



MRS. PEACHUM:

NOW THERE'S A MAN, THE LIVING TOOL OF SATAN.
HE CHARGES FORTH WHILE OTHERS ARE DEBATIN'.
CONNIVIN' COCKY KNAVE, WITH ALL THE TRIMMIN'.
I KNOW ONE THING WILL TRIM HIM DOWN: WOMEN.
IN WOMEN HE MEETS DEEP AUTHORITY.
ON THEM HE FEELS HIS OLD DEPENDENCY.

P- blank

HE SNIGGERS AT THE GOOD BOOK,
MOCKS THE PRISS-AND-PRIM,
DOES *ANYTHING* FOR PAY, IF IT'LL PAY.
AND SINCE HE KNOWS WHAT LADIES DO TO HIM,
HE THRUSTS THEM WELL - OUT OF HIS WAY.
ALL THROUGH THE DAY HE SWEARS HE'S SELF-DENYING;
THEN DUSK DESCENDS AND ONCE AGAIN HE'S LYING.
(Spoken) Idiots, all of them!

Spots OUT
L- 135

(POLLY has been listening to the last part of the Ballad)

POLLY: My dear Mama, you can save yourself the trouble of going all the way out to Wapping. Before my Mack would deign to consort with such females, he'd even go to jail. And if he went to jail, the Commissioner of Police himself would offer him a brandy, and over cigars they would discuss a certain shop in this street where things are not quite what they seem either. Because, dear Mama -
(PEACHUM enters and listens) the Commissioner of Ponce enjoyed himself hugely at my wedding.

PEACHUM: Oh, he did, did he?

POLLY *(Poetically)*: Sipped a brandy together, patted each other's cheeks and said: "If you'll have another, I'll have another." And when one of them departed, the other's eyes filled up with tears and he said, *If* Anywhere you go, I will go with you." There's not a thing in the records against Mackie.

- Spots for
The World is Mean
- Lights 140-165
- Fly Peachum out
- Curtain

PEACHUM: Maybe there wasn't before; there will be now. He seduced my daughter.

MRS. PEACHUM: Jonathan, I'm worried. You're dealing with Mack the Knife, the most slippery criminal in London. Suppose it doesn't work?

PEACHUM: It will work - with me paying a visit to the Commissioner of Police, and you doing your part in Wapping-

MRS. PEACHUM: Leave it to me.

POLLY: As for me, Papa, I shall be very pleased to greet Mr. Brown agam.

PEACHUM: Oh, the wickedness of the world is so great, you have to keep running so your legs won't be stolen from under you.

(All step front)

Spot 1 to Stephen
Spot 2 to Emily
FLY Peachum OUT
Curtain Open
L- 140

P- world is mean

Curtain CLOSE

Music 15: FIRST THREEPENNY FINALE: "The World is Mean"

POLLY:

ALL I'M ASKING ISN'T MUCH.
ONCE, INSTEAD OF ALL THIS SADNESS,
FROM A MAN, A LITTLE GLADNESS.
IS THAT ASKING VERY MUCH?
IS THAT ASKING SUCH A MUCH?



PEACHUM:

ONE RIGHT IS GUARANTEED TO EVERYBODY:
 TO CALL HIS SHORT UNHAPPY LIFE HIS OWN,
 TO TAKE A BIT OF PLEASURE WITH THE SHODDY,
 AND WHEN HE ASKS FOR BREAD TO EAT, NOT GET A STONE.
 THIS HUMAN RIGHT BELONGS TO EVERYBODY -
 BUT SAD TO SAY, IT NEVER YET HAS HAPPENED
 THAT THINGS SHOULD GO THE WAY THEY OUGHT TO GO.
 WHO WOULDN'T WANT A LITTLE DECENT TREATMENT?
 IT SEEMS THAT CIRCUMSTANCE WON'T HAVE IT SO.

Spot 1 Iris out to
 get BOTH

MRS. PEACHUM:

I WOULD GLADLY GIVE TO YOU
 ANYTHING YOUR HEART DESIRED.
 OH I SWEAR I'D BE INSPIRED.
 IT WOULD GIVE ME PLEASURE, TOO.
 IT WOULD GIVE ME PLEASURE, TOO.

P- blank

PEACHUM:

WE CRAVE TO BE MORE KINDLY THAN WE ARE;
 GIVE GLADLY TO THE POOR BECAUSE IT'S RIGHT.
 IF ALL ARE KIND, HIS KINGDOM CAN'T BE FAR.
 WHO WOULDN'T WISH TO BASK BENEATH HIS LIGHT?
 WE CRAVE TO BE MORE KINDLY THAN WE ARE -
 BUT SAD TO SAY, THE CHANCES HAPPEN NEVER.
 YOU HAVE TO REACH UP HIGH, AND MAN IS LOW.
 WE'D ALL BE GLAD TO LIVE IN PEACE FOREVER -
 IT SEEMS THAT CIRCUMSTANCE WON'T HAVE IT SO.

Emily turn US
 Spot 2 to Stephen

PP & Mrs P turn DS
 Spots to women
 L- 141

POLLY, MRS. PEACHUM:

OH SAD TO SAY, HE TELLS THE TRUTH.
 THE WORLD IS MEAN, AND MAN UNCOUTH.

Spots to Stephen

PEACHUM:

OF COURSE I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.
 THE WORLD IS MEAN, AND MAN UNCOUTH.
 WHO WOULDN'T WANT HIS HEAVEN ON EARTH NOW?
 BUT YOU KNOW CIRCUMSTANCES; WILL IT ALLOW?
[NO!] CIRCUMSTANCE WILL NOT ALLOW.

L- 142

YOUR BROTHER HE WAS DEAR TO YOU
 BUT WHEN THERE ISN'T FOOD FOR TWO
 YOU BOTH BEGIN A RUNNING RACE
 AND RUNNING, HE STEPS ON YOUR FACE.

YOUR WIFE, OH, SHE WAS DEAR TO YOU
 BUT WHEN HER LOVE FOR YOU IS THROUGH
 ANOTHER MAN SHE STARTS TO CHASE
 AND RUNNING, SHE STEPS ON YOUR FACE.

YOUR CHILD, OH, SHE WAS DEAR TO YOU
 BUT WHEN YOUR GROCERIES ARE THROUGH
 SHE RUNS TO FIND ANOTHER PLACE

Spots to Women



AND RUNNING, SHE STEPS ON YOUR FACE.

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L- 145

POLLY, MRS. PEACHUM:
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS THAT WAY.
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS THAT WAY.

Spots to Stephen

THE WORLD IS MEAN, AND MAN UNCOUTH.
AND SAD TO SAY, HE TELLS THE TRUTH.

PEACHUM:
OF COURSE I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.
THE WORLD IS MEAN, AND MAN UNCOUTH.
TO BE AGLOW INSTEAD OF LOW!
BUT YOU KNOW CIRCUMSTANCE WON'T HAVE IT SO.
TO BE AGLOW INSTEAD OF LOW!
BUT YOU KNOW CIRCUMSTANCE WON'T HAVE IT SO.

POLLY, MRS. PEACHUM:
AND NOTHING MUCH WILL HELP A LOT
AND YOU CAN TOSS IT IN THE POT.

PEACHUM:
THE WORLD IS MEAN, AND MAN UNCOUTH
AND SAD TO SAY, I TELL THE TRUTH.

POLLY, PEACHUM, MRS. PEACHUM:
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS THAT WAY.
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS THAT WAY.
AND NOTHING MUCH WILL HELP A LOT
AND YOU CAN TOSS IT IN THE POT.

Spots OUT
L- 150

End of applause

Spot 1 to DaWoyné
Curtain OPEN
L- 155
P- ss
Curtain CLOSE

(SCRIPTED) ACT TWO
Scene 1

Music: STREETSINGER

STREETSINGER:
MACKIE LEARNS THAT HE'S IN DANGER
SO HE PLANS TO TAKE A TRIP
BIDS FAREWELL TO DEAREST POLLY
LEAVES HER CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP

Spot 1 OUT
L- 160
P- blank

L- 165

POLLY enters, *finding MACHEATH lying on the bed*
POLLY: Mackie! Are you there, Mackie? *(He jumps up, startled)* Don't be afraid, it's only me.
MACHEATH: What is it, Polly? Why do you look like that?
POLLY: I've just been to see Brown, my father was there, too - they've arranged to have you *caught*. My father threatened something terrible, and Brown tried to protect you, but then he gave in, and now he thinks you ought to disappear for a little while, Mackie. You've got to start packing right away.