

SCENE 4: JOLLY HOLIDAY – Park

#5A – All Me Own Work

Bert

(Park gates reveal the park beyond. BERT paints the scene as he addresses the audience.)

BERT

CHIM CHIMINEY, CHIM CHIMINEY, CHIM CHIM CHER-OO.
I DOES WHAT I LIKES AND I LIKES WHAT I DO.
TODAY I'M A SCREEVER, AND AS YOU CAN SEE,
A SCREEVER'S AN ARTIST OF HIGHEST DEGREE.
AND IT'S ALL ME OWN WORK
FROM MY OWN MEMORY.

(A furious PARK KEEPER hurries towards BERT.)

PARK KEEPER

Oh, Lummy. Not these again!

BERT

Come on, Mr. Park Keeper. It's just me pictures like it always is. There's no 'arm in 'em.

PARK KEEPER

I'll be the judge o' that! This is my park and I say you're interfering with a public railing! I want 'em removed this—

(The PARK KEEPER trails off as he becomes aware of MARY POPPINS, who is with the CHILDREN. She looks firmly at him. BERT continues to draw without lifting his eyes.)

That is— I— er... just you watch it. That's all... just you watch it!

(The PARK KEEPER walks off, muttering. BERT speaks, still without raising his eyes.)

BERT

Stay right where you are. I'd know that silhouette anywhere: Mary Poppins!

MARY POPPINS

It's nice to see you, Bert.

(BERT turns his eyes from his drawing and looks up.)

BERT

Well, I must say you do look swell.

(MARY POPPINS snorts, but as she pats her hair, it is clear she agrees.)

MICHAEL

How does he know you? He can't know you! You've only just arrived!

MARY POPPINS

I wasn't born one minute before I walked into your house, Michael Banks. Have you met these two, Bert?

BERT

I've seen 'em runnin' about chasin' a kite.

MICHAEL

It isn't a real kite.

BERT

So, what are you up to?

JANE

Mary Poppins says it's a game. It's called "A Walk in the Park."

MICHAEL

Some game.

(kicks the pavement)

I'd rather eat spinach.

MARY POPPINS

Come on, Bert. You're due for a break, and you promised you'd take me out when we met again. Or have you forgotten?

BERT

'Course I ain't, Mary. But...

(BERT picks up his cap. There's only one coin in it.)

MARY POPPINS

Oh dear, is that all you've got? Never mind. My treat. And no one's charging for the trees and the sky, are they?

JANE

Mary Poppins, is he really coming with us?

MARY POPPINS

Why shouldn't he?

JANE

Well, to start with, he's very dirty, isn't he? Father would never approve.

BERT

What's that?

MICHAEL

(berates BERT)

You can't come with us. You're too dirty. And we don't want to go to the stinky park anyway.

BERT

(gives it right back to MICHAEL)

Oh, yes you do. 'Cause when you walk with Mary Poppins, you go to places you never dreamed of. And if she says it's a game, she's got something in mind. You can be certain of that.

(BERT and the CHILDREN stand by his line of paintings.)

JANE

That's a picture of the park, isn't it?

MICHAEL

That's not the park. Not our park anyway. Look, that tree's a much brighter green and the sky's quite a different blue...

BERT

I think you'll find it's just the way I've drawn it.

#6 – Jolly Holiday Bert, Jane, Michael, Neleus, Mary Poppins, Ensemble

(BERT)

All that it takes is a spark, then something plain as a park becomes a wonderland!

(BERT moves into the park with MARY POPPINS. The CHILDREN follow. PARK STROLLERS meander.)

ALL YOU 'AVE TO DO IS LOOK ANEW,
THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND...
WHY IT'S A JOLLY HOLIDAY WITH MARY.
MARY MAKES YER HEART SO LIGHT.

MARY POPPINS

Oh, really!

BERT

WHEN THE DAY IS GREY AND ORDINARY,
MARY MAKES THE SUN SHINE BRIGHT.

MARY POPPINS

You do talk nonsense, Bert.

BERT

OH, 'APPINESS IS BLOOMING ALL AROUND 'ER.
THE DAFFODILS ARE SMILING AT THE DOVE.

MARY POPPINS

I haven't the faintest idea what—

BERT

WHEN MARY 'OLDS YOUR 'AND, YOU FEEL SO GRAND.
YOUR 'EART STARTS BEATIN' LIKE A BIG BRASS BAND.

PARK STROLLERS

Shhh!

MARY POPPINS

You've enough brass for all of us.

BERT

OH, IT'S A JOLLY HOLIDAY WITH MARY.
NO WONDER THAT IT'S MARY THAT WE LOVE!

(to the CHILDREN)

Come on, you two.

(BERT and MARY POPPINS exit. JANE and MICHAEL lag behind until they are alone near a statue of a boy with a dolphin on a plinth.)

JANE, MICHAEL

BORING, JUST LIKE OTHER NANNIES
THINKING PARKS ARE GOOD FOR US.
IT'S JUST STATUES, DUCKS AND GRANNIES.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ALL THE FUSS.

JANE

IS SHE DOING IT TO SPITE US?

MICHAEL

WE COULD LOSE HER FOR A LARK.

JANE

PERHAPS IT'S ALL A PLOT.

MICHAEL

I'LL TELL YOU WHAT,
SHE SEEMS SO DIFFERENT

JANE, MICHAEL

BUT I BET SHE'S NOT.

SCENE 2: LET'S GO FLY A KITE - Park

(At the park, BERT works on a welcoming painting. As he surveys the sky, the CHILDREN run straight into him. Perhaps it's the shock, perhaps it's because he's covered in soot, but they don't know him. They scream.)

BERT

Easy now, your old friend ain't going to hurt you.

JANE

Oh Bert, it's you.

MICHAEL

You're filthy.

BERT

P'raps a smudge or two. It so 'appens today I'm a chimney sweep. So, what's the matter and who's after you?

JANE

The nastiest nanny in the world.

BERT

The nastiest nanny in the world, eh? Well, you two should know. You've been through enough of 'em. Is she really as bad as all that?

MICHAEL

She looks like something that would eat its young.

JANE

Miss Andrew was Daddy's nanny.

MICHAEL

Which explains a lot.

JANE

Poor Daddy. Ever since he stopped working, he just sits and mopes... Mary Poppins used to say he needed our help, but now it's too late.

#16 - *Let's Go Fly a Kite*

Bert, Park Keeper, Jane, Michael,
Kite Flyers, Mary Poppins

BERT

Oh, I wouldn't say that. I tell you what, why don't we start things off with a bit of a shake for good luck?

(BERT holds out his hand.)

JANE

Why would shaking hands with you bring us luck?

BERT

Didn't anyone ever tell you it's lucky to shake a sweep's hand?

(JANE does so, and so does MICHAEL.)

MICHAEL

But what do you do if you want some luck?

BERT

Oh, well I shakes 'ands with m'self. Now... what have we got here?

(BERT searches in his capacious bag and extracts a large and beautiful red kite with streamers.)

JANE

Michael, look! It's a real one!

(BERT holds the kite out to MICHAEL, who is resistant.)

What's the matter? You've always wanted to fly a proper kite.

MICHAEL

I've always wanted to fly one with Daddy.

BERT

(crouches before MICHAEL, speaking gently)

O' course you have. But you need to know how it's done. Get some training in, and you'll make him the proudest father in the country.

MICHAEL

Do you really think so? You're not just saying that?

(Oh, how MICHAEL wants to believe this.)

BERT

Did I say the country? The whole bloomin' Empire, more like.

WITH TUPPENCE FOR PAPER AND STRINGS,
YOU CAN HAVE YOUR OWN SET OF WINGS.
WITH YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND YOU'RE A BIRD IN FLIGHT,
WITH YOUR FIST HOLDING TIGHT TO THE STRING OF YOUR KITE.

(MICHAEL takes the string, and BERT throws the kite up in the air.)

OH, LET'S GO FLY A KITE
UP TO THE HIGHEST HEIGHT.