

GRACE – Audition

GRACE

(Entering)

Good afternoon, Miss Hannigan?

MISS HANNIGAN

Yeah?

GRACE

(Extends HER hand)

Oh, good. I'm Grace Farrell

MISS HANNIGAN

(looks at HER hand)

So?

GRACE

...and the New York City Board of Orphans suggested that...

MISS HANNIGAN

(Panics)

Wait! Hold it!! I can explain everything!!! It wasn't my fault. It was Annie, you see, who got into Bundles' laundry bag and ...

GRACE

Miss Hannigan, I...

MISS HANNIGAN

... and, sure, I know I should of called Mr. Donatelli instead of the cops, but I ...

GRACE

Miss Hannigan, I'm sorry, but I haven't the slightest idea what you're talking about.

MISS HANNIGAN

Wait a minute, hold it, sister, I get it.

(Referring to Grace's briefcase)

If it's beauty products you're peddling, I don't need any. Get out.

GRACE

Miss Hannigan, I am not "peddling" anything. I'm private secretary to Oliver Warbucks.

MISS HANNIGAN

(interrupting)

Oliver Warbucks? *THE* Oliver Warbucks?

GRACE

THE Oliver Warbucks.

MISS HANNIGAN

(Crosses upstage of GRACE and offers her a seat)

Love the hat!

(Sitting)

I read in Winchell's column that Oliver Warbucks is the world's richest unmarried man.

(ANNIE positions herself behind HANNIGAN, sitting on the floor, able to make eye-contact with GRACE)

GRACE

(All business)

I wouldn't know, I don't read Mr. Winchell. Miss Hannigan, Mr. Warbucks has decided to invite an orphan to spend the Christmas holidays at his home.

MISS HANNIGAN

An orphan?

GRACE

Yes, an orphan.

MISS HANNIGAN

You sure he wouldn't rather have a lady? I got two weeks comin'.

(A long look from GRACE)

It's a joke. What sort of orphan did you have in mind?

GRACE

Well, she should be friendly.

(Unseen by Hannigan, 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 a big laugh)

MISS HANNIGAN

(To ANNIE)

You shut up. And how old?

GRACE

Oh, age doesn't really matter. Say, eight or nine.

(ANNIE gestures upward to indicate that SHE wants GRACE to say a higher age)

Ten.

(ANNIE gestures still higher)

(GRACE)

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.

(ANNIE stands up, directly behind HANNIGAN)

MISS HANNIGAN

Eleven. A red-head. No, I'm afraid we don't have any orphans like that around here.

GRACE

What about this child right here?

(BOTH looking at ANNIE)

MISS HANNIGAN

(Grabbing ANNIE)

Annie? Oh, no, you wouldn't want her...

(Struggling for an excuse)

She's ... she's a drunk ... and a liar! A drunk and a liar.

(ANNIE struggles to get out from behind HANNIGAN)

GRACE

Yes. I'm sure she's a drunk and a liar. Annie. Come here. Annie, would you like to spend the next two weeks at Mr. Warbucks' house?

I THINK I'M GONNA LIKE IT HERE

64 (GRACE) CECILLE: Green is her best color, no blue, I think.

Ce - cille will pick out all your clothes.

65 The swim - ming pool is to the left. ANNIE: Inside the house? Oh boy!

66 67

68 MRS. GREER: Bubbles... no, soap, I think.

Your bath is drawn by Mis - sus Greer.

69 The ten - nis court is in the rear. ANNIE: I never even picked up a racket.

70 71

72 ANNETTE: The silk... no the satin sheets, I think.

An - nette comes in to make your bed.

73 Have an in - struc - tor here at noon.

74 75

76 GRACE: Oh, and get that Don Budge fellow if he's available. DRAKE: Yes, Miss. GRACE: Annie, ...

(ANNIE)

I think I'm gon - na like it here!

77 I think I'm gon - na like it here!

78 79

80 (GRACE)

When you wake ring for Drake, Drake will bring your tray.

81 82 83

84 85 86 87 88

84 When you're through Mis - sus Pugh comes to take it a - way.

89 ANNETTE: That's okay, I haven't got any toys anyway. SERVANTS: Aww!

(GRACE/SERVANTS)

No need to pick up an - y toys

90 91 92

(GRACE)

No fin - ger will you lift, my dear.

93 94 95 96

97 (GRACE/SERVANTS)

We have but one re - quest: please put us to the test.