

# **TSG AUDITIONS 2019**

## ***MRS. WINTHROP SIDE***

### **SCENE 7: THE LIBRARY**

*DR. CRAVEN and MRS. MEDLOCK are in the library awaiting the arrival of the headmistress from the school they have selected for Mary.*

**DR. CRAVEN**

Well, Mrs. Medlock. What a fine morning this has turned out to be.

**MRS. MEDLOCK**

Yes, doctor.

**DR. CRAVEN**

I trust this headmistress will be quite impressed, riding cross the moor on such a day. Perhaps she could even join me for tea. I daresay she might relish a bit of civilised conversation, living as she does, in the company of spinsters and orphaned girls.

**MRS. MEDLOCK**

I'm sure she would be quite flattered by your attention, sir.

*(JANE, a housemaid, appears with MRS. WINTHROP)*

**JANE**

Beg pardon, doctor. It's Mrs. Winthrop, sir.

*(JANE exits.)*

**DR. CRAVEN**

Yes, Madam. Come in. Do come in. Please.

**MRS. WINTHROP**

Good day Doctor.

**DR. CRAVEN**

And this is our housekeeper, Mrs Medlock.

**MRS. WINTHROP**

How do you do?

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**DR. CRAVEN**

I trust you had a pleasant journey.

**MRS. WINTHROP**

Actually, not. I have always found scenery, by itself, to be very tiresome.

**DR. CRAVEN**

Well, then, you will be relieved to find we have contrived to keep all the scenery outdoors. Won't you sit down?

*(Taking the forms from his jacket.)*

I've completed all the forms you sent us, and I think you'll see my brother has included a contribution to the school's building fund. You didn't request it, of course, but as I told my brother, I'm sure you're in the planning stages of something or other.

*(Then to MRS. MEDLOCK)*

Mrs. Medlock, will you see what's keeping Mary?

**MARY**

I'm right here, sir

**DR. CRAVEN**

Quite right. Here's our girl. Mary Lennox, this is Mrs. Winthrop of the Aberdeen School for Girls.

**MRS. WINTHROP**

Good Morning, Mary.

**MARY**

I don't want to go to a school.

**MRS. WINTHROP**

Oh, but you do. A useless child never knows her worth, we say.

**MARY**

My Uncle Archibald said...

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### **DR. CRAVEN**

Perhaps if you would tell Mary a little about the school, she'd see there is no reason to be...

### **MRS. WINTHROP**

Certainly. And let me say from the start that you are not on trial here. The Board of Trustees has accepted your application.

### **DR. CRAVEN**

Oh.....that's good news, indeed.

### **MARY**

I won't go. You can't make me!

### **DR. CRAVEN**

Mary Lennox!

### **MRS. WINTHROP**

That's all right, doctor. This is exactly the type of behaviour we are best equipped to handle.

### **MARY**

My Uncle Archibald is the only one who says where I'm going to go and he says I don't have to go to any stupid school.

### **DR. CRAVEN**

She's just frightened, I'm sure. Children are quite often depressed after a tragedy such as she has suffered.

### **MRS. WINTHROP**

Of course, doctor. Perhaps she would enjoy seeing some photographs of the girls at their work. I've brought several samples of the fine lace for which our girls are so...

### **MARY**

I hate you! You're a horrible, ugly pig.

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### **DR. CRAVEN**

That's quite enough, young lady!

### **MARY**

Your school is a filthy rathole full of brats and dirty beds. And all anybody really does there is scrub floors! I hope you get hit by a lorry on the way home and your ugly head rolls off in a ditch and gets eaten by maggots! I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! And if I'm sent off with you, I'm going to bite your arm and you're going to die. Get out of here!

*(She throws a chair)*

Go away! Go Away! Go away!

### **MRS. WINTHROP**

Well, we have had one or two cases of this severity.

*(MARY stamps on MRS. WINTHROP's foot.)*

### **DR. CRAVEN**

Mary Lennox!

### **MRS. WINTHROP**

Doctor, what you have here, is a medical problem.