



(A faraway church bell chimes four A.M. ANNIE starts putting things into a small basket.)

KATE

Annie, whatta ya doin?

ANNIE

Runnin' away.

TESSIE

Oh my goodness.

ANNIE

My folks are never coming for me. I gotta go find them.

JULY

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

ANNIE

I don't care. I'm gettin' outta here. Wish me luck.

ALL EXCEPT PEPPER

Good luck, Annie.

PEPPER

So long, dumbbell. And good luck.

(ANNIE sneaks across the stage. As she reaches to open the door, MISS HANNIGAN, flings open the door.)

MISS HANNIGAN

Aha! Caught you!

(ANNIE falls backward.)

Get up. Get up!



ANNIE

(standing up) Yes, Miss Hannigan.

MISS HANNIGAN

Rotten orphan.

ANNIE

I'm not an orphan. My mother and father left a note saying they loved me and they were coming back for me.

MISS HANNIGAN

That was 1922; this is 1933.

(blows her whistle)

Get up! All of you. Now, for this one's shenanigans, you'll all get down on your knobby little knees and clean this dump until it shines like the top of the Chrysler Building.

(The ORPHANS all get out of bed.)

TESSIE

But it's four o'clock in the morning.

MISS HANNIGAN

Get to work!!

ANNIE, ORPHANS

Yes, Miss Hannigan.

MISS HANNIGAN

Why any kid would want to be an orphan, I'll never know.

(MISS HANNIGAN exits as the ORPHANS start to scrub the floor.)