

OLIVER

(as he tries to escape)

Help! Help!

SIKES grabs him, OLIVER hits SIKES across the face.

SIKES

Hit me would you?

He pushes off OLIVER and makes for his cudgel. NANCY rushes forward and grabs SIKES' arm.

NANCY

No leave him alone Bill!

SIKES

Stand off me, or I'll split yer head open!

NANCY

Go on, then kill me! You'll have to before I'll let you lay a hand on that boy!

SIKES

Keep out o'this—I'm warnin' you.

SIKES flings NANCY across the room.

FAGIN

All right, all right! We've got him back! What's the matter with you?

NANCY rises to her feet.

SIKES

The girl's gone mad, I think, Fagin.

NANCY

No she hasn't Fagin, don't think it.

FAGIN

Then keep quiet, will yer. All this violence.

SIKES

Tell 'em all about us would you?

#39 – *It's A Fine Life (Reprise)*

NANCY

I won't stand by and see it done, Bill.

FAGIN

Why Nancy, you're wonderful tonight. Such talent! What an actress!

NANCY

Am I? Take care I don't overdo it. 'Cos if I do, I'm goin' to put my mark on some of you, and I don't care if I hang for it!

SIKES

You? Do you know who you are, and what you are?

NANCY

(hysterically)

Ah, yes, I know all about it. You don't have to tell me!

SIKES

A fine one for the boy to make a friend of, you are!

NANCY

Lord help me, I am, and I wish I'd of been struck down dead before I lent a hand in bringing him back here. After, tonight, 'e's a liar and a thief and all that's bad. Ain't that enough for you, without beating him to death!

FAGIN

Come, come Nancy, we must have civil words. Civil words, Bill.

NANCY

Civil words! Yes! You deserve them from me! I was out on the streets for you when I was a child half his age, and I've been in the same trade, the same service for fifteen years since and don't you forget it!

SIKES

Well, what if you have? It's your living ain't it?.

NANCY

SOME LIVING! SOME LIVING!

SIKES

WHAT YOU DESERVE YOU GET.

NANCY

NO GETTING! ALL GIVING!

FAGIN

MUST WE HAVE MURDERS YET?

SIKES

THERE'LL BE MURDERS! THERE'LL BE TERROR –
...SUCH AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN!