

**Music Theatre International**

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## **Audition Central: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang JR.**

### **Script: Caractacus Potts**

#### **Side 1**

**JUNKMAN**

Coggins, you got any scrap metal to sell?

**COGGINS**

Nah, business has been slow.

**JUNKMAN**

*(indicating CHITTY)*

What about that hunk of iron?

**COGGINS**

Don't be daft. That was once a great car. Won the Grand Prix three years running. Pride of England.

**JUNKMAN**

I'll give you fifteen bob for it.

**COGGINS**

Make it thirty, and you've got a deal.

**JEMIMA**

Mr. Coggins, you can't sell Chitty-

**JUNKMAN**

Course he can. I'll pick her up Wednesday.

**JEREMY**

But what are you going to do with her?

**JUNKMAN**

We're going to crush her up until she's one solid piece of metal. Then we're going to put her in a fiery furnace and melt her down till she's nothing but liquid iron. That's what we're going to do with her.

**POTTS**

Excuse me sir, you're scaring my children...

*(CHITTY begins to shake in fear.)*

And the car too.

**JUNKMAN**

I'll be back on Wednesday-  
*(exiting in disbelief)*  
 scarin' the car... ?

**Side 2****JEREMY, JEMIMA**

Good evening, Grandpa!

**GRANDPA**

Attention!  
*(POTTS, JEREMY, and JEMIMA stand at attention.)*

**JEREMY, JEMIMA, POTTS**

Attention!

**GRANDPA**

As you were. I got up this morning and I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How an elephant got-  
**JEREMY, JEMIMA, POTTS**  
 -into my pajamas I shall never know.

**GRANDPA**

You've heard it before.

**POTTS**

Absolutely not. First time.

**GRANDPA**

So my boy, how's the sweet-making machine coming along?

**POTTS**

Well, it's very nearly perfectly perfected.  
*(POTTS hands GRANDPA the candy with the holes in it.)*

**GRANDPA**

Is it supposed to have all these holes in it?

**POTTS**

No, that's the imperfect part.

**GRANDPA**

Boiling point of the sugar's too high-

**POTTS**

So I've been told. <sup>[11]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

**JEMIMA**

Grandpa, Mr. Coggins is going to sell Chitty-

**JEREMY**

To the junkman. <sup>[11]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

**JEMIMA**

And he's going to melt her down for scrap.

**GRANDPA**

Melt the world famous Chitty Chitty Bang Bang? Poppycock!

**JEREMY**

He said we could have it-

**JEMIMA**

For just thirty shillings!

**GRANDPA**

Thirty shillings is a lot of money.

**POTTS**

Why don't you kids run up and get ready for bed.

**JEREMY, JEMIMA**

Awww-

**POTTS**

Move along now-

**GRANDPA**

Good night, God Bless, don't let the bugs undress.

*(JEREMY and JEMIMA exit.)*

**POTTS**

Thirty shillings. How on earth am I supposed to find thirty shillings?

**GRANDPA**

I haven't the foggiest. Still they don't ask for much, do they?

**POTTS**

That's because they don't get much.

**GRANDPA**

Ah well. Nothing's impossible. Mark my words, one day one of these inventions of yours is going to work.

**POTTS**

You think so?<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**GRANDPA**

Almost entirely certainly.

**POTTS**

Thanks Grandpa - and good night.

### **Side 3**

**TRULY**

You are an inventor?

**JEREMY**

He made this candy only this morning-

*(He hands TRULY a piece of candy shaped like a flute.)*

**TRULY**

Is it supposed to have holes in it?

**POTTS**

No, you see the problem is-

**TRULY**

The boiling point of your sugar is too high-

**POTTS**

An expert on candy making are we?

**TRULY**

Your children really ought to be in school.

**POTTS**

Oh! An expert in child welfare as well. Give it a try-

**TRULY**

*(indicating the motorcycle)*

I was only trying to-

*(TRULY kick-starts the motorcycle, and the engine patters.)*

**POTTS**

Butterfly valve - told you so - have a good day, truly.

**TRULY**

*(driving away)*

I'm quite certain it was the choke pull spring - good day to you too, Mr. Crackpotts-

**POTTS**

It's Caractacus!

#### Side 4

**POTTS**

Excuse me?<sup>[L] [SEP]</sup>

**MISS PHILLIPS**

There are no vacancies. Goodbye.

**POTTS**

But, I've invented a sweet, so if you would please inform Lord Scrumptious-

**MISS PHILLIPS**

Appointments are scheduled on the third Monday of every month. You're welcome to schedule an appointment to schedule an appointment, but not until next Thursday when appointments for appointments are scheduled.

**POTTS**

How on earth does anything get done around here?

**MISS PHILLIPS**

By appointment.

#### Side 5

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

Good morning, Truly.<sup>[L] [SEP]</sup>

**TRULY**

Daddy, this is Mr. Potts and he's invented something.

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

I'm hoping it's not a sweet.

**TRULY**<sup>[L] [SEP]</sup>

Daddy, please.<sup>[L] [SEP]</sup>

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

Very well, you have exactly twenty seconds.

*(LORD SCRUMPTIOUS removes a pocket watch and tracks the time.)*

**POTTS**

Thank you. Well sir, the fundamental novelty of this particular brand of confectionery is its musical quality-

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

Ten seconds-<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**POTTS**

By placing one's fingers over the holes.

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

Five-<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**POTTS**

And blowing thusly-

**LORD SCRUMPTIOUS**

*(before POTTS can blow into the candy)*

Too late! Goodbye Mr. Potts.

**TRULY**

Daddy, listen. Go ahead, Mr. Potts.

## Side 6

**TOYMAKER**

Sir, madam, I don't know who you are or what you're doing here, but take my advice and get out of Vulgaria.

**POTTS**

My father has been kidnapped by the Baron and Baroness. We came to get him out and that's what we're going to do. Please show us the way to the castle.

**TOYMAKER**

If I don't finish this toy for the Baron's birthday tomorrow he'll have me shot.

**POTTS**

All right, I'll go myself. Truly, you stay here with Jeremy and Jemima.

**TOYMAKER**

No, listen. There is a way, a secret way. It's past the hidden children.

**TRULY**

Children?

**TOYMAKER**

Those we have managed to hide. They're in the sewers under the castle.

**POTTS**

Take me there.

**TOYMAKER**

*(to TRULY)*

You'll be safe as long as you stay in my shop. The Child Catcher has been here already, he'll be looking elsewhere.

**TRULY**

Promise me you'll be careful.

**Side 7****TOYMAKER**

These are our children. The ones we've been able to hide.

*(A few HIDDEN CHILDREN rush into the room with leftover food from a banquet in the castle.)*

**CHILDREN**

Food! Food! Food!

**TOYMAKER**

They run up the drains and steal what food they can from the kitchens.

**TOBY**

Excuse me, Mr. Toymaker. Have you got any toys?

**TOYMAKER**

No toys this time, Toby. I've been too busy. It's the Baron's birthday. But listen, that means there'll be lots of leftovers.

**MARTA**

Someone's coming!

*(The HIDDEN CHILDREN hide as TRULY enters.)*

**POTTS**

Truly! What happened? Where are the children... ?

**TRULY**

They've been taken-

**POTTS**

What?!

**TRULY**

By that horrible creature, the Child Catcher. He tricked them-

**POTTS**

Where are they?<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**TOYMAKER**

They'll be in the castle by now.

**TRULY**

What are we going to do?

**POTTS**

We're all going to break into the castle.

**TOYMAKER**

That's impossible, the children will be caught.

**POTTS**

Yes, totally impossible if we carry on like this.

**Side 8****POTTS**

Haircuts! Ladies and gentlemen, get a spiffing automatic haircut.

**VIOLET**

Come on Sid, you could do with a haircut.

**SID**

All right mate, do your worst.<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

*(SID is wearing a bald cap with hair attached to it. POTTS places the haircutting machine on SID's head.)* [L1] [SEP]

**POTTS**

Now just you relax sir, we'll have you done in a jiffy.

**SID**

It tickles.

**VIOLET**

Sidney, you're smoking!

**SID**

Turn it off! My head's on fire.

*(POTTS removes the haircutting machine and the bald cap with the hair attached to it. SID is completely bald.)* [L1] [SEP]

**POTTS**

Well sir, that's you cooked, I mean done, I mean finished.

**VIOLET**

Sid - you're bald as a baby's bum.

**SID**

I'm what? Come 'ere you -

**POTTS**

Sorry. I must dash -

## Side 9

**TURKEY FARMER**

You there, Potts the inventor! Did you invent that hair-cutting machine?

**POTTS**

No.

**TURKEY FARMER**

That's a shame, because I want to buy it.

**POTTS**

I meant no in the sense of... yes.

**TURKEY FARMER**

What do you want for it?

**POTTS**

Thirty shillings.

**TURKEY FARMER**

Done.

*(They shake hands.)*

**POTTS**

I should warn you, it's still in the experimental stage.

**TURKEY FARMER**

I don't want it for cutting hair, I want it for plucking turkeys.

**POTTS**

Plucking turkeys?

**TURKEY FARMER**

Yes. I'm a turkey farmer. And with your machine I can pluck 'em and cook 'em all in one go. There you are, thirty shillings. And I call it a bargain.