(lights up on the orphanage, overflowing with orphans, the youngest is having a nightmare)

**MOLLY:** Mama! Mama! Mommy!

**PEPPER:** Be quiet!

**DUFFY:** Can't anybody get any sleep around here?

**MOLLY:** (Molly sits up, crying, still half asleep)Mama. Mommy.

**PEPPER:** I said shut your trap, Molly. (shoves Molly)

**JULY:** (gets up and walks toward Pepper)Ahh, stop shovin' the poor kid. She ain't doin' nuthin' to you.

**PEPPER:** She's keepin' me awake, ain't she?

JULY: No! YOUR Keeping US awake

**PEPPER:** How' bout I make a pancake outta you? (PEPPER and JULY fight.)

**TESSIE:** Oh my goodness, oh my goodness, they're fightin' and I won't get no sleep all night. Oh my goodness, oh my goodness.

**ANNIE**: (enters aware of the noise) Pipe down, all of ya.Do you want MIss Hannigan to come in here!? Go back to bed..... (to MOLLY) It's all right, Molly. Annie's here. (Annie and Molly Snuggle together in Molly's Bed)

**MOLLY** It was my Mama, Annie.

**ANNIE:** It was only a dream, honey. Now you gotta go back to sleep.

**MOLLY** Annie... read me your note.

**ANNIE** Again?

**MOLLY** Please?

(ANNIE takes a crumpled note from her pocket and reads it to MOLLY.)

**ANNIE** "Please take good care of our little darling. Her name is Annie."

**KATE**: (mockingly, they have heard this note read a thousand times before) "She was born on October 28th. We will be back to get her soon."

**PEPPER:** (mockingly) "We have left half of a silver locket around her neck and kept the other half..."

**PEPPER, DUFFY, KATE:**...so that when we come back for her you will know that she's our baby." (PEPPER, DUFFY, KATE and the ORPHANS start to laugh.)

**TESSIE:** Oh my goodness, oh my goodness, now they're laughing.

**ANNIE**: (to the others) All right. Do you want to sleep with your teeth insida your mouth or out?

**MOLLY:** Gee, I dream about havin' a mother and father again. But you're lucky. You really got 'em.

**ANNIE:** I Know.....But Somewhere out there there are people waiting to adopt a little girl like you, with brown hair and brown eyes....

### ANNIE:

Betcha he reads
Betcha she sews
Maybe she's made me
A closet of clothes!
Maybe they're strict
As straight as a line
Don't really care
As long as they're mine!
So maybe now this prayer's
The last one of it's kind...
Won't you please come get your "Baby"

## **ANNIE & ORPHANS**

Maybe....

(A faraway church bell chimes four A.M. ANNIE starts putting things into a small basket.)

(Nonnie) Lexi: Annie, whatta ya doin?

**ANNIE:** Runnin away.

**TESSIE:** Oh my goodness.

**ANNIE:** My folks are never coming for me. I gotta go find them.

**BETH (Maddie Morris):**Annie, you're crazy. Miss Hannigan will catch you.

**JONIE** (Gabrielle): She'll put you in the cellar with the ghosts!

Beth (Maddie Morris): oooooooo (ghost sound)

**ELLIE** (MacKenzie): You'll get whipped again!

**ANNIE:** I don t care. I'm gettin outta here. Wish me luck.

**ALL EXCEPT PEPPER:** Good luck, Annie.

**PEPPER**: So long, dumbbell. And good luck.

(ANNIE sneaks across the stage. As she reaches to open the door, MISS HANNIGAN, flings open the door.)

MISS HANNIGAN: Aha! Caught you!

(ANNIE falls backward.) Get up. Get up!

**ANNIE**:(standing up)Yes, Miss Hannigan.

MISS HANNIGAN Rotten orphan.

**ANNIE:** I'm not an orphan. My mother and father left a note saying they loved me and they were coming back for me.

## **MISS HANNIGAN**

That was 1922; this is 1933. (blows her whistle)

Get up! All of you. Now, for this one s shenanigans, you II all get down on your knobby little knees and clean this dump until it shines like the top of the Chrysler Building. (The ORPHANS all get out of bed.)

**LANIE** (Mari): But it s four o clock in the morning.

MISS HANNIGAN: Get to work!!

ANNIE, ORPHANS Yes, Miss Hannigan.

MISS HANNIGAN: Why any kid would want to be an orphan, I ll never know.

## ALL:

It's a hard-knock life for us It's a hard-knock life for us

**ANNIE** 

Stead of treated

ALL:

We get tricked

ANNIE:

'Stead of kisses

ALL:

We get kicked It's the hard-knock life

Got no folks to speak of, so,

It's a hard knock row we hoe!

ANNIE:

**Cotton Blankets** 

ALL

: Steada Wool!

ANNIE:

**Empty Bellies** 

ALL:

Steada Full

It's the Hard-Knock Life

ANNIE:

Don't if feel like the wind is always howl'n?

Kate & Tessie:

Don't it seem like there's never any light!

## **DUFFY & JULY:**

Once a day, don't you wanna throw the towel in?

### PEPPER & MOLLY:

It's easier than puttin' up a fight

### ANNIE:

No one's(\*) there when your dreams at night get creepy (OOOO)

## **MOLLY:**

No one(\*) cares if you grow or if you shrink (OOOO)

## **TESSIE:**

No one(\*) dries when your eyes get wet and weepy (OOOO)

#### ALL:

From the cryin you would think this place would sink!

OHHHHH!!!!!

Empty belly life!

Rotten smelly life!

Full of sorrow life!

No tomorrow life!

## MOLLY:

Santa Claus we never see

#### PEPPER:

Santa Claus, what's that?

Who's he?

### ALL:

No one cares for you a smidge When you're IN AN ORPHANAGE It's the hard-knock life!!!!

## **MOLLY**

(Making a WHISTLING SOUND and copying Miss Hannigan) You'll Stay up till this dump shines like the top of the Chrysler Building.

### **ALL EXCEPT MOLLY**

Yank the wiskers from her chin.

Jab her with a safty pin. **MOLLY:** Rotton Orphans Make her drink a Mickey Finn **MOLLY:** Nobody Loves You

I love you Miss Hannigan!

### **MOLLY**

(Whistle) Get to Work!

(Whistle) Strip them Beds! (Whistle) I Said get to work! And I mean! Start!! NOW!!!

#### **ALL**

It's a hard-knock life for us (MOLLY: Merry Christmas!)
It's a hard-knock life for us (MOLLY: Merry Christmas!)
No one cares for you a smidge, when you're in an Orphanage!
MOLLY:Rotten Orphans! (Molly falls into the laundry hamper.)

#### ALL:

It's the hard-knock life It's the hard-knock life

(Miss Hanigan comes in and whistles. Annie and the orphans run to their line up in front of their beds, annies attention remains on the laundry hamper. She is hatching an idea)

Miss Hannigan:.....Well???

**ALL ORPHANS** We Love you Miss Hannigan....

**MOLLY:** (from Hamper) I LOVE YOU MISS HANNIGAN (pops up out of hamper)

**Miss Hannigan**: You. What are you doing in there?

**Molly:** Nothin

Miss Hannigan: (to Annie) Get her Out of there! (to Molly) Your days are numbered.

**BUNDLES:** Laundry, Laundry Man!

(MISS HANNIGAN: Blushes, obviously excited Mr. Bundles is here.

ORPHANS: Giggle at Miss Hanigan, and help Annie Hide in the Laundry basket) **Bundles:** Clean Sheets! Once a month, whether you need em or not

MISS HANNIGAN: Morning Bundles

**BUNDLES:** Hey, Hey, Hey Aggie. How's the Prettiest gas south of 14th Street

MISS HANNIGAN: (Pays Bundles) Bundles....get out of here with that laundry

(Bundles takes off hamper with Annie in it)

**Miss Hannigan:** (checking the floor) Huh, you call this clean, Annie! This place is a pigsty...Annie?....Annie??

(Penny) Gianna: Annie Aint Here.

Miss Hannigan: What do you mean Annie Aint Here?!

(Jordie) McKenna: She just went. With Mr. Bundles.

(Rorie) Quinn: In the laundry.

Miss Hannigan: Bundles! (runs off) Police!! Police!!!

(transition to Annie Walking the streets happy and free) (she is being followed by a stray dog)

#### Annie:

Dumb dog,
Why are you following me?
I ain't got a crumb dog,
How about lettin' me be?
I ain't gon-na feed you,
Ain't got a scrap for you.
Need you?
Don't give a rap for you.
Dumb dog dumb-er than they come dog.
You're the most presumin' dog
That a human could know.

(Annie turns around to be confronted by policeman) (he takes her by the back of her neck back to the orphanage, Annie holds on to the dog)

(Set transitions bag to Orphanage)

(Sosie) Brooke: Miss Hannigan, you know you souvenir pillow from Coney Island

MISS HANNIGAN: Yeah

(Sosie) Brooke: Molly just threw up on it.

(Door Rings)

Miss Hannigan: Yeah Come in..

**WARD:** Good Afternoon, Miss Hannigan is it.??

MISS HANNIGAN: Yeah.

**WARD:** I'm Lt Ward, of the 17th Precinct. We found your runaway.

MISS HANNIGAN: Oh Thank you officer

**WARD:** Had a Mangy Mutt With her, but he got away...

:(while Miss Hannigan hugs Annie, Annie gestures for the orphans to sneak sandy in)

Peaches (Gabby Maniscalco): A dog! We'll hide him! C'mon everyone! Shhhhhhh!

Huddle up! (the orphans huddle and hide Sandy).

**MISS HANNIGAN** Oh, poor punkin, out in the freezin cold with just this sweater. I hope you didn't catch influenza. Thanks so much again,officer!

**WARD:** all in the line of duty

Miss Hanigan: Let me Walk you out Officer(Shoves Annie inside) I'll deal with you later!

CHLOE (Madelyn B): What's his name, Annie?

Annie: Guess

(EVIE) Madison L: Uuuuuhhh......Fifi?

(MAGGIE) Reese: That ain't a name for this mutt.

(EVIE) Madison L: Is it Petey? Rascal? Truman?

Annie: Nope.

#### **DUFFY**

So how about Champion?

#### **KATE**

Champion you're anything but.

# Molly

We could call him Tiger, But there's no bite in him,

#### **PEPPER**

Tiger! Tppth, Kittens would frighten him.

### **JULY**

Rover! Why not think it over?

## All Orphans:

Rover is the perfect name for this dumb look-in' dog.

#### **Annie**

Sandy, Sandy's his name if you please.

If you don't believe me ask anyone of the fleas

Residing on Sandy, True he ain't pedigreed, Sandy, there ain't no better breed.

## ANNIE, MOLLY, PEPPER, TESSIE

And he, really comes in handy,

# All Orphans:

Specially when you're all alone in the night And you're small and terribly frightened it's Sandy,

### Annie:

Sandy who'll always be there.

Annie: Sophia Brow
Molly: Elena Conti
Pepper: Lindsay Comier
Tessie: Katelyn Soper
July:Ava Conolly
Duffy: Leah Smith
Kate:Josie Branco
Evie: Madison Leaden
Maggie: Reese Callahan
Chloe: Madelyn Bartlette

Peaches: Gabby Maniscalco Sosie: Brooke Lyons Jordie: McKenna Reichel Rorie: Quinn Spagone Penny: Gianna Sevieri Lanie: Mari Garcia

Ellie: MacKenzie Mikkola Jordie: Gabrielle Lyons Beth:Maddie Morris Nonnie: Lexi Shepherd

Miss Hannigan: Tessa McFeeley Sandy/Orphan: Thomas Ottina Bundles/Orphan:Zak Soper Ward/Orphan:Cameron Lacey