

ANNIE 3

Start

ANNIE. Not now, Thomas. We know that he too was murdered on the same eve, in cold blood.

DENNIS. The only thing we don't know is who the murderer is.

ANNIE. Oh, the tension in this house is...

Annie trips up over the rug and drops her script on the floor. The pages of her script go everywhere. Annie tries to pick up the papers, but they are all out of order.

Oh, the tension in this house is... Oh, the tension in thi... oh it... oh, it's tense.

ROBERT. Florence. How do you feel now?

ANNIE. *(Ad libs, brightly.)* I'm good.

ROBERT. That's dreadful.

ANNIE. *(Ad libs.)* Oh dreadful, yes, I want to die!

ROBERT. That's the spirit, Florence.

DENNIS. But now, Miss Colley Moore, I must ask you an important question. Where were you when the murder was committed?

Dennis mimes the line to her. He points down and mimes drinking a cup of tea. Annie misinterprets.

ANNIE. On the floor with a moustache.

ROBERT. That makes perfect sense. So was I.

Annie reads off the wrong page of the script.

ANNIE. Kiss me a thousand times, I'm yours!

ROBERT. Of course, Florence, that's what brothers are for.

DENNIS. This is a disaster! And already it's midnight.

Trevor plays a loud clock chime twelve times.

Stop

That was most—

Trevor hits the chime again. He sees he has confused Dennis and stops.

...that was most—

Trevor hits the chime again and laughs to himself.

TREVOR. *(To Dennis.)* Sorry, buddy, go on.

DENNIS. That w—