am your mother, the onetime lover of Caldwell B. Cladwell.

TINY TOM Strumpet!

LITTLE BECKY TWO-SHOES Slattern!

PENNY Call me what you will, but it was during the Stink Years, you see. No one thought they had much time then, so many of us did... questionable things. There was the looting, of course, and the hoarding. But there were also the fond farewells and the late night trysts. Life was an explosion filled with riots, cheap cabarets, dancing girls-

LITTLE SALLY And love?

PENNY Oh yes, and love. There was love like no tomorrow, for there was no tomorrow, but there is always a tomorrow of some kind or another. After you were born, Caldwell made me promise never to reveal my identity to you, for I was something of a strumpet in my day.

CLADWELL SIDE

CLADWELL

(To MCQUEEN) You, get word to police headquarters; we'll need all hands on deck tonight. *(MCQUEEN exits. To BILLEAUX, MILLENNIUM, then again to BILLEAUX.)* You, you, and you, stay with me! We'll see about these little "disturbances." And Fipp!

FIPP

Yes, Cladwell?

CLADWELL

Assemble The Legislature. I want full authority for the coming crackdown.

FIPP

And dirty my hands with this bad business? Not on your life.

CLADWELL

Don't kid yourself, Fipp. Your hands are as filthy as a child's after sandbox time. But don't worry, you can wash them soon enough! Wash them by the banks of the Rio del Rio. Now go!

(To BILLEAUX, MILLENNIUM, then again to BILLEAUX.)

You, you, and you! Come with me!

LITTLE BECKY TWO SHOES/TINY TOM SIDE

TINY TOM Let's bring our message of hate to the entire world!

HOT BLADES HARRY Easy, friend, a message like ours works best under extremely unbalanced circumstances.

LITTLE BECKY TWO-SHOES Such as we have right here?

HOT BLADES HARRY Exactly. Now, get the rope.

TINY TOM That's right, the rope.

(BOBBY and JOSEPHINE enter the secret hideout unseen.)

LITTLE BECKY TWO-SHOES String her up. That's the answer. String up the strumpet daughter of the criminal urinal chain owner Cladwell!

SOUPY SUE Kill her!

TINY TOM Hang her!

LITTLE BECKY TWO-SHOES Kill her!

BOBBY Enough!

THE POOR Whaa-?!

BOBBY No one's going to be killing anyone around here.

TINY TOM Why not?

BOBBY Friends, I know you're afraid. But this has got to be about more than just revenge and the vicarious thrill of stringing someone up who can't defend herself.

LITTLE BECKY TWO-SHOES But why? We want to hang her as revenge for her father's crimes.

LITTLE SALLY I think he's just in love with her, that's what I think.

OFFICER LOCKSTOCK SIDE

LOCKSTOCK Well, hello there. And welcome - to Urinetown! (Pause) Not the place, of course. The musical. Urinetown "the place" is...well, it's a place you'll hear people referring to a lot throughout the show. It's kind of a mythical place, you understand. A bad place. A place you won't see until Act Two. And then...? Well, let's just say it's filled with symbolism and things like that. But Urinetown "the musical," well, here we are. Welcome. It takes place in a town like any town...that you might find in a musical. This here's the first setting for the show. As the sign says it's a "public amenity," meaning public toilet. These people have been waiting for hours to get in; it's the only amenity they can afford to get into.

LITTLE SALLY Say, Officer Lockstock, is this where you tell the audience about the water shortage?

LOCKSTOCK What's that, Little Sally?

LITTLE SALLY You know, the water shortage. The hard times. The drought. A shortage so awful that private toilets eventually became unthinkable. A premise so absurd that-

LOCKSTOCK Whoa there, Little Sally. Not all at once. They'll hear more about the water shortage in the next scene.

LITTLE SALLY Oh. I guess you don't want to overload them with too much exposition, huh?

LOCKSTOCK Everything in its time, Little Sally. You're too young to understand it now, but nothing can kill a show like too much exposition.

LITTLE SALLY How about bad subject matter?

LOCKSTOCK Well-

LITTLE SALLY Or a bad title, even? That could kill a show pretty good.

LOCKSTOCK Well, Little Sally, suffice it to say that in Urinetown(the musical) everyone has to use public bathrooms in order to take care of their private business. That's the central conceit of the showww!

SENATOR FIPP SIDE

FIPP Well I'll be. Hope Cladwell, and all grown up, too.

HOPE Hello, Senator.

FIPP Come to join your father's little operation?

HOPE It's just a fax/copy position, of course. First day.

FIPP A fax/copy girl, huh? (Taking her hand) Well, your father mentioned he was bringing on a new fax/copy girl. He neglected, however, to mention how beautiful she'd be. You'd be. You're so beautiful. Even as a little girl I always thought-

CLADWELL That's enough, Fipp.

FIPP Yes, of course.

CLADWELL Well, we won't keep you Senator; it's a big day. I'm sure you'll have your hands full on the floor of the Legislature, what with the fee-hike vote and all.

FIPP Oh, they'll be full, Cladwell. And by this time tomorrow I fully expect them to be full of cash.

CLADWELL Oh, they'll be full of cash, Senator. We'll all be full of cash, provided the vote comes through.

FIPP Oh, the vote will come through, Cladwell. It'll come through just as long as you come through with the cash.

CLADWELL No worries there, Senator. Once the vote comes through, there'll be nothing else to come through but the cash.

FIPP And no need to worry about the vote-

CLADWELL Fipp! I think we understand each other.

FIPP Yes. Well. Goodbye.

BARREL SIDE

BARREL What a night.

LOCKSTOCK Everything cleaned up all right, Mister Barrel?

BARREL Sure, same as always. Did you hear him scream, though, Mister Lockstock?

LOCKSTOCK Old Man Strong?

BARREL All the way down to Urinetown.

LOCKSTOCK Oh yes, I heard him, Mister Barrel. But then, they all seem to scream in the end, now, don't they?

BARREL I suppose I thought he might be different, somehow.

LOCKSTOCK Different?

BARREL Old Man Strong. Always seemed a bit tougher than the rest. I was hoping he might...I don't know...surprise us, somehow.