

Speaking Parts
to audition for
Annie/Orphans

Preliminary Try-outs

Be prepared to read for all Orphans and Annie You may be asked to read only once or several times based on your drama skills.

Orphan #1

(having a bad dream) Mama... mommy!!

Orphan #2

How 'bout ya shut your trap!

Orphan #3

Ahhh, stop shovin' the poor kid. She ain't done nothin' to you.

Orphan #2

She's keepin' me away, ain't she?

Orphan #3

No, you're keeping us awake -

Orphan #2

You wanna make something of it?

Orphan #3

How 'bout I make a pancake outta you?

Orphan #1

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

Pipe down, all of ya!! Go back to sleep!
(to orphan #1) It's all right... Annie's here...

Orphan #1

(describing her dream) It was my mama, Annie...
We was ridin' the ferryboat.
And she was holdin' me up to see all the big ships.
And then... I couldn't find her no more...

Annie

Blow... it was only a dream, honey... now you go back to sleep.
It's after three o'clock.

Orphan #1

Annie, read me your note again...

Annie

(taking out a crumpled paper) "Please take good care of our little darling.
Her name is Annie."

Orphan #2

(mocking) "She was born on October 28th.
We will be back to get her soon."

Orphan #3

(mocking) "We have left half of a silver locket around her neck
and kept the other half..."

Orphan #2 and #3

(together continuing to mock)

"- so that when we come back for her you will know
that she's our baby."

Orphan #1

Oh my goodness, oh my goodness... now they're laughing!

Annie

All right... do you wanna sleep with your teeth
inside-a your mouth or out!

Orphan #1

Gee, I dream about havin' a mother and father again... but you're lucky...
you've really got 'em.

Call Backs:

Be prepared to read for Annie You may be asked to read only once or several times based on your drama skills.

ANNIE

(Cowed⁵⁵; reluctantly)

Yes, Miss Hannigan.

MISS HANNIGAN

Liar! What's the one thing I always taught you: never tell a lie.

(Grabs ANNIE around the shoulders, tossing her from side to side.⁵⁶)

GRACE FARRELL ENTERS, carrying an attachè case⁵⁷)

GRACE

Good afternoon. Miss Hannigan?

MISS HANNIGAN

Yes?

GRACE

I'm Grace Farrell, private secretary to Oliver Warbucks.

(Sits in the office chair, STAGE LEFT of the desk)

MISS HANNIGAN

The Oliver Warbucks? The millionaire?

GRACE

Mr. Warbucks has decided to invite an orphan to spend the Christmas holidays at his home.

MISS HANNIGAN

What sort of orphan did he have in mind?

GRACE

Well, she should be friendly.

(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)

MISS HANNIGAN

(Kicks ANNIE to quiet her⁵⁸)

You shut up. And how old?

GRACE

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

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

Ten.

(ANNIE gestures still higher)

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.

MISS HANNIGAN

Eleven? A red-head? Sorry, we don't have any orphans like that.

GRACE

What about this child right here?

(MISS HANNIGAN rushes in between GRACE and ANNIE and pins⁵⁹ ANNIE behind her back)

MISS HANNIGAN

Annie? Oh, no! You don't want her.

GRACE

Annie, would you like to spend the next two weeks at Mr. Warbucks' house?

ANNIE

I would love to.

MISS HANNIGAN

You can have any orphan here, but not Annie.

GRACE

Perhaps I should call the Board of Orphans⁶⁰ and...

(MISS HANNIGAN laughs)

MISS HANNIGAN

If it's Annie you want, it's Annie you get.

GRACE

It's Annie I want.

ANNIE

Oh, boy!

GRACE

If you'll get her coat, I'll take her along right now.

MISS HANNIGAN

She don't have no coat.⁶¹

GRACE

Then we'll buy her one.

ANNIE

For me? Gee, thanks, Mr. Warbucks.

(Opens up the package and looks at the gift. She is clearly unhappy with it, but pretends to like it)

Oh. Gee.

WARBUCKS

It's a silver locket, Annie. I noticed that old, broken one you always wear, and I said to myself, "I'm going to get that kid a nice new locket."

(Starting to take off ANNIE'S OLD LOCKET)

Here, we'll just take this old one off and...

ANNIE

(Recoiling from WARBUCKS; yelling)

No! I don't want a new one.

WARBUCKS

(Following ANNIE as she cowers back from him)

Annie, what is it?

ANNIE

(Going gradually into hysterics and tears; fingering her locket)

This locket, my Mom and Dad left it... when they left me at the Orphanage. And a note, too. They're coming back for me. I know I'm real lucky, being here with you for Christmas. But... the one thing I want in all the world...

(Crying)

...is to find my mother and father. And to be like other kids, with folks of my own.

(ANNIE goes into a hysterical crying fit. ANNIE runs to GRACE, who has returned at the sound of her hysterics. GRACE embraces and attempts to comfort her while WARBUCKS stands helpless, dazed, totally unable to cope with a crying child)

WARBUCKS

It'll be all right... I'll find them... I'll find your parents for you.

GRACE

Shh, shh. Mr. Warbucks will find your mother and father. If he has to put everyone in his organization on the job. If he has to pull every political string there is to pull.¹¹⁵

WARBUCKS

Up to and including the White House! Annie, give me your locket.

ANNIE

But, Mr. Warbucks...

WARBUCKS

I understand. But it could be our best clue. We'll have the F.B.I.¹¹⁶ trace it and find out who bought it.