

Audition Sides - Molly, Pepper, Duffy, July, Annie, Tessie



(#1 – OVERTURE begins.)

SCENE ONE

(The curtain rises on the New York City Municipal Orphanage – Girls' Annex. Shortly after 3:00 a.m. on a chilly morning in early December 1933.)

(The stage is nearly dark. Asleep in the dormitory are ORPHANS – MOLLY, the littlest who is 6; KATE, the next-to-littlest, who is 7; TESSIE, the crybaby, who is 10; PEPPER, the toughest, who is 12; JULY, the quietest, who is 13; and DUFFY, the biggest, who is also 13.)

(#2 – MAYBE (UNDERScore) begins.)

START

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.

(PEPPER shoves MOLLY to the floor.)

JULY

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

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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. 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.

END

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.)