

NANCY

He's in danger—in bad company. He was dragged off the day you sent him out with them books.

MR BROWNLOW

Who took him?

NANCY

Me and...

(she stops)

...and someone else.

MR BROWNLOW

Where can I find him? Who is this other person you speak of? Take me to him.

NANCY

No! No, I can't! I shouldn't have said that!

MR BROWNLOW

Now come, sit down. You want to help the boy, don't you? Why else are you here?

NANCY

I do want to help—but...

MR BROWNLOW

Then at least tell me where I can find him.

NANCY

I can't. But I'll bring him to you. Not here. It's too far.

MR BROWNLOW

Where then?

NANCY

The Bridge, London Bridge. Tonight. At midnight.

MRS BEDWIN looks at MR BROWNLOW, alarmed for his safety.

And you've got to come alone. Promise me you'll come on your own—I'll find a way of getting him to you.

MR BROWNLOW stares at her, doubtful and suspicious.

You don't believe me, do you? But if you want Oliver back, then you've got to believe me.

MR BROWNLOW

(making up his mind)

Very well—I'll be there.

NANCY

Thank God!

She turns to go.

MR BROWLOW

Wait. Has the boy been hurt! Ill-treated? If so, I shall...

NANCY

I can't say no more. Please. He'll kill me as it is if he finds out where I've been.

MR BROWNLOW

(insistently)

Who is this man? Perhaps we can...

NANCY

No! We can't! Whatever else I do, I won't turn on him.

MRS BEDWIN

I understand, my dear.

MR BROWNLOW

But a man who might kill you?

NANCY

Yes, but he's mine, and I'm his. I've got to go back. I want to go back.

(Nancy exits.)

#45 – As Long As He Needs Me (Reprise)

MRS BEDWIN

Do you think we can trust her Mr Brownlow?

MR BROWNLOW

I'm afraid we have no choice Mrs Bedwin.

In the street outside Brownlows house NANCY appears.

NANCY

HE DOESN'T ACT AS THO' HE CARES.
BUT DEEP INSIDE I KNOW HE CARES.
AND THAT IS WHY I'M TIED
RIGHT BY HIS SIDE.

AS LONG AS HE NEEDS ME...
I KNOW WHERE I MUST BE.