

AUDITION PIECE FOR KNICKET AND FILTCH

(From the rear of the stage we see Filtch, running from one side to the other, hiding behind the wing flats in a furtive manner. We then see Knicket striding boldly down the centre of the stage. Filtch is a born thief and has a strong accent, East London, Mancunian, Liverpool, it doesn't matter which as long as it is clear he/she is a "nasty" piece of work. Knicket is far more sophisticated and is in fact an out of work Shakespearian actor, who has fallen on hard times.)

KNICKET What are you doing Filtch?

FILTCH I'm being furtive and sly so that people don't notice me.

KNICKET And running from one hiding place to the next is the best way of achieving that?

FILTCH Sorry, I didn't think.

KNICKET Indeed. Thinking is not one of your strong points is it!

Villager (A villager enters, they are just walking across the stage) Good morning.

KNICKET Ah! Good morning. Let me introduce myself. I am Robert/Roberta H Knicket, With a "K" and this is my good friend Septamus/Hybiscus Filtch. We are currently seeking employment.

FILTCH I thought we were casing the joint.

Villager (Reacting to Filtch) Pardon?

KNICKET Ignore my companion, he/she is a little slow on the uptake.

FILTCH Yes, and I'm not very bright either.

Villager At the moment we are all very busy preparing for a wedding. There is a lot to do.(Exits)

KNICKET You hear that Septamus/Hybiscus my friend?

FILTCH Yes, sounds like everyone will be too busy to give us a job, Bob.

KNICKET I've told you before, my name is Robert/Roberta. Not Bob, Bobby, Barb or Bert.

FILTCH Sorry Rob.....ert/erta.

KNICKET A wedding means presents, gifts, money, all those things we like. We just need to hang around and take them when everyone else is busy.

FILTCH Isn't that stealing?

KNICKET Ignoramus

FILTCH Septamus!/Hybiscus!

KNICKET Here I am, one of the most critically acclaimed Shakespearian actors of my time,
reduced to working with this!

FILTCH Remind me, why aren't you acting anymore?

KNICKET There was a minor misunderstanding over where to stand on stage.