Newsies Jr. Acting Sides

- Please prepare any side that includes your desired character.
- If you are auditioning for the ensemble you do not need to have a side prepared, but it is suggested that you are familiar with them.
- If you are auditioning for a specific character and there is not a side that includes them, you do not need to have a side prepared.

JACK

Hey, Crutchie, where you going? Morning bell ain't rung yet. Get back to sleep.

CRUTCHIE

I wanna beat the others to the street. I don't want anyone to see, I ain't been walkin' so good.

JACK

You know how many newsies fake a limp for sympathy? That bum leg of yours is a gold mine!

CRUTCHIE

Yeah, but if someone gets the idea I can't make it on my own, they'll lock me up in The Refuge for good.

JACK

Don't worry about nuthin', I got your back. What d'ya think of my latest creation?

(JACK reveals his drawing. CRUTCHIE is impressed.)

CRUTCHIE

Another great one, Jack! But how come you always drawing pictures of mountains and stuff you's never seen?

JACK

(rolls up drawing and tucks it away)

These streets sucked the life right outta my old man. Well, they ain't doin' that to me. There's a whole other world out there. A world where a guy's got room to breathe. You keep your small life in the big city. Give me a big life in a small town.

JACK

(to KATHERINE)

Katherine Plumber, are you following me?

KATHERINE

The only thing I'm following is a story. A ragtag group of ragamuffins wants to take on the kingmakers of New York. Think you have a chance?

JACK

I seen a lot of papes in my time, and I ain't never noted no girl reporters writing hard news.

KATHERINE

Wake up to the new century, Mr, Kelly. The game's changing. How about an exclusive interview?

JACK

Ain't your beat entertainment?

KATHERINE

This is entertaining...so far.

JACK

What's the last news story you wrote?

KATHERINE

What's the last strike you organized?

(beat)

So I'm just busting out of the social pages. But you give me the exclusive, let me run with the story, and I promise I'll get you the space. Give me a chance.

JACK

Miss Medda, I got a little situation out on the street. Mind if I hide out here a while?

MEDDA

Where better to escape trouble than a theater? Say, Jack, when you've got time, I want you to paint me some more of these backdrops. Things have been going so well that I can actually pay.

JACK

I couldn't take your money, Miss Medda.

LES

You pictured that?

MEDDA

Your friend is quite an artist.

JACK

Don't get carried away. It's a bunch of trees.

DAVEY

You're really good.

MEDDA

The boy's got natural aptitude.

LES

Geez. I never knew no one with a aptitude!

(PAT re-enters to call MEDDA.)

PAT

Miss Medda, you're on!

MEDDA

(strikes a pose)

Yeah? How'm I doin'?

(to the KIDS)

Stay all night, kids. You're with Medda now!

AUDITION SIDE – Davey, Jack, Crutchie, Les from *Newsies JR*.

DAVEY

I don't want more papers.

JACK

What kinda newsie don't want more papes?

DAVEY

I'm no charity case. I don't even know you.

CRUTCHIE

This here is the famous Jack Kelly. He once escaped jail on the back of Teddy Roosevelt's carriage. Made all the papes. And I'm Charlie – but friends call me Crutchie!

JACK

(to LES)

How old are you, kid?

LES

I'm ten. Almost.

JACK

If anybody asks, you're seven. Younger sells more papes, and if we're gonna be partners—

DAVEY

Who said we want a partner?

CRUTCHIE

Sellin' with Jack is the chance of a lifetime. You learn from him, you learn from the best.

DAVEY

If he's the best, what's he need with me?

JACK

(points to LES)

'Cause you got this kid and I don't. This one's mug could easy sell a thousand papes a week. (to LES)

Look sad, kid.

(LES makes a sad face.)

We're gonna make millions.

PULITZER

(looking up from a report)

The World is in trouble. Our circulation is down for the third quarter in a row.

BUNSEN

We could use an exciting headline, Mr. Pulitzer.

PULITZER

What have we got today?

SEITZ

The trolley strike.

PULITZER

That's not exciting?

HANNAH

It's boring. Folks just wanna know, "Is the trolley comin' or ain't it?"

SEITZ

Big photos attract readers, sir.

PULITZER

Do you know what big photos cost?

BUNSEN

But without flashy photos or headlines, how are we supposed to sell more papers?

HANNAH

We don't sell papers, silly – <u>newsies</u> sell papers.

PULITZER

Right now, we charge the newsies fifty cents for a hundred papers. What if we raised their price to sixty cents per hundred?

SEITZ

A mere tenth of a penny per paper.

BUNSEN

(does a quick mental calculation)

Every newsie would have to sell twenty-five more papers to earn the same amount as always.