

TV ANNOUNCER

And secondly, Miss LaRue, do you swear that you yourself do not know where the treasure is actually hidden? Do you swear to that, Miss LaRue? Miss LaRue?

BIGGLEY

You see? We're going to get into trouble.

FINCH

Why? You and I are the only ones who know where the treasure is hidden. She doesn't know.

(ALL MEN look at BIGGLEY.)

Does she?

BIGGLEY

(Looks at MEN, then back at TV set)

Let's watch the program.

TV ANNOUNCER

Miss LaRue, do you swear that you do not actually know where the treasure is hidden?

HEDY

Look, I do not wish to take a bum rap. I will not swear false witness to perjury. I do know where the treasure is.

(Takes one step forward, leaning forward.)

I found out last night. There is treasure hidden in all the World Wide Wicket Buildings right now.

(MEN stage it react in horror. BIGGLEY collapses in chair.)

TWO WICKETTE GIRLS

(Recite again)

The first clue ...

(HEDY goes L., followed by GIRLS and MAN.)

30b – Disaster

(Orchestra)

Scene 7

(THE WRECKED OUTER OFFICE. In the black we hear the BOOK VOICE.)

BOOK VOICE

How to Handle a Disaster.

(The outer office is revealed with the lamps twisted and turned, the desks toppled, typewriters on the floor, adding machine tape strewn all over, chairs turned over. The place is in complete wreckage. In frozen tableau we find Miss JONES, TACKABERRY TOYNBEE, BUD, JENKINS, DAVIS and a COMPANY POLICEMAN viewing the wreckage. BOOK VOICE continues.)

In every business man's career, there are times when things go a bit wrong. We have many suggestions for coping with these little problems. However, should you be the cause of a disaster that's really disastrous, we suggest that your best bet is to review the first chapter of this book, How To Apply For a job.

(MISS JONES and EXECUTIVES break tableau and start speaking.)

TACKABERRY

(L. of MISS JONES)

Have you guys found Finch yet?

MISS JONES

(To TACKABERRY)

He seems to have disappeared.

TOYNBEE

(L. of TACKABERRY)

Can't find him.

(He exits L. ROSEMARY enters from L. during this and watches.)

JENKINS

No, but we're looking for him.

(Exits L.)

DAVIS

Haven't seen him.

(Exits L.)

(BRATT enters U.R. from executive suite., crosses D.R. of TACKABERRY)

BRATT

Where's Finch?

TACKABERRY

I don't know, Bratt.

BRATT

Well, J.B. wants him as fast as you can find him. He's hopping mad.

(WOMPER comes running on from L. with COMPANY POLICEMAN chasing him.)

COMPANY POLICEMAN

(L. Of WOMPER)

Come back here, you.

BRATT

(Takes POLICEMAN'S arm from around WOMPER)

What are you doing?

COMPANY POLICEMAN

It's another treasure hunter. This little nut tried to sneak past me three times.

BRATT

This little nut is the chairman of the board.

(WOMPER gives BRATT a look.)

It's Mr. Womper.

COMPANY POLICEMAN

(Starts off L.)

Chairman of the board. They all look alike to me.

(He exits L.)

BRATT

I'm very sorry this happened, Mr. Womper.

(WOMPER just looks at him.)

If you'll come with me, Mr. BIGGLEY is in his office. Luckily they didn't wreck that.

*(WOMPER starts off LLR. into executive suite, followed by BRATT and TACKABERRY.
BRATT addresses Miss Jones.)*

Keep looking for Finch.

(They exit into executive suite.)

MISS JONES

(Seeing ROSEMARY L. of C.)

Oh, Rosemary, have you seen Ponty?

ROSEMARY

No, Miss Jones, and I'm so worried about him.

MISS JONES

So am I. He was a nice boy.

(Starts off It)

ROSEMARY

Was? What will they do to him?

MISS JONES

I don't know. Somebody's head has to roll.

(She makes bowling gesture, then exits U.R. into executive suite.)

31 – I Believe In You

(Rosemary)

ROSEMARY

(Left alone, crosses D.R)

Ponty will think of something, won't Ponty.

YOU HAVE THE COOL CLEAR EYES OF A
SEEKER OF WISDOM AND TRUTH;
YET THERE'S THAT UPTURNED CHIN,
AND THE GRIN OF IMPETUOUS YOUTH.
OH, I BELIEVE IN YOU, I BELIEVE IN YOU.

(FINCH enters from L. ROSEMARY rushes into his arms.)

ROSEMARY

Pority, Ponty!

(They embrace.)

FINCH

I'm so glad you're here.

ROSEMARY

Where have you been?

FINCH

Oh, walking the streets, thinking, thinking.

ROSEMARY

(Touching his forehead)

You've got a bruise on your head.

FINCH

It's nothing. I got it last night. They threw me out of a saloon.

ROSEMARY

(Horrificed)

Why did they do that?

FINCH

Because I didn't buy anything.

ROSEMARY

The brutes. Why don't you go home?

FINCH

No, I've got to go in and face the music.

(BUD sticks his head out of executive suite, sees FINCH, points at BUD)

BUD

Ahhah!

(He exits into executive suite.)

FINCH

(Crosses R. below ROSEMARY, looks at the wrecked office)

Well, this is it.

ROSEMARY

The chairman of the board is in there.

FINCH

I figured that.

ROSEMARY

What are you going to do?

FINCH

(Crosses L. below her.)

Do? What does a man do when the world has collapsed around his ears ? Nothing. I'll just take what's coming to me.

ROSEMARY

Ponty, I know with that mind of yours ...

FINCH

No, Rosemary, I'm putting that mind of mine away. I'm just going to make a clean breast of everything and go back to what I was before I came here.

ROSEMARY

What were you?

FINCH

I was an exterior decorator.

(Catches himself.)

Here I go again. I can't even tell you the truth. I was a window washer.

ROSEMARY

So what? I don't care what you do, Ponty, I'm sticking. I walked out on you once.

FINCH

You did?

ROSEMARY

Well, I'm not leaving you again.

FINCH

Rosemary, you can't be the wife of a window washer. That's no life for a woman sifting at home while I'm up there, never knowing if I've landed safely.

ROSEMARY

Now listen to me, Finch ...

(BUD enters from executive suite with FOUR MEN. They remain on steps. BUD crosses D. R. to C.)

Finch, you're wanted in J.B.'s office.

BUD

I ought I'd wash up first.

FINCH

They want you now.

BUD

FINCH

(Crosses R.)

Gee, can't I even say good-bye to Rosemary?

BUD

Go ahead.

FINCH

(Turns L. to ROSEMARY)

Rosemary good-bye.

BUD

(Cutting in)

Come along.

FINCH

But, I...

(Turns, crosses U. on to the steps, turns back and sees he's surrounded by the FOUR MEN, shrugs shoulders.)

I'm sorry, Rosemary. I wish none of this had ever happened.

(Exits U.R. followed by the FOUR MEN.)

ROSEMARY

(Starts to run after him)

Ponty!

(BUD stands in her way. She stops. BUD exits U.R.)

32 - Doom

(Orchestra)

Scene 8

(THE ELEVATOR LANDING. On rise we see THREE GIRLS on each side of the stage holding handkerchiefs, sadly watching as BUD enters R., followed by FINCH surrounded by the FOUR MEN. They Stop L. of C.)