

Railway Children Audition piece

*Mother is upset when she discovers the children have asked for help*

MOTHER

Also Bobbie, Peter, Phyllis

BOBBIE. We had to tell Mother what we had done.

MOTHER. You did what?! You did what!? You asked for help of a complete and total stranger.

PETER. He wasn't a total stranger.

PHYLLIS. We'd waved to him.

MOTHER. Waved!? Waved?!

PETER. Every day.

BOBBIE. He didn't seem like a stranger.

PHYLLIS. He really is very sweet.

MOTHER. You took one of my sheets.

BOBBIE. Two.

MOTHER. My best sheets!

PETER. We didn't know what to do.

MOTHER. And now every single passenger on the 9:15 knows our business!? Anyone else?

PETER. No, really. No.

BOBBIE. Mr Perks.

MOTHER. Oh, this really is too much. Why not just put a notice in The Times. Hang another message from the bridge.

PHYLLIS. Well, we have.

BOBBIE. Just to Say thank you.

MOTHER. Oh no. How could you? We come all the way here to get away from it all and now this. This! It's too too bad of you. Why didn't you think?

PETER. Mother, we're sorry. We're so sorry.

BOBBIE. Really we are, Mother.

PHYLLIS. Oh, don't cry. Please don't cry, Mummy. Now I'm starting, .

*MOTHER eventually stops crying.*

MOTHER. I'm sorry. I'm sorry I was so angry, darlings because I know you didn't understand.

BOBBIE. We didn't mean to be naughty, Mummy.

MOTHER. I know. Now listen, it's quite true that we are poor but we have enough to live on. You mustn't go telling everyone our affairs — it's not right, I'll write to your old gentleman. But you must never never never ask strangers to give you things

*They hug. MOTHER goes.*