

**SIDE 1 - Bert, Jane, Michael**

**BERT**

What's the matter and who's after you?

**JANE**

The nastiest nanny in the world.

**BERT**

Is she really as bad as all that?

**MICHAEL**

She looks like something that would eat its young.

**JANE**

Miss Andrew was Daddy's nanny.

**MICHAEL**

Which explains a lot.

**JANE**

Poor Daddy. Ever since he stopped working, he just sits and mopes... Mary Poppins used to say he needed our help, but now it's too late.

**BERT**

Oh, I wouldn't say that. I tell you what: why don't we start things off with a bit of a shake for good luck?

*(BERT holds out his hand.)*

**JANE**

Why would shaking hands with you bring us luck?

**BERT**

Didn't anyone ever tell you it's lucky to shake a chimney sweep's hand?

*(JANE does so, and so does MICHAEL. From his large bag, BERT extracts a beautiful red kite with streamers.)*

**JANE**

Michael, look! It's a real one!

*(BERT holds the kite out to MICHAEL, who is resistant.)*

What's the matter? You've always wanted to fly a proper kite.

**MICHAEL**

I've always wanted to fly one with Daddy.

**BERT**

*(crouches before MICHAEL, speaking gently)*

O' course you have. But you need to know how it's done. Get some training in, and you'll make him the proudest father in the whole bloomin' empire!

**SIDE 2 – Mary Poppins, Bert, Jane, Michael, Mrs. Corry**

**MARY POPPINS**

Hello, Bert.

**BERT**

Hello, Mary. Hello, kids.

**JANE, MICHAEL**

Hello.

**MARY POPPINS**

We're off to Mrs. Corry's Talking Shop. Care to join us?

**JANE**

Talking Shop?

**MICHAEL**

Who's Mrs. Corry?

**BERT**

"Who's Mrs. Corry?" Mrs. Corry is older than anyone in the world. She talked to William before he went conquering, to Vlad before he went impaling, and to Alexander before he weren't so great.

**JANE**

That's impossible!

**MARY POPPINS**

Anything can happen if you let it.

*(They enter the shop.)*

**MRS. CORRY**

Well, well, well... if it isn't Mary Poppins! With Jane and Michael Banks!

**MICHAEL**

She knows us?

**MRS. CORRY**

And how is poor little Georgie?

**MICHAEL**

Who?

**MRS. CORRY**

Georgie Banks. Your father. He used to give his nanny the slip and come into my shop here in secret. I remember Georgie used to love my gingerbread stars. Now, Mary Poppins, what can I do for you?

**SIDE 3 – Mary Poppins, George, Jane, Winifred, Mrs. Brill**

**MARY POPPINS**

Good morning.

**GEORGE**

*(stunned by the sudden intruder)*

Yes??

**MARY POPPINS**

I've come in answer to the advertisement.

**GEORGE**

What advertisement? We haven't placed any advertise-

**MARY POPPINS**

Now, let's see.

*(pulls a mended piece of paper from her pocket)*

"Play games, all sorts." Which I most certainly can. "Take us on outings, give us treats."

*(Bewildered, GEORGE looks at the fireplace, then at MARY POPPINS. He can't believe what she holds in her hands. JANE and MICHAEL enter and listen.)*

**JANE**

Michael! It's our advertisement!

**MARY POPPINS**

"Rosy cheeks and fairly pretty."

*(to GEORGE)*

There's no objection on that score, I hope?

**GEORGE**

*(flustered)*

Oh, none at all.

**MARY POPPINS**

I'm glad to hear it.

*(MARY POPPINS stares at him so firmly that, for a moment, it is like a ray of light passing right through him.)*

**GEORGE**

But-oh, take it up with Mrs. Banks. She manages all that side of things.

*(heads towards the door)*

Nothing domestic has anything to do with me.

*(turns back and raises a finger)*

And don't forget the references!

*(GEORGE exits.)*

**MARY POPPINS**

I make it a rule never to give references.

**WINIFRED**

Oh, I see...

**MARY POPPINS**

I'll see the children now, thank you.

*(JANE and MICHAEL step forward noisily and stand in front of MARY POPPINS.)*

**WINIFRED**

Oh, of course... You'll find they're very nice children.

*(realizing she doesn't know the new nanny's name)*

Now this is... oh-

**MARY POPPINS**

Mary Poppins.

*(looks at JANE and MICHAEL as if she were reading their souls)*

Jane, don't stare. And close your mouth, Michael. We are not a codfish.

*(gives a sharp nod)*

Best foot forward. Spit-spot.

*(MICHAEL and JANE exit toward the nursery, followed by MARY POPPINS.)*

**WINIFRED**

Mrs. Brill, we have a new nanny.

**MRS. BRILL**

She passed her interview, then?

**WINIFRED**

Or I did.

*(WINIFRED and MRS. BRILL exit.)*

**SIDE 4 - Winifred, George**

**WINIFRED**

Poor Michael. All he cares about is flying kites.

**GEORGE**

I used to love flying kites at his age. But my nanny, Miss Andrew, soon frightened it out of me.

**WINIFRED**

Is it out of the question to do without a nanny?

**GEORGE**

Don't be absurd! All the best people have nannies... so the wives can do charity work and entertain. Which reminds me, how is your tea party coming on?

**WINIFRED**

I'm not sure. It seems so odd to send out invitations to people I hardly know.

**GEORGE**

But they're people you should know. Remember: "By your friends shall ye be judged."

**WINIFRED**

But that's the point. They're not my friends...

**GEORGE**

Winifred. Dearest. I'm only thinking of you. Are you going to say something to Mary Poppins about this afternoon?

**WINIFRED**

I don't think so.

**GEORGE**

Very well. But just make sure she's doing things our way and not hers.

**SIDE 5 – Von Hussler, George, Northbrook**

**VON HUSSLER**

Herr Banks, what objections can you have? My security is more than adequate and Latin America is an expanding market. Have you no courage?

**GEORGE**

But Mr. Von Hussler, what I haven't been able to grasp is: What exactly is your final product?

**VON HUSSLER**

What do you think? Money, of course!

**GEORGE**

Yes, money. But I wonder, making money out of money, is that enough?

**VON HUSSLER**

Are you man enough to be a banker?

*(VON HUSSLER exits. GEORGE now meets with JOHN NORTHBROOK.)*

**NORTHBROOK**

Have you come to your decision, Mr. Banks? There's a town of good people whose future depends on you.

**GEORGE**

I know that...

**NORTHBROOK**

Give us this chance. The factory could be running in weeks and expanding before the year's out. Please, Mr. Banks. I'd give it everything I've got.

**GEORGE**

I believe you, Mr. Northbrook, and I've tried to find a way, but how can I be sure the money would be safe?

**NORTHBROOK**

What about my workforce? They'll make it safe!

**SIDE 6 – Winifred, Miss Andrew, Mrs. Brill, Michael, Jane**

**WINIFRED**

Miss Andrew! It's so lovely to meet you at last! I do hope you had a good journey.

*(dropping her bag)*

**MISS ANDREW**

It was thoroughly unpleasant. Where did George go?

**WINIFRED**

I'm afraid he had... an urgent appointment.

**MISS ANDREW**

It's not much of a house, is it?

**WINIFRED**

We like it.

**MISS ANDREW**

Then it doesn't take a lot to keep you happy. Look at the dust! There! And there! Filth!

**MRS. BRILL**

Now, just a minute-

**MISS ANDREW**

Ah. You must be the children.

*(examines the children)*

Pity. I don't suppose you know who I am?

**MICHAEL**

Yes, we do. You're the Holy Terror.

**MISS ANDREW**

Impudent boy!

*(to JANE)*

Why aren't you wearing stockings?

**JANE**

I don't like them.

**MISS ANDREW**

Tut! What manners! I can see there is not a minute to lose!

**SIDE 7 – Winifred, Mrs. Brill, Robertson Ay**

**WINIFRED**

Mrs. Brill, what about the cake?

**MRS. BRILL**

It's just out of the oven, and too hot to be iced, or touched for that matter.

*(She places the cake on a tea cart.)*

**WINIFRED**

Are you quite sure you know how to ice it?

**MRS. BRILL**

Quite sure. And in case you're worried, I have not been exchanged by the fairies for a total nincompoop!

**WINIFRED**

I'll just go up and check the drawing room.

*(WINIFRED exits.)*

**ROBERTSON AY**

I'd like to be helpful.

**MRS. BRILL**

I'd like to be rich. But destiny thought otherwise.

**ROBERTSON AY**

Please, Mrs. Brill. I don't mind, honest.

**MRS. BRILL**

All right. I will give you one task and one task only. Put the icing tools next to the cake. Do you think you can manage that?

**ROBERTSON AY**

Is that all?

**MRS. BRILL**

For you, yes. For me, no. I swear, a slave in ancient Rome was on a pleasure cruise compared to my life in this house!

*(MRS. BRILL storms out.)*

**SIDE 8 – Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael**

**MARY POPPINS**

A very tidy nursery, I must say. Tidier than I was expecting. Who's responsible for that?

**JANE**

Mrs. Bri-

**MICHAEL**

Me. I am. Like to keep things neat.

**MARY POPPINS**

Do you indeed? Well, I look forward to making use of that. If there's one thing I appreciate, it's a child whose word I can depend on. Now, first things first. I always say the proper place to hang a hat is on a hat stand.

*(MARY POPPINS reaches in her bag and takes out a hat stand. JANE and MICHAEL look inside.)*

**JANE**

There's nothing in it!

**MICHAEL**

We'd better keep an eye on this one. She's tricky.

**JANE**

Mary Poppins, how could you know what we wanted in a nanny... when we made our list?

**MARY POPPINS**

Your "list"? I'm not an item in the weekly shop, thank you very much.

*(MARY POPPINS takes another item, perhaps a plant, out of her bag and places it strategically in the nursery.)*

**JANE**

How did you come then? It was as if the wind just blew you here.

**MARY POPPINS**

It did. Now, stand over there!

*(MARY POPPINS pulls out a measuring tape, holds it against MICHAEL, and reads.)*

Just as I thought. "A noisy, mischievous, troublesome little boy."

**MICHAEL**

You're making that up!

*(Without a word, MARY POPPINS holds the tape for MICHAEL to read.)*

"A noisy, mischievous, trouble--"

*(Stunned, MICHAEL looks at JANE.)*

**MARY POPPINS**

Now you.

*(She holds the tape against JANE and reads.)*

"Thoughtless, short-tempered and untidy."

**JANE**

I don't believe you. Let me see--

*(JANE looks at the truth-telling tape in disbelief.)*

What about your measurement, Mary Poppins?