

Start

SIKES starts towards FAGIN, who merely stares vacantly ahead.

SIKES

Why you old!... Somebody must find out what's been done, or said. If he hasn't talked yet, there's still a chance we might get him back—without suspicion. We'll nab him the very moment he dares to step out of that house. Now who's gonna go?

They all look around at each other.

DODGER

I suppose it'll have to be me.

FAGIN

You shut your trap, Dodger. You've caused enough trouble.

(He looks at Nancy)

It's got to be done quiet. We don't want any fuss.

(Smirking at Nancy)

The very thing! Nancy my dear—you're so good with the boy.

NANCY

It's no good trying it on with me.

SIKES goes across to her menacingly.

BILL

And just what do you mean by that remark?

NANCY gets up and faces SIKES.

NANCY

What I say Bill. I'm not going... Why can't you leave the boy alone? He won't do you no harm. Why can't you leave him where he is—where he'll get the chance of a decent life?

BILL

You'll get him back 'ere my girl—unless you want to feel my hands on your throat!

SIKES throws Nancy onto a stool. FAGIN hurries across and speaks pleadingly at NANCY, trying to prevent more violence, which he hates.

FAGIN

Nancy, my dear - if he talked, think what would happen to us. Think what would happen to Bill. It'd be the gallows for him, Nancy - the gallows! You wouldn't let that happen would you, my dear? Not to Bill? Not to your Bill?

SIKES

She'll go Fagin.

Dodger
Fagin
Nancy

SIKES turns away. With sudden spirit, NANCY looks up at Fagin.

NANCY

No she won't Fagin!

SIKES

Yes, she will Fagin!

End

SIKES hits NANCY viciously across the face, knocking her off the chair onto the floor.
He turns and strides towards the door.

Bullseye!

SIKES & BULLSEYE exit.

There's silence. FAGIN goes to help NANCY. She looks at him with scorn and disgust. FAGIN and the BOYS turn and leave.

NANCY

Alright Bet. Go home. There's a good girl.

Visual cue: as Bet gets halfway upstage

#31 - As Long As He Needs Me

AS LONG AS HE NEEDS ME...
OH, YES, HE DOES NEED ME...
IN SPITE OF WHAT YOU SEE...
...I'M SURE THAT HE NEEDS ME.

WHO ELSE WOULD LOVE HIM STILL
WHEN THEY'VE BEEN USED SO ILL?
HE KNOWS I ALWAYS WILL...
AS LONG AS HE NEEDS ME.

I MISS HIM SO MUCH WHEN HE IS GONE,
BUT WHEN HE'S NEAR ME
I DON'T LET ON...

The TAVERN KEEPER is in the background putting chairs on tables and clearing up tankards.

...THE WAY I FEEL INSIDE.
THE LOVE, I HAVE TO HIDE...
THE HELL! I'VE GOT MY PRIDE
AS LONG AS HE NEEDS ME.