

JAGGERS AUDITION PIECE

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JAGGERS appears, followed by JOE

JAGGERS Is this the boy called Pip?
JOE Yes. He is. And what is it to you?
JAGGERS My name is Jaggery. I am a lawyer in y, London.

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And as for the boy, he has great expectations.
Furthermore, he will come into a handsome property.
Furthermore, the possessor of this property wishes to take him out from his present sphere of life and have him brought up as a gentleman. Furthermore, it is a condition of the person from whom I take my instructions that the young man always bears the name of Pip.
Furthermore, it is a condition of the person from whom I take my instructions that his or her identity remain a profound secret.
I am empowered only to mention that it is the intention of the aforesaid person to reveal his or her identity at first hand by word of mouth to yourself.
When it will be revealed, I cannot say. It may be years hence.
In the meantime, you are distinctly to understand that you are positively prohibited from making any inquiry on this head, or any allusion or reference, however distant, to any individual whomsoever as the individual, in all communications you may have with me. Is that clear?
Is that clear?

Good. You will come to London. When?
PIP I suppose, directly.
JAGGERS You suppose directly. First you will need new clothes. So let us say today week. You'll want some money. Shall I leave you twenty guineas? You think twenty guineas will be ample? Here they are. Well, Joseph Gargery. You look dumbfounded.

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JAGGERS

I will put a case to you, Mr Pip.
But understand that I make no admissions.
I put it to you, Mr Pip, that there was once a lawyer
No connection with anyone living or dead. Who entered his profession with the highest of hopes
Because he wanted to do good in the world.
Remember that I make no admissions. And this lawyer, Mr Pip, with all his high hopes,
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Entered into an atmosphere of evil
Day after day, Mr Pip, he went about his work and saw evil. And all he saw of children, Pip
from the minute they were born, from the minute they were brought into this evil world,
Was that they were brought there to be destroyed.
Day after day, Mr Pip, he saw them being tried.
He saw them being tried at the criminal bar.
Day after day he saw them brought out to be whipped.
Brought out to be imprisoned, transported, neglected, cast out. Qualified for nothing but the hangman. Growing
up for nothing but to be hanged.
And I have seen it too, Pip. I saw it then and I see it still.

I put it to you, Mr Pip, that he came upon a child,
Estella, Pip. A pretty little girl, whose mother was his servant, and whose father had been sentenced to
transportation for life.
And I put the case again, Mr Pip, that he knew
Of an eccentric old lady who wanted & child.
Oh, Pip, I put it to you.
I wanted to save one. Just one.
And, Pip, don't talk to me of broken dreams.