

SARAH Who exactly are you?

DICK Let's start over shall we? I am Dick Whittington... *[waits for audience cheer if needed]* I said... I am Dick Whittington... *[aud]*

[SFX small fanfare]

And I am at your humble service... *[Bows]*

SARAH Oh... *[Crosses to **DICK**]* ...what lovely manners... *[Curtseys]* ...How do you do you do...well I am Sarah the cook and this...

ALICE I am Alice Fitzwarren...

*[SFX 'ting' as **DICK** and **ALICE** shake hands lightly for the first time]*

It is a pleasure to meet you me old China

DICK Old China? *[looks into the book again]*

SARAH She does this a lot...China plate...

ALICE ...mate!

DICK Oh I see...the pleasure is all mine...I'm Dick... *[he takes **Sarah's** hand and gently kisses it – as she pulls away he smacks his lips as though it tasted funny]*

SARAH *[Looks him up and down a little girly, coy and flustered as she fancies him a bit]* I'm sure you are! *[Crosses to **ALICE**]* What a well-mannered young man! And manners cost nothing you know!

DICK Well that's a good job really – I'm flat broke –

SARAH Oh I knew there's be a catch!

DICK I've come to find my fortune, here in London town! *[slaps thigh]*

SARAH Well that's lovely my dear *[slaps thigh too]* They're very strange these out of towners aren't they

DICK Perhaps I could work with you in your bakery?

SARAH And how, pray, do you know that I work in a bakery?

DICK Well just look closely here on your dress – there is flour and bits of sponge pudding and loads of currents

SARAH Oh yes....well SPOTTED DICK!

[SFX 'Bdmtsh']

[All present arms to front]

THAT is the best joke in the show folks, it's downhill from here! *[Starts to push **Dick** out of the door]* Well thank you for getting rid of that horrible rat – lovely to meet you if there's anything I can do for you, please let me know. Time to say goodbye to Dick everybody until he returns with this fortune he keep harping on about bye bye...

DICK Well, *[pushes past **Sarah** to **Alice**]* actually, I am looking for a job...

ALICE I see, well, this is my father's business and I'm afraid things are not going very well! Our credits have never been so crunched! We have no vacancies today – I'm sorry!

DICK But – you must have...something?

*[**Dick** looks pleadingly at **Alice**]*

SARAH Oh... I'm sure we can find something for you at the docks?!

DICK Hey! Tommy used to work on the docks...? *[**Tommy** nods]*

SARAH That sounds like the start of a song...very well maybe we do have some barnacles the need scraping off our bottoms...

DICK Oh thank you...I think...

SARAH Right, I'm off to your Fathers new ship Alice Fitzwarren - the 'Armadillo' to see if any of the sailors there want to catch a big fish – and that's before they set sail wahaaay!!

*[**Tommy** gets excited at the word 'fish']*

DICK Oh oh – you've said the wrong thing there Sarah

*[SFX cat screeches as **SARAH** exits chased off excitedly by the **cat**]*

SARAH Did I say fish there – no not fish! I meant...dish...no...no! Bad pussycat bad pussycat!! *[exits]*