

Character Breakdowns



Matilda Wormwood

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3 (Mezzo-Soprano)

The hero of the show. She's brilliant, resilient, creative, and kind, despite growing up in difficult circumstances. Her parents treat her poorly, but Matilda escapes into a world of books, which puts her reading level far above the other children in her class, and she develops a bit of magical power in an effort to defeat Trunchbull.

Eric*

Vocal range top: Eb4 Vocal range bottom: C3

A student at school with Matilda. He has the very first solo line of the entire show, also has some featured moments as one of Matilda's schoolmates.

*Younger auditionees encouraged

Amanda

Vocal range top: Eb5 Vocal range bottom: C4 (Soprano)

A student at school with Matilda. She has a few solos and lines, but her most featured moment is when Trunchbull throws her through the air using her pigtails.

Bruce

Vocal range top: F#4 Vocal range bottom: C3 (Tenor)

One of Matilda's schoolmates. He has the bad luck to get caught after eating Trunchbull's cake. Bruce goes through quite a transformation throughout the show and has some important solos.

Matilda's classmates

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: C4

Alice, Hortensia, and Tommy are classmates of Matilda who each sing solos.

Character Breakdowns



Lavender

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: C4 (Mezzo-Soprano).

One of the kids at school with Matilda. She is kind and bright (though not as brilliant as Matilda) and quickly decides that Matilda is her best friend.

Nigel

Vocal range top: D4 Vocal range bottom: C3 (Tenor).

One of the kids at school with Matilda. He is enthusiastic, sweet, and always in a bit of a panic. Nigel has a few solos and some great featured moments in the show.

Agatha Trunchbull*

Vocal range top: F#5 Vocal range bottom: C4 (Tenor, Alto).

The quintessential terrifying tyrant. As headmistress, she runs her school like a dictator, making up arbitrary rules to suit her every whim and dreaming up creative punishments.

*Older auditionees encouraged

Miss Honey*

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: Bb3 (Soprano).

A teacher at Matilda's school. She is kind, generous, and really cares about the children despite her own desperate circumstances. This is a great featured role for a stronger actress who reads as older than Matilda onstage.

*Older auditionees encouraged

Mrs Phelps*

The kindly librarian who loves hearing Matilda's stories. This is a great featured role for a stronger actress who reads as older than Matilda onstage.

*Older auditionees encouraged

Character Breakdowns



Mr Wormwood*

Matilda's father. He is egotistical, rude, and not very bright, not to mention a liar. Though Mr Wormwood is not a good person and he is mean to Matilda, his harebrained schemes can be hilariously funny.

*Older auditionees encouraged

Mrs Wormwood*

Matilda's mother. Like her husband, she dislikes Matilda and does not understand why her daughter loves to read. Mrs Wormwood is selfish, obsessed with her own appearance, and believes everything she sees on TV. Her dancing lessons with Rudolpho are the most important part of her day.

*Older auditionees encouraged

Michael

Matilda's brother. He is not very bright, though he is the apple of his father's eye. This is a hilarious supporting role as Michael's contributions to the scene usually function as deadpan one-liners.

Escapologist

Vocal range top: F3 Vocal range bottom: E3 (Tenor).

A character of Matilda's creation. Everything this character does is grand and exaggerated – he's performing for the cheap seats!

Acrobat

Vocal range top: A4 Vocal range bottom: D4 (Mezzo-Soprano).

A character of Matilda's creation. Acrobatic ability encouraged.

Character Breakdowns



Rudolpho

Mrs Wormwood's self-obsessed dance teacher. This is a hilarious and comedic featured role.

Sergei

A customer swindled by Mr Wormwood looking for payback.

Ensemble

Ensemble roles include:

Russian Henchmen

Mums and Dads

The Cook

The Mechanic

Little Kids *Younger auditionees encouraged.

Big Kids *Includes Big Kid 1, Big Kid 2 and Big Kid 3

Excerpts

Below are excerpts that you will need to memorise for your audition. Please only prepare the excerpt of the character for which you are auditioning. If the role you want to audition for doesn't have an excerpt, you can choose from any of them.

Matilda

Yes, well, I needed to learn to read words so that I could read sentences because basically a sentence is just a big bunch of words. And if you can't read sentences, you've got no chance with books. I love books. Last week I read quite a few: Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Jane Eyre, The Invisible Man, The Secret Garden, and Crime and Punishment.

Listen to this story, once upon a time, there were the two greatest circus performers in the world – an escapologist, who could escape from any lock that was ever invented; and an acrobat, who was so skilled, it seemed as if she could actually fly – fell in love and got married. They performed some of the most incredible feats together anyone had ever seen, and people would come from miles around: king, queens, celebrities, and astronauts. And not just to see their skill, but also to see their love for each other, which was so deep that it was said that cats would purr as they passed them, and dogs would weep with joy

Bruce / Michael / Eric / Nigel / Tommy

Okay! Look! All right! I stole the cake. And honestly, I was really, definitely, sort of, almost thinking about owning up. Maybe. But the thing was, I was having a lot of trouble with my belly. You see, the Trunchbull's cake was so good that I'd scoffed it down too quick, and now it was beginning to fight back. [His stomach growls.] Oops! See!

Excerpts

Lavender / Amanda

Matilda, do all those brains in your head give you a headache? I mean it's got to hurt all squished up in there. Well, I better hang around in case they squeeze out of your ears... I'm Lavender. And I think it's probably for the best if we're best friends. Yeah? Just so you all know, she's my best friend!

Agatha Trunchbull

I Well don't stand there like a wet tissue, get on with it! There is a girl in your class, daughter of Mr. Harry Wormwood who owns Wormwood Motors. Excellent man. Told me to watch out for the brat, says she's a real wart. Do we know what the school motto is Miss Honey? Bambinatum est maggatum. Children are maggots. In fact it must have been her that put that stink bomb under my desk this morning. I'll have her for that. Thank you for suggesting it .

Miss Honey

Yes, Miss Trunchbull, there's – in, in, in, in my class, that is, there is ... Mat- a little girl called Matilda Wormwood, and – Miss Trunchbull, Matilda Wormwood is a genius. She knows her times tables. She can read! I have to tell you, Headmistress, that in my opinion, this little girl should be placed in the top form with the eleven years olds. I believe that Matilda Wormwood is an exception to the rules. I must tell you, headmistress, that it is my intention to help this little girl, w-w-w-whether you like it or not



Excerpts

Mrs Phelps

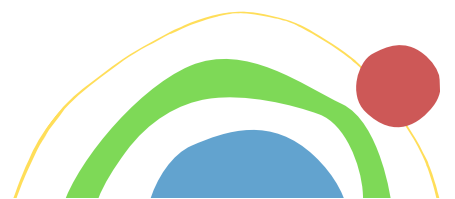
Matilda! What a pleasure to see you. Here in the library again, are we? Your parents must be so proud to have a girl as clever as you. And do you tell them lots of stories like you do with me? Oh, I love your stories, Matilda – that's a hint, by the way – if you did happen to have a story you wanted to tell me ... I mean, just a little bit? Isn't here a little bit more ... ?

Mr Wormwood

[on the phone] I'll call you straight back. I am trying to pull off the biggest business deal of my life and I have to listen to this. It's your fault. You spend us into trouble and you expect me to get us out. I'm gonna make us rich! These businessmen: very, very stupid! Your genius husband is going to sell them one hundred and fifty five old cars as brand-new luxury cars. [to MATILDA] And you with your stupid books and your stupid reading - get off to bed, you little bookworm.

Mrs Wormwood

Look at this. She's reading a book. That's not normal for a five-year-old. I think she might be an idiot. And she keeps trying to tell me stories. Who wants stories? I mean, it's just not normal for a girl to be all ... "thinking". What about me, then? I've got a whole house to look after! Dinners don't microwave themselves, you know! I am off to bleach my roots ... and I shan't be talking to you for the rest of the evening, you horrid little man!



Excerpts

The Escapologist / Acrobat

“Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls ... The Burning Woman Hurling Through the Air With Dynamite in Her Hair Over Sharks and Spiky Objects, Caught By the Man Locked in the Cage ... has ... been ... cancelled.” The audience gasped so loud that a passing airplane caught it on its instrumentation and reported it as an atmospheric phenomenon.

“Cancelled because ... my wife ... is pregnant!”

Absolute silence. You could have heard a fly burp.

Then, suddenly, the audience jumped to its feet, and the applause went out for nearly an hour!

Rudolpho

1-2-tap-tap-tap, 1-2-tap-tap-tap. I’m Rudolpho, Mrs Wormwood’s dance partner... ciao. Who is this babes? You know what interruptions do you my energy flow. I’m in the zone, I can feel it in my hips, don’t waste this! I’m on fire babe!

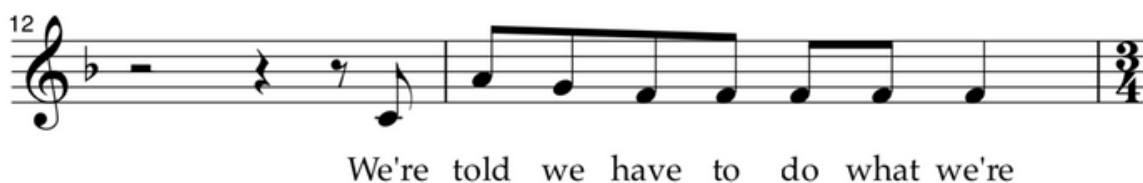
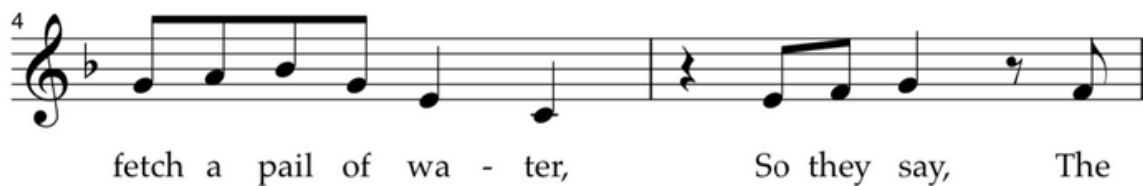
Sergei

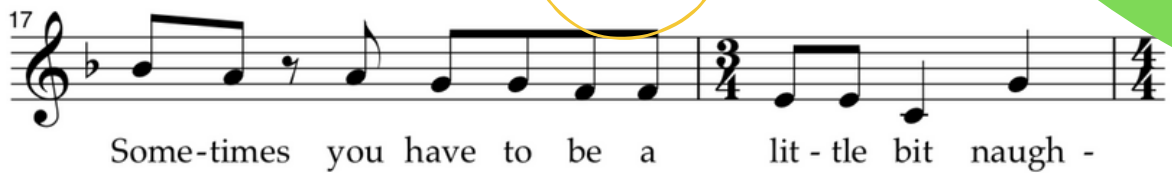
You are the Wormwood’s daughter? The Wormwood is a stupid man. And being stupid, he assumed I was stupid too. And that is a very, very stupid – and rude – thing to do. But you know this. At least there is one clever one in the family. I like you, Matilda. You seem smart. Sadly, in my line of work, I don’t often get to meet smart people like you. Matilda, your father has been stupid and rude to both of us, yes? I can very easily have one of my friends ... teach him manners. I give this as a gift to you. What do you say?

NAUGHTY

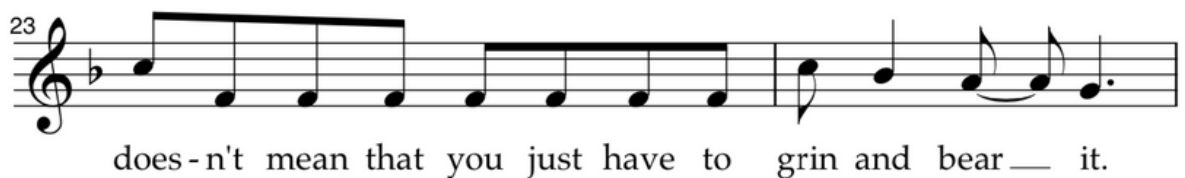
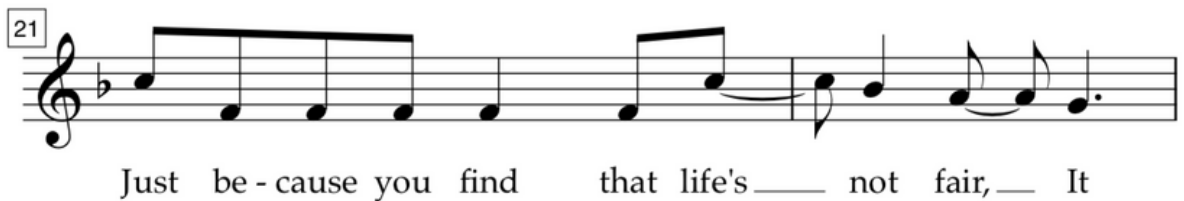
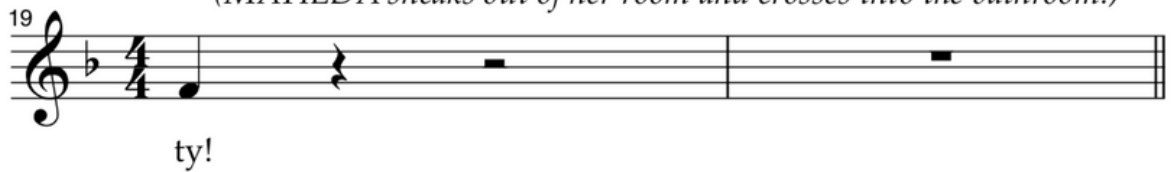
Bright, swung

MATILDA:





(MATILDA sneaks out of her room and crosses into the bathroom.)





If you sit a-round and let them get on top,— You



might as well be say-ing you think that it's O-K and



that's not right. And if it's not right,



You have to put it right. But



no - bo - dy else— is gon-na put it right for me,



No - bo - dy but me is gon-na change my sto - ry,



Some-times you have to be a lit-tle bit naugh-ty!

REVOLTING CHILDREN

Fast



Ne-ver a-gain will we live be - hind — bars.



Ne-ver a-gain now that we know we are —



— Re - volt - ing child - ren Liv - ing in —



— Re-volt-ing times. We sing — Re-volt-ing songs Us-ing



— Re-volt-ing rhymes. We'll be — Re-volt-ing child - ren 'Til



our Re - volt - ing's done. And we'll



(battle cry!)

have the Trunch - bull bolt - ing. We're re - volt - ing! Ahh! We are



— Re-volt - ing child - ren Liv - ing in — Re-volt - ing times. We sing



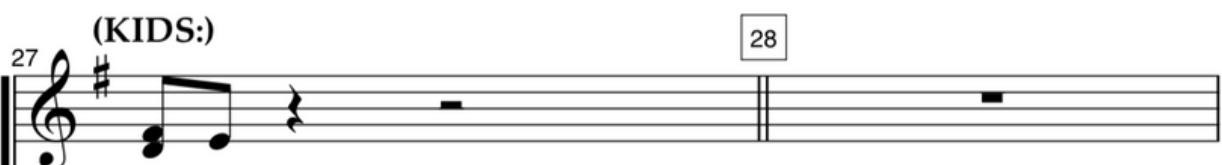
— Re-volt - ing songs Us - ing — Re-volt - ing rhymes. We'll be



— Re-volt - ing child - ren 'Til our Re-volt - ing's done. And we'll



have the Trunch - bull bolt - ing. We're re -



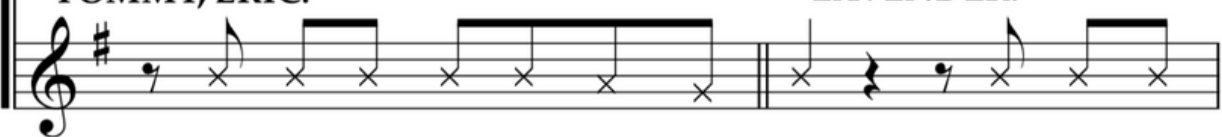
(KIDS:)

volt - ing!

(Everyone sing this)

TOMMY, ERIC:

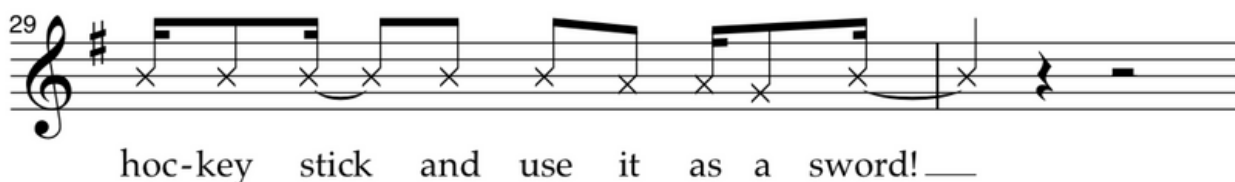
LAVENDER:



We will be - come a scream - ing horde! Take out your

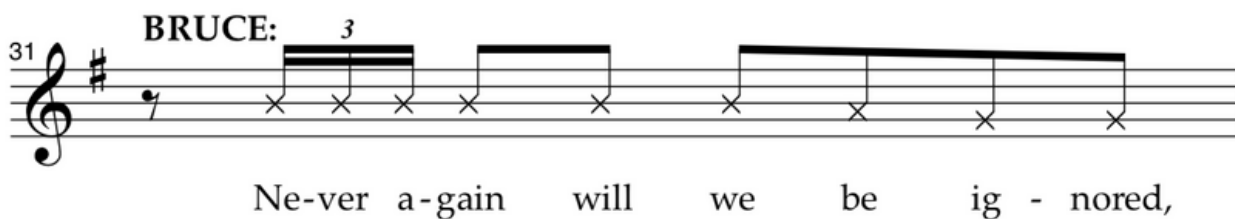
(Everyone sing this)

(LAVENDER:)

29 

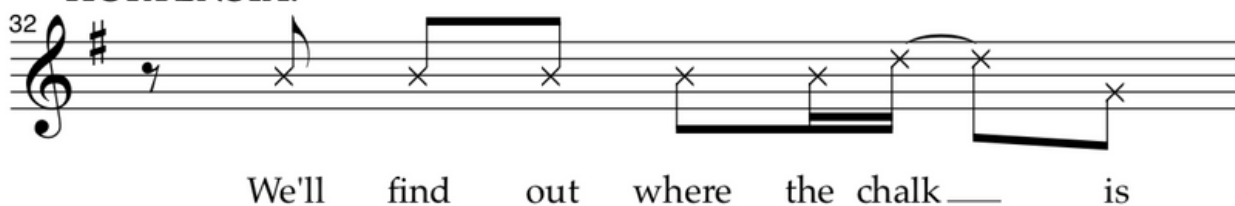
hoc-key stick and use it as a sword! ___

BRUCE:

31 

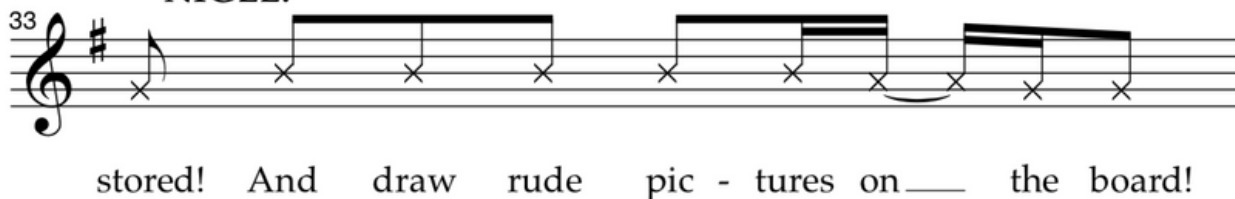
Ne-ver a-gain will we be ig - nored,

HORTENSIA:

32 

We'll find out where the chalk ___ is

NIGEL:

33 

stored! And draw rude pic - tures on ___ the board!

ALICE:

KIDS:

34 

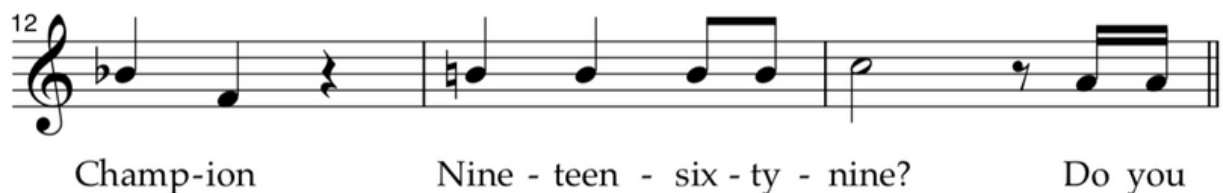
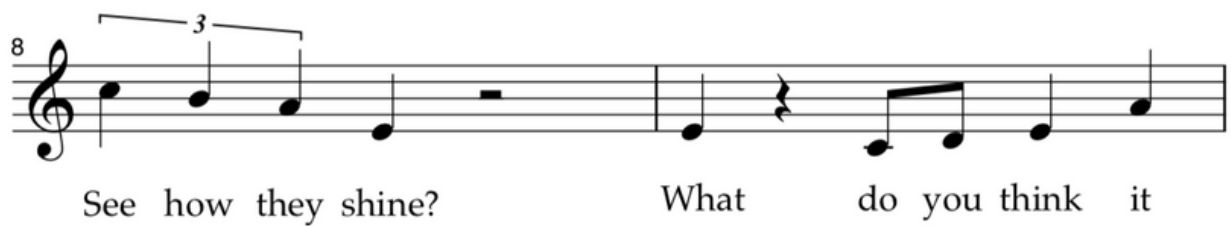
It's not in - sult - ing, We're RE-VOLT-ING!

THE HAMMER

(TRUNCBULL:) To the rules? In my school?

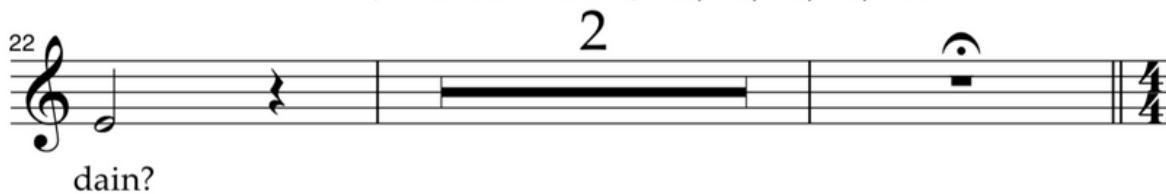
Quirky, not too fast

4 (TRUNCBULL:)



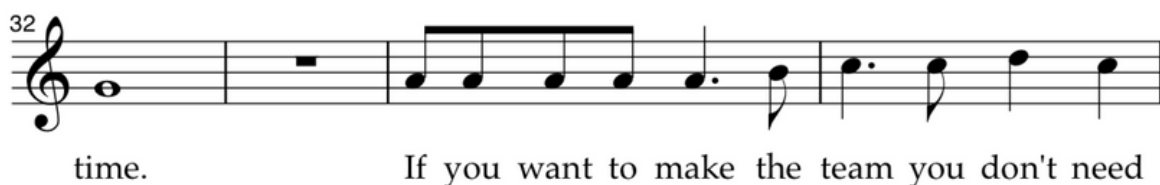


(TRUNCBULL:) No, no, no, no, no!



Simply

(TRUNCBULL:)




(TRUNCBULL:) Sing, Children!

(TRUNCBULL:)




**TRUNCBULL,
LITTLE KIDS:**

42



If you want to throw the ham - mer for your count-ry


45



You have to stay in-side the cir - cle all the

48


TRUNCBULL:



time. And

(TRUNCBULL:)

50



if you want to teach suc - cess, you don't use

(TRUNCBULL:)


52



sym-pa-thy or ten - der-ness. You have to force the lit-tle

(TRUNCBULL:) **(TRUNCBULL:) Sing, Jenny!**

55



squits to toe the line.

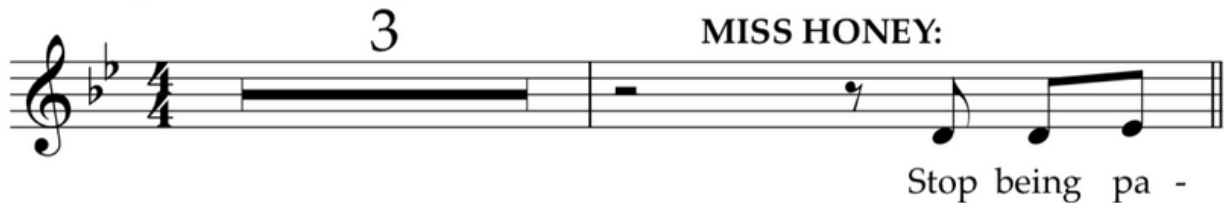
THIS LITTLE GIRL

(MISS HONEY is outside the Wormwood house alone.)

Brightish 4, swung

3

MISS HONEY:



Stop being pa -

Positively, dictated

5



the-tic, Jen-ny. Just get on your feet, Jen-ny. You are going to

7



march in there and give them a piece of your mind. Leave it a-

9

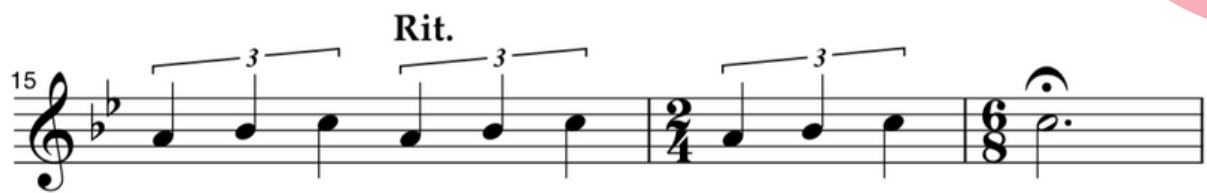


lone, Jen-ny, the more that you try the

11



more you'll just look like a fool. This is not your



You are a teach - er, just go back to school.



But this lit - tle girl, this mi - ra -



cle... She seems not to know — that she's spe - cial at all.



— And what sort of teach - er would I be —




— if I let this lit - tle girl fall? I can



see this lit - tle girl needs some - bo - dy


Freely again

29



strong — to fight by her side. In- stead she's found

31



me, pa- the- tic lit- tle me. And a - no- ther door

Rit.

33



clo - ses and Jen- ny's out - side. _____

ACROBAT STORY (PART 1)

(Please perform the script and song for every character)

(MATILDA:) ...the two greatest circus performers in the world—an escapologist, and an acrobat fell in love and got married.

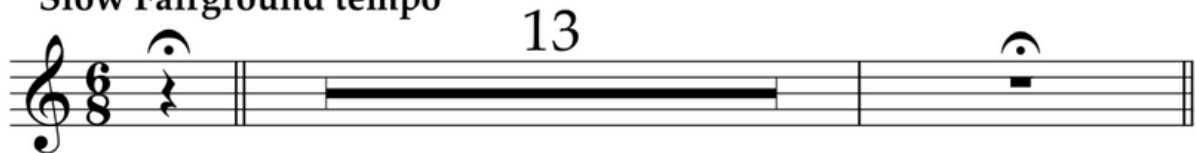
ACROBAT: They performed some of the most incredible feats together and people would come from miles around!

ESCAPOLOGIST: Kings, Queens, Celebrities, and Astronauts.
And not just to see their skill but also to see their love for one another.

MATILDA: Which was so deep that it was said cats would purr as they passed them and dogs would weep with joy.

ACROBAT: They moved into a beautiful, old house—

Slow Fairground tempo




15 **3** **ACROBAT:**



We have ev - 'ry-thing...

20 **ESCAPOLOGIST:**



Ev - 'ry-thing...

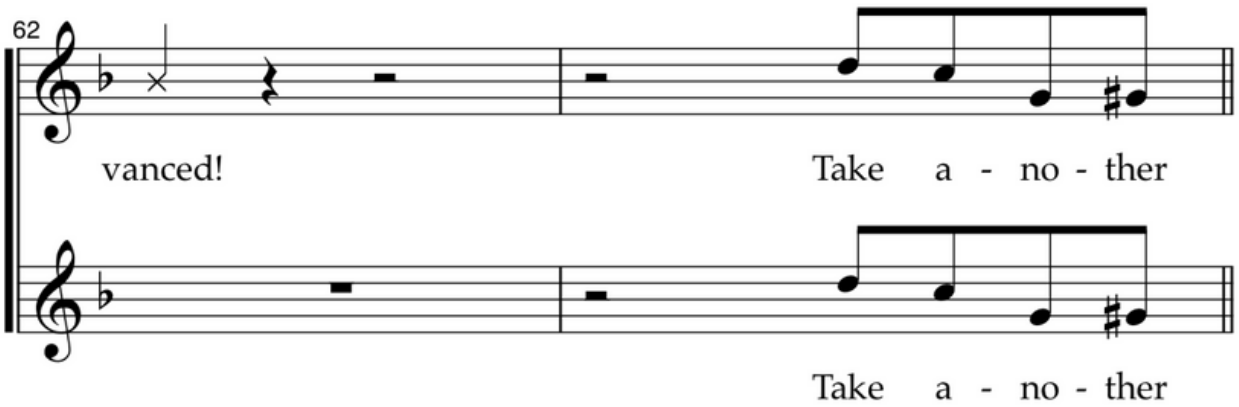
ESCAPOLOGIST: We do not have a child.

24 **ACROBAT:**

But the one thing...

MIRACLE

62



vanced! Take a - no - ther

Take a - no - ther

64 KIDS:

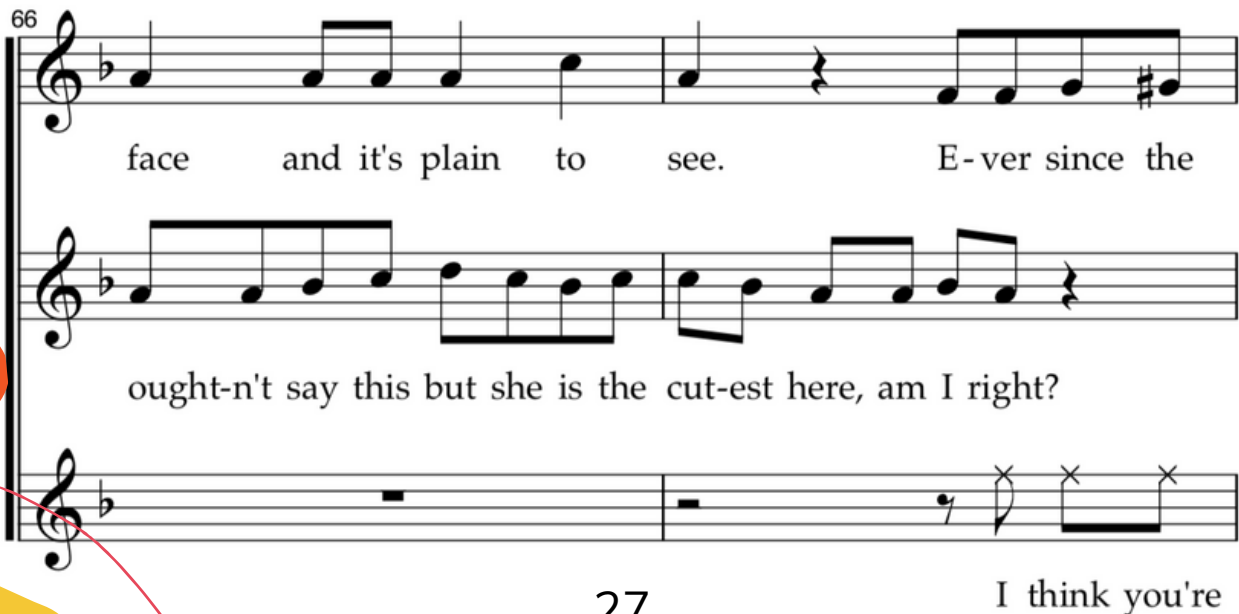


My mum-my says I'm a mi - ra-cle, One look at my

(MUMS:) pic-ture of our an-gel, she looks love-ly in this light. I know I

(DADS:) pic-ture of our an-gel, she looks love-ly in this light.

66



face and it's plain to see. E-ver since the

ought-n't say this but she is the cut-est here, am I right?

I think you're

68

day doc chopped the um - bi - li-cal cord it's been

Come here ho-ney, next to mum-my,

right! Don't put ho-ney on your

70

clear there's no peer — for a mi-ra - cle like me.

Smile for mum-my, smile for mo-ther! Well take a-

bro-ther. I think she blinked.

72

(KIDS:)

My mum-my says I'm a mi - ra - cle, That I'm as

(MUMS:) MUMS, DADS:

no - ther! Mi - ra - cle!

74

ti - ny and as shi - ny as a mir - ror ball. You can

Mir - ror ball! You can

76

be all cy - ni - cal, but it's a truth em - pi - ri - cal: There's

be all cy - ni - cal, but it's a truth em - pi - ri - cal: There's

78

ne - ver been a mi - ra - cle, a mi - ra - cle as mi - ra - cle as...

ne - ver been a mi - ra - cle, a mi - ra - cle as mi - ra - cle as...