

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN - PHYLLIS AUDITION PIECE

Phyllis:

Wouldn't it be absolutely lovely if we picked him wild strawberries?

Peter:

Oh rather. That's a spiffing idea.

Phyllis:

I think the ones we saw last week should be quite ripe by now.

Peter:

Phyllis - for a girl - you sometimes come up with some splendid ideas.

Phyllis:

Horrid boy!

Mother joins them in the garden. She carries a basket containing sandwiches.

Mother:

(handing Phyllis the basket)

Now you won't be too late, will you? I've made you a packed lunch seeing it's quite a good walk.

Phyllis:

Oh, thank you.

Mother:

Make sure you're back before dark.

Phyllis:

Yes, Mother.

The lights fade to a spot on Perks who changes the points. The set changes to the tunnel aspect and the Lights come up on the children looking for strawberries.

Roberta:

We must be there soon. We can't have missed them.

Peter:

I remember this part. I'm sure.

Phyllis:

I'm getting tired. Oh dear, my bootlace has come undone again.

Roberta:

It's getting quite late you know.

Phyllis:

(doing up her lace)

Wait for me!

Peter:

I'm sure they were here somewhere.

Roberta:

I think a bit further on.

Phyllis:

We'll have to go back soon...I'm ever so tired.

Roberta:

(suddenly)

Hush...what was that?

Peter:

Nothing.

Roberta:

I thought I heard a voice.

Peter:

Don't be silly...out here?

Phyllis:

(who has wandered off)

The strawberries are here. Oh and they are ripe. Look at them!

(She picks one and begins to eat it.)

Roberta:

These are supposed to be for our Russian gentleman.

Phyllis:

Oh he won't mind our having some - if he's such a gentleman.

Peter:

(taking one)

Oh they are scrumptious!

John:

(off)

Scrumptious!

Peter:
Who was that?

Roberta:
I told you I heard a voice.

John:
(off)
I'm coming to get you! I'm coming to get you!

The voices begins to moan.

Phyllis:
(frightened)
What is it? Bobby, what is it? I'm frightened.

Roberta:
All right, John - you can come out now. John.

John enters through the mouth of the tunnel, smirking.

Phyllis:
Oh you horrid thing, you really frightened me.

Peter:
They didn't frighten me.

John:
Boo!

Peter jumps.

Roberta:
How long have you been following us?

John:
Since the other side of the hill. What are you doing?

Phyllis:
Collecting strawberries for our Russian gentleman, and you can't have any so there.

John:
What have you got in there?

Roberta:
Sandwiches for a picnic.

John:

Oh great!

Phyllis:

They're not for you.

Roberta:

Phyllis.

Peter:

Phyl's quite right, they're not.

Roberta:

Are you hungry?

John:

Starving.

John:

I've had nowt to eat since breakfast.

Peter:

Oh Bobby, there's not enough to share with John.

Phyllis:

There certainly isn't.

Roberta:

(opening the basket)

Remember what the Russian gentleman said.

John:

What did he say?

Phyllis:

That we should all be equal and we should share everything out fairly.