

Audition Scenes/Monologues

SCENE 1

MISS TRUNCHBULL Don't just stand there like a wet tissue. Get on with it.

MISS HONEY Yes. Yes. Yes, Miss Trunchbull. There's, erm . . . In . . . In . . . In my class, that is, er, there is a little girl called Matilda Wormwood. And –

MISS TRUNCHBULL Daughter of Mr. Harry Wormwood who owns Wormwood Motors. Excellent man. Told me to watch out for the brat, though; says she's a real wart and a gangster.

MISS HONEY Oh no, Headmistress. I don't believe Matilda's that kind of child at all.

MISS TRUNCHBULL What is the school motto, Miss Honey?

MISS HONEY: "Bambinatum est magitum." [*bahm-bi-nah-tum ehst mahgi-tum*]

MISS TRUNCHBULL "Bambinatum est magitum." Children are maggots!

MISS HONEY Miss Trunchbull, Matilda Wormwood is a genius!

MISS TRUNCHBULL Nonsense. Haven't I just told you that she is a gangster?

MISS HONEY She knows her times tables.

MISS TRUNCHBULL So she's learned a few tricks.

MISS HONEY Oh, but she can read!

MISS TRUNCHBULL So can I!

MISS HONEY I have to tell you, Headmistress, that in . . . in . . . in my opinion, this little girl should be placed in the top form with the eleven-year olds! I believe that . . . Matilda Wormwood is an exception . . . to the rules.

MISS TRUNCHBULL An exception. To the rules. In my school?

SCENE 2

MATILDA (staring at the scarf) Miss Honey, is this your father's scarf?

MISS HONEY Well, yes. My mother gave it to him before she died, you see she was –

MATILDA An acrobat.

MISS HONEY Well... well yes, she, she was. How did you... ? And my father was –

BOTH An escapologist.

MISS HONEY (suddenly standing up) Matilda, how do you know that!

MATILDA So... so they were your parents?

MISS HONEY What? Who? I don't...

MATILDA The people in my story!

MISS HONEY What story?

MATILDA A story! I've been telling a story and I thought I was making it up, but it's real! It's your life! I've seen your life!

SCENE 3

MRS. WORMWOOD Look! She's reading a book. That's not normal for a five year old. I think she might be an idiot.

MR. WORMWOOD Stop scaring your mother with that book, boy!

MRS. WORMWOOD And she keeps trying to tell me stories, Harry. Stories? Who wants stories? I mean it's not normal for a girl to be thinking.

MR. WORMWOOD Would you please shut up! I'm trying to pull off the biggest business deal of my life and I have to listen to this. It's your fault, you spend us into trouble and you expect me to get us out. What am I, a flaming escapologist?

MRS. WORMWOOD Escapologist he says. What about me then? I've got a whole house to look after - dinners don't microwave themselves you know! If you're an escapologist I must be an acrobat to balance that lot - the world's greatest acrobat. I am off to bleach my roots and I shan't be talking to you for the rest of the evening you....you horrid little man!

MR. WORMWOOD But I'm going to make us rich!

MRS. WORMWOOD Rich? How rich?

MR. WORMWOOD Very rich. Russian business men. Very, very stupid. Your genius husband is going to sell them one hundred and fifty five old bangers as.....brand new luxury cars!

Monologues: Please prepare ONE of the following monologues

MATILDA Yes, well, I needed to learn to read words so that I could read sentences because basically a sentence is just a big bunch of words. And if you can't read sentences, you've got no chance with books. I love books. Last week I read quite a few: Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Jane Eyre, The Invisible Man, The Secret Garden, and Crime and Punishment.

ALL MALE TEENS/CHILDREN: It was the biggest burp I had ever done. It was the biggest burp I had ever heard. It was like the entire world went silent for that burp to exist. As a huge cloud of chocolate-y gas wafted from my mouth and drifted across the class. Past Lavender. Past Alice. Past Matilda. And then, my great, big, beautiful chocolate-y burp, which now seemed to have a mind of its own, wafted full into the face of the Trunchbull

ALL FEMALE TEENS/CHILDREN Matilda, can I ask you a question? Do all those brains in your head give you a headache? I mean, it's got to hurt, all squished in there. Well look, I'd better hang around just in case. If they start to squeeze out of your ears, you're going to need help. I'm Lavender. I think it's probably for the best that we're friends.

ALL FEMALE ADULT ROLES Matilda! What a pleasure to see you; here in the library again, are we? Your parents must be so proud to have a girl as clever as you. And do you tell them lots of stories like you do with me? Oh, I love your stories, Matilda. And that's not a hint, by the way. But if you did happen to have a story you wanted to tell me — I'm not hinting, but if you did happen to have a story you wanted to tell me — Now look, are you going to tell me a story or not?

Audition Song Lyrics

***You may not sing the entire audition piece. We will give each student about one minute of the song of their choice.*

Song Choice 1: When I Grow Up

This is a great choice for students who aren't sure with character they would like to be or are new to singing. There will be an option to sing this song as a group. Listen to the timing carefully! We will use this song to determine some smaller solos throughout the show.

**When I grow up... I will be tall enough to reach the branches
That I need to reach to climb the trees you get to climb when you're grown up.**

**And when I grow up... I will be smart enough to answer all
The questions that you need to know the answers to before you're grown up.**

**And when I grow up... I will eat sweets every day
On the way to work and I will go to bed late every night!**

**And I will wake up... When the sun comes up and I will
Watch cartoons Until my eyes go square and
I won't care cause I'll be all grown up.... when I grow up!**

Song Choice 2: Naughty

This is a great choice for students who are auditioning for the character Matilda (I wish we could have more than one!) OR if your voice can't reach some of the notes in "When I Grow Up."

Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.

So they say, their subsequent fall was inevitable.

They never stood a chance; they were written that way.

I wonder why they didn't just change their story. We're told we have to do what we're told, but surely

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty.

Just because you find that life's not fair it doesn't mean that you just have to grin and bear it.

If you always take it on the chin and wear it... Nothing will change!

Even if your little, you can do a lot, you mustn't let a little thing like, "little", stop you!

If you sit around and let them get on top, you might as well be saying... You think that it's okay

And that's not right!

And if it's not right... You have to put it right...

But nobody else is gonna put it right for me,

Nobody but me is gonna change my story.

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty!

Song Choice 3: The Hammer

This is a great choice for students who are auditioning for Ms. Trunchbull or Mrs. Wormwood. It is a more difficult song! If you choose to audition with this song, please make sure practice with and without the words on the track.

**Look at these trophies, see how my trophies gleam
In the sunlight, see how they shine**

**What do you think it took to become English
Hammer-throwing champion nineteen-sixty-nine?**

**Do you think in that moment when my big moment came
That I treated the rules with casual disdain
NO NO NO NO NO!**

**If you want to throw the hammer for your country,
You have to stay inside the circle all the time,
And if you want to make the team,
You don't need happiness or self-esteem,
You just need to keep your feet inside the line.
Sing, children 2, 3, 4!**

Song Choice 4: This Little Girl

This is a great choice for students who are auditioning for Miss Honey or Ms. Phelps. It is a more difficult song as well! If you choose to audition with this song, please make sure practice with and without the words on the track

**Stop being pathetic, Jenny.
Just get on your feet, Jenny.
You are going to march in there
And give them a piece of your mind.**

**Leave it alone, Jenny.
The more that you try, the more you'll just look like a fool.
This is not your problem. You've not got the spine.
You are a teacher; Just go back to school!**

**But this little girl... This miracle...
She seems not to know, that she's special at all,
And what sort of teacher would I be
If I let this little girl fall...
I can see this little girl needs somebody strong to fight by her side.**

**Instead she's found me, pathetic little me,
And another door closes,
And Jenny's outside.**