

# PIP

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### COCKNEY/WORKING CLASS DIALECT

**PIP**

Biddy, I want to be a gentleman.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

You know best, Pip; but don't you think you are happier as you are?

**PIP**

I never shall be anything but miserable, Biddy! Unless I can lead a very different sort of life.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

*(Shaking her head)* That's a pity!

**PIP**

If only I could be half as fond of the forge as I was when I was little. I might even have grown up to keep company with you. I should have been good enough for you; shouldn't I, Biddy?

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

Yes; I am not over-particular.

**PIP**

And I would never have been aware that I was coarse and common, if somebody hadn't told me so!

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

It was neither a very true nor a very polite thing to say. Who said it?

**PIP**

The beautiful young lady at Miss Havisham's. I want to be a gentleman on her account.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

*(quietly)* Do you want to be a gentleman, to spite her or to gain her over?

**PIP**

I don't know.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

Because, if it is to spite her – but you know best - that might be better done by caring nothing for her words. And if it is to gain her over, I should think she was not worth gaining over.

**PIP**

Biddy, if I could only get myself to fall in love with you, that would be the thing for me.

\* \* \*

# PIP

## CALLBACK AUDITION SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

**PIP**

Estella, you know that I love you.

*(Estella continues to knit and shakes her head.)*

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

These are sentiments which I cannot comprehend.

**PIP**

Is it not true that Bentley Drummle is in town here, and pursuing you?

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

It is quite true.

**PIP**

You cannot love him, Estella!

*(She stops knitting for the first time.)*

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

I am going to be married to him.

**PIP**

Estella, dearest, do not let Miss Havisham lead you into this fatal step.

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

It is my own act.

**PIP**

To fling yourself away upon a brute?

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Come! You will get me out of your thoughts in a week.

**PIP**

Out of my thoughts! You are part of my existence! Part of the little good in me, part of the evil. But, in this separation, I associate you only with the good! And I will faithfully hold you to that always, for you must have done me far more good than harm, let me feel now what sharp distress I may. O God bless you, God forgive you!

\* \* \*

# MAGWITCH

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### COCKNEY/ WORKING CLASS DIALECT

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

*(Seizing Pip)* Hold your noise! Or I'll cut your throat!

**PIP**

Oh, pray don't cut my throat, sir!

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Tell us your name! Quick!

**PIP**

Pip, sir.

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Now lookee here! Where's your mother?

**PIP**

*(Pointing at the headstone)* Dead, sir!

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Oh. And is that your father buried alonger your mother?

**PIP**

Yes, sir.

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Ha! Who d'yer live with - supposin' you're let to live.

**PIP**

My sister, sir – Mrs. Joe Gargery - wife of Joe Gargery, the blacksmith, sir.

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Blacksmith, eh?

*(Magwitch looks down at the chains on his arms. He clutches Pip tightly.)*

Now lookee here: You know what a file is?

**PIP**

Yes, sir.

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

*(Leaning in further)* And you know what vittles is?

**PIP**

Yes, sir.

*(Magwitch straightens up and clutches Pip close.)*

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Tomorrow morning early, you bring me a file and some vittles. You do it, and never say a word about it, and you shall be let to live. Now there's a bad man hid with me that has a way of getting at a boy. Now, what do you say?

**PIP**

I'll do it, sir!

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Say Lord strike you dead if you don't!

**PIP**

Lord strike me dead if I don't!

*(Magwitch lets him go.)*

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Now, you remember what you've undertook. And you remember that bad man!

**PIP**

Goo-good night, sir.

**MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)**

Much of that! I wish I was a frog. Or a eel!

\* \* \*

# **WEMMICK**

## **CALLBACK SCENE**

### **Standard British Dialect**

**PIP**

Mr. Wemmick, do you remember telling me to notice Mr. Jaggers' housekeeper?

**WEMMICK (PLAYER 1)**

Did I? Ah, I dare say I did.

**PIP**

How did Mr. Jaggers tame her?

**WEMMICK (PLAYER 1)**

That's his secret. About twenty years ago, Molly was tried at the Old Bailey for murder. It was a case of jealousy over a man. The victim was a woman who had been held by the throat and choked. In any case, Mr. Jaggers was altogether too many for the Jury. Molly was acquitted. At around the same time, Molly's child by the man disappeared.

**PIP**

Do you remember the sex of the child?

**WEMMICK (PLAYER 1)**

Said to have been a girl.

# MRS. JOE

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### Cockney/ Working Class Dialect

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

Where have you been, you young monkey?

PIP

To the graveyard.

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

Graveyard! If it warn't for me you'd have been to the graveyard long ago -- and stayed there! Who brought you up by hand?

PIP

You did.

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

And why did I do it?

PIP

I don't know.

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

I don't either! Now, if this boy ain't grateful this night, he never will be! Miss Havisham'll make sure he's grateful, Mum.

JOE (PLAYER 3)

Miss Havisham, uptown?

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

Is there any Miss Havisham *down town*? She wants this boy to go and play there.

JOE (PLAYER 3)

Well, I wonder how she come to know Pip!

MRS. JOE (PLAYER 2)

Noodle! Isn't it possible that Uncle Pumblechook may be a tenant of hers? And couldn't she ask Uncle Pumblechook if he knew of a boy to go and play there? And Uncle Pumblechook -- being sensible that this boy's fortune may be made by his going to Miss Havisham's -- has offered to take him into town to-night, and to take him to Miss Havisham's to-morrow morning. And Lor-a-mussy me! Here I stand talking to mere Mooncalfs, with Uncle Pumblechook waiting. Boy -- be off with your Uncle Pumblechook! Now!

\* \* \*

# **BIDDY**

## **CALLBACK AUDITION SCENE**

### **Standard British Dialect**

**PIP**

Biddy, I want to be a gentleman.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

You know best, Pip; but don't you think you are happier as you are?

**PIP**

I never shall be anything but miserable, Biddy! Unless I can lead a very different sort of life.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

*(Shaking her head)* That's a pity!

**PIP**

If only I could be half as fond of the forge as I was when I was little. I might even have grown up to keep company with you. I should have been good enough for you; shouldn't I, Biddy?

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

Yes; I am not over-particular.

**PIP**

And I would never have been aware that I was coarse and common, if somebody hadn't told me so!

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

It was neither a very true nor a very polite thing to say. Who said it?

**PIP**

The beautiful young lady at Miss Havisham's. I want to be a gentleman on her account.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

*(quietly)* Do you want to be a gentleman, to spite her or to gain her over?

**PIP**

I don't know.

**BIDDY (PLAYER 2)**

Because, if it is to spite her – but you know best - that might be better done by caring nothing for her words. And if it is to gain her over, I should think she was not worth gaining over.

\* \* \*

# JOE

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### Cockney/ Working Class Dialect

*(Pip hands the slate letter to Joe.)*

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

I say, Pip, old chap! What a scholar you are!

**PIP**

I should like to be.

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

Why, here's a J and a O, Pip, and a J-O... Joe!

**PIP**

How do you spell Gargery, Joe?

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

...I don't spell it at all.

**PIP**

Oh. Didn't you ever go to school, Joe?

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

Well, Pip, when me father were overtook with drink, he hammered away at me mother and me most unmerciful. Which, you see, Pip, were a drawback on me learning.

**PIP**

Certainly, poor Joe!

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

In time, me father went off in a purple lepik fit. And me mother soon followed. It were but lonesome then. So when I got acquainted with your sister and it were the talk that she was bringing you up by hand, I said to her: "Bring the poor little child. There's room for him at the forge."

**PIP**

*(Hugging Joe:)* Oh, Joe!

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

Ever the best of friends, ain't us Pip?

\* \* \*



# DRUMMLE

## CALLBACK AUDITION SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

Gentlemen of the Finch Society – I call upon you to pledge me to .... Estella!

**PIP**

Estella of where? As a Finch, you are bound to say.

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

Of Richmond, gentlemen, and a peerless beauty.

**THE FINCHES**

To Estella!

**PIP**

*(Rising)* I regard it as being nothing but impudence that allows Mr. Drummle to propose a lady of whom he knows nothing.

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

*(Mocking, and looking about the tavern)* Oh, Mr. Pip. Beastly place. Your part of the country, I think?

**PIP**

I am told it's very like your Shropshire.

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

Not in the least. Waiter!

**WAITER (PLAYER 6)**

Yes, sir.

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

The lady won't ride to-day; the weather won't do.

**WAITER (PLAYER 6)**

Very good, sir.

**DRUMMLE (PLAYER 3)**

And I don't dine, because I'm going to dine at the lady's.

\* \* \*

# **ESTELLA**

## **INITIAL AUDITION SCENE**

### **Standard British Dialect**

**PIP**

Estella, do look at Bentley Drummle in the corner yonder.

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Moths, and all sorts of ugly creatures hover about a lighted candle. Can the candle help it?

**PIP**

I cannot bear that people should say, "She throws away her graces on a mere boor."

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

I can bear it.

**PIP**

Don't be so proud.

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Calls me proud in this breath! And in his last breath, reproached me for stooping to a boor!

**PIP**

I have seen you give Drummle looks and smiles such as you never give to me.

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Do you want me then, to deceive and entrap you?

**PIP**

Do you deceive and entrap Drummle?

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Yes, and many others - all of them but you. But I must get some air. I'll say no more.

\* \* \*

# **ESTELLA**

## **CALLBACK SCENE**

### **Standard British Dialect**

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

I have often thought of you.

**PIP**

Have you?

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

Of late, very often. There was a long hard time when I kept far from me, the remembrance of what I had thrown away when I was quite ignorant of its worth. But, I have since given that remembrance a place in my heart.

**PIP**

You have always held your place in my heart.

*(They are silent.)*

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

I little thought that I should take leave of you in taking leave of this spot. I am very glad to do so.

**PIP**

To me, the remembrance of our last parting has been ever painful.

**ESTELLA (PLAYER 4)**

But you said to me, "God bless you, God forgive you!" And if you could say that to me then, you will not hesitate to say that to me now. I have been bent and broken, but - I hope - into a better shape. Be as considerate and good to me as you were, and tell me we are friends.

\* \* \*

# MISS HAVISHAM

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

Who is it?

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

PIP

Pip, ma'am.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

Pip?

PIP

Mr. Pumblechook's boy, ma'am. Come - to play.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

Come nearer. You are not afraid of a woman who has never seen the sun since you were born?

PIP

No.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

*(Touching her bosom:)* Do you know what I touch here?

PIP

Your heart.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

Broken! I have a sick fancy that I want to see some play. Play!  
*(Pip stands frozen in place.)*

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

Are you sullen and obstinate?

PIP

No, ma'am, I would do it if I could. But it's so new here. And so strange. And so melancholy.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

So new to him... so old to me. So strange to him... so familiar to me. ...So melancholy to both of us! What do you think that is? That, where those cobwebs are?

PIP

I can't guess what it is, ma'am.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

It's a great cake. A bride-cake. Mine! The mice have gnawed at it, and sharper teeth than teeth of mice have gnawed at me. This is where I will be laid when I am dead. They will lay me dead, in my bride's dress on the bride's table - which will be the finished curse upon *him!*

\* \* \*

# MISS HAVISHAM

## CALL BACK SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

*(In a low voice)* Is it real?

PIP

It is I, Pip.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

O! What have I done?!

PIP

If you mean what have you done to injure me, very little. Is she married?

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

Yes. Until you spoke to her the other day, and until I saw in you a looking-glass that showed me what I once felt myself, I did not know what I had done. But, Pip - my Dear! Believe this: when she first came to me, I only meant to save her from misery like my own. I meant no more.

PIP

Whose child was Estella?

*(She shakes her head.)*

PIP

You don't know?

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

I told Jagers that I wanted a little girl to rear and love, and save from my fate. One night he brought her here asleep, and I called her Estella. Oh, what have I done...?

PIP

Miss Havisham, I should have loved her under any circumstances.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

You said, that I could do something useful and good.

PIP

Yes.

MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)

If I give you the money to help your friend, will you keep my secret as you have kept your own?

PIP

Quite as faithfully.

**MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)**

I will authorize Mr. Jaggers to pay you that money, to lay out at your discretion for your friend.

**PIP**

Thank you, Miss Havisham.

**MISS HAVISHAM (PLAYER 5)**

One more thing, dear Pip. If you can ever think of me and say "I forgive her," though ever so long after my broken heart is dust - pray do it!

\* \* \*

# JAGGERS

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

Excuse me, gentlemen. My name is Jaggers. I am a lawyer in London. I am the bearer of an offer to relieve you of your apprentice. The communication I have got to make is that he has great expectations!

*(Joe and Pip gasp and look at one another.)*

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

Further, he is to be immediately removed from his present sphere of life and be brought up as a gentleman - in a word, as a young fellow of great expectations. Now, Mr. Pip, you must always bear the name of Pip. Do you have any objection?

#### **PIP**

*(Stammering)* No, no, sir!

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

I should think not! Secondly, the name of your benefactor remains a profound secret. Do you have any objection?

#### **PIP**

No, sir!

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

I should think not! Now, it is considered that you must be better educated, in accordance with your altered position.

#### **PIP**

I - I've always longed for it, sir.

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

Never mind what you have always longed for, Mr. Pip, keep to the record. There is a certain tutor who I think might suit the purpose, Mr. Matthew Pocket. You may stay with his son, Herbert Pocket, who is of your age. When will you come to London?

#### **PIP**

I suppose I could come directly.

#### **JAGGERS (PLAYER 6)**

Then say this day week. But first, you should have some new clothes. I shall instruct my bank to forward you twenty guineas in tomorrow's post.

The sooner you leave here – as you are to be a gentleman - the better!

\* \* \*

# COMPEYSON

## CALLBACK SCENE

### Cockney/ Working Class Dialect

COMPEYSON (PLAYER 6)

Why, Mr. Magwitch.

MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)

Compeyson!

COMPEYSON (PLAYER 6)

It was my understanding, sir, that you were to remain in Australia for the rest of your natural life. But, I have taken steps to ascertain that Customs Officers will be here momentarily to arrest you.

*(Magwitch looks about frantically.)*

COMPEYSON (PLAYER 6)

Oh, don't expect your steamer captain. He has been warned of the grave consequences he might suffer by providing you with safe passage.

MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)

Compeyson, you was a villain twenty year ago and you's a worse one now.

*(Magwitch slowly advances toward Compeyson.)*

COMPEYSON (PLAYER 6)

I warn you, sir, I am committed to holding you here until I can identify you to the authorities.

MAGWITCH (PLAYER 1)

*(Bellowing:)* Fiend!

COMPEYSON (PLAYER 6)

Officers! Over here!

\* \* \*



# HERBERT

## INITIAL AUDITION SCENE

### Standard British Dialect

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

Come in, good sir --- welcome to your new home!

**PIP**

*(Looking about:)* Quite nice, really.

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

It's not by any means splendid. My father, your tutor, hasn't anything to give me. I work in a counting house, but am looking about for my opening in the world of business capital. You hadn't come into your good fortune back when we fought?

**PIP**

No. I was apprenticed to a blacksmith then.

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

Miss Havisham had sent for me, to see if she could take a fancy to me. But she didn't.

**PIP**

I'm surprised to hear that.

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

*(Laughing)* Bad taste. My father is Miss Havisham's cousin --- but Miss Havisham has nothing to do with him. If I had come out of it successfully, I suppose I should have been provided for; perhaps engaged to Estella.

**PIP**

How did you bear your disappointment?

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

Pooh! That girl's haughty and capricious, and has been brought up by Miss Havisham to wreak revenge on all the male sex.

**PIP**

What relation is she to Miss Havisham?

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

None. Only adopted. But first do me the favour to call me by my Christian name, Herbert.

**PIP**

Thank you, my Christian name is Philip.

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

I don't take to Philip. I tell you what: There's a charming piece of music by Handel, called the Harmonious Blacksmith. Would you mind Handel for a familiar name?

**PIP**

I should like it very much.

**HERBERT (PLAYER 7)**

*(Sitting at the table:)* Splendid, my dear Handel! A toast -- to your new life!

\* \* \*

# THE STRANGER

## CALLBACK SCENE

### Cockney/ Working Class Dialect

**THE STRANGER (PLAYER 7)**

Do you find any gypsies or vagrants out there?

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

None but a runaway convict now and then.

**THE STRANGER (PLAYER 7)**

You've been out after such?

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

Once. Didn't us, Pip?

**THE STRANGER (PLAYER 7)**

He's a likely young parcel of bones that. What is it you call him?

**JOE (PLAYER 3)**

Pip. It's a kind of family name what he gave himself.

*(Joe and Pip ready themselves to leave the public house.)*

**THE STRANGER (PLAYER 7)**

Stop half a moment, Mr. Gargery.

*(Joe and Pip stop.)*

I've got a bright new shilling for the boy.

*(The Stranger takes the shilling, wraps it in a piece of paper and gives it to Pip.)*

Yours! Mind! Your own.

\* \* \*