

Acting side 1  
Mr. Wormwood  
Mrs. Wormwood  
Matilda

(Morning. MR. WORMWOOD enters the bathroom wearing a towel on his hair, MICHAEL trailing.)

**MR. WORMWOOD**

In business, son, a man's hair is his greatest asset. Good hair means a good brain.

(MR. WORMWOOD removes the towel, revealing his hair is now bright green.)

(MRS. WORMWOOD and MATILDA enter.)

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Your... hair! It's... It's... green!

(MRS. WORMWOOD holds up a mirror.)

**MR. WORMWOOD**

My hair's green!

(Music out.)

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Why on earth did you do that?

**MATILDA**

Maybe you used some of mummy's peroxide by mistake?

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

That's exactly what you've done, you stupid man!

**MR. WORMWOOD**

My hair! My lovely hair?

(sudden thought)

I've got my deal today! The Russians... what am I going to do?

**MATILDA**

I know what you can do.

**MR. WORMWOOD**

What?

**MATILDA**

You could pretend you're an elf.

**MR. WORMWOOD**

What are you talking about you fool? The boy's a loony.

(#5 - HEAR A STORY begins. MR. WORMWOOD exits.)



(#9 – MATILDA'S BOOKS begins.)

~~**MATILDA**~~

~~Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Jane Eyre, The Lord of the Rings, Crime and Punishment, and... The Cat In The Hat.~~

(MISS HONEY stares, open mouthed. The bell sounds.  
The KIDS exit.)

(MISS HONEY crosses to Trunchbull's door. She starts to knock... but hesitates.)

**MISS HONEY**

Don't be pathetic. Just knock on the door—

(MISS HONEY knocks.)

**TRUNCHBULL**

Enter!

(MISS HONEY doesn't move.)

Well don't just stand there like a wet tissue, get on with it.

**MISS HONEY**

Miss Trunchbull there's, in, in, in my class there is a little girl called Matilda Wormwood—

**TRUNCHBULL**

Daughter of Mr. Harry Wormwood who owns Wormwood Motors. Excellent man. Told me to watch out for the brat, though, says she's a real wart.

**MISS HONEY**

Oh no, Headmistress, I don't think Matilda is that kind of child at all.

**TRUNCHBULL**

What is the school motto, Miss Honey?

**MISS HONEY**

Bambinatum est maggitum.  
[bahm-bi-nah-tum ehst mahgi-tum]

**TRUNCHBULL**

Bambinatum est maggitum. Children are maggots. In fact it must have been her who put that stink bomb under my desk this morning. I'll have her for that. Thank you for suggesting it.

Acting  
Side 2  
Miss Honey  
Trunchbull

**MISS HONEY**

But I didn't... Miss Trunchbull; Matilda Wormwood is a genius.

**TRUNCHBULL**

Nonsense!

**MISS HONEY**

Headmistress, it is my opinion that this little girl should be placed with the eleven-year-olds.

**TRUNCHBULL**

We cannot just "place her in with the eleven-year-olds!" What kind of society would that be? What about rules, Honey, rules?

**MISS HONEY**

I believe that Matilda Wormwood is an exception to the rules.

**TRUNCHBULL**

An exception?

(#10 - THE HAMMER begins.)

# THE HAMMER

(TRUNCHBULL:) To the rules? In my school?

Quirky, not too fast

4 (TRUNCHBULL:)

Look at these tro - phies,

See how my tro - phies gleam in the sun - light?

See how they shine? What do you think it

Acting side 3  
Matilda Lavender  
Nigel Amanda  
Trunchbull

**MATILDA**

You'd better hide. Quick! Blazers!

(#16 - HIDING NIGEL begins.)

**NIGEL**

Please don't tell her where I am Matilda, she'll—

**MATILDA**

Now!

*(The KIDS throw their coats on NIGEL, hiding him from TRUNCHBULL, then stand in an inspection line.)*

*(The TRUNCHBULL enters. The KIDS avoid eye contact, except MATILDA.)*

**TRUNCHBULL**

*(pointing at MATILDA)*

Where is the maggot known as Nig-el?

**MATILDA**

He's over there under those coats.

*(The KIDS look at MATILDA, horrified at her betrayal. Smiling, TRUNCHBULL crosses to the coats.)*

Where he's been for the last hour actually.

*(TRUNCHBULL stops.)*

**TRUNCHBULL**

What? An hour?

**MATILDA**

Oh yes. Nigel suffers from a rare but chronic sleeping disorder called narcolepsy. The sufferer falls asleep, often without any warning. We put him under the coats for safety. Didn't we?

*(The KIDS stare open-mouthed.)*

Didn't we?

**LAVENDER**

Definitely!

**MATILDA**

He'll probably think he's in bed when he wakes up.

*(NIGEL emerges, stretching.)*

**NIGEL**

*(yawning)*

Is it time for school yet, mum?

*("surprised" by his location)*

Hello? What am I doing here? This isn't my bedroom at all!  
Oh, hello Miss Trunchbull.

*(The TRUNCHBULL knows there is something amiss.)*

**TRUNCHBULL**

Amanda Thripp!

*(#17 – AMANDA THRIPP (PIGTAILS) begins)*

*(AMANDA steps forward.)*

**AMANDA THRIPP**

Yes, Miss Trunchbull?

**TRUNCHBULL**

What have I told you about wearing pigtails? I hate pigtails!

**AMANDA THRIPP**

But... my mummy says they make me look pretty.

**TRUNCHBULL**

Then your mother...

*(grabs AMANDA by the pigtails)*

Is a twit!

*(The TRUNCHBULL swings AMANDA slowly, then gaining momentum. She lets go. AMANDA sails into the distance.)*

*(AMANDA lands with a crump. She gets up, dazed. The KIDS cheer.)*

**(TRUNCHBULL)**

*(to MATILDA)*

You! What is your name?

**MATILDA**

Matilda. Matilda Wormwood.

**TRUNCHBULL**

Well Wormwood, you have just made a very big mistake.

*(The TRUNCHBULL exits. The KIDS stare at MATILDA in wonder.)*

**LAVENDER**

*(beaming)*

Just so you all know, she's my best friend.

**KIDS**

Wow!

**SCENE 7: WORMWOOD MOTORS**

*(#18 - MECHANICS (PART 1) begins.)*

*(MR. WORMWOOD enters talking on the phone. A MECHANIC follows.)*

**MR. WORMWOOD**

Yes sir, completely different cars, sir. Green hair? Yeah, it was um, national green hair day, a celebration of all the wonderful green things in the world, like... lettuce and... snot. Tomorrow at one? Absolutely, sir. Bye-bye sir.

*(hangs up, to the MECHANIC)*

Now that is how you do...

*(MR. WORMWOOD tries to remove his hat, but it's stuck. He pulls his hat again but it's still stuck. He furiously tries to remove the hat. Still stuck. He panics, banging the hat. Still stuck. The MECHANIC is staring at him. Music out.)*

**(MR. WORMWOOD)**

*(to the MECHANIC)*

I'm gonna leave this on. Looks like rain.

*(#19 - MECHANICS (PART 2) begins.)*

**SCENE 8: THE WORMWOOD HOUSE**

*(MISS HONEY is at the Wormwoods' door. She gestures to knock, hesitates, and then decides to knock.)*

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Who is it?

**MISS HONEY**

Oh, yes, um, hello, my name is Miss Honey. Matilda's teacher?

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Bit busy right now...

*Acting side 4  
Mrs. Wormwood  
Miss Honey  
Rudolpho*

**MISS HONEY**

It will only take a moment.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Oh, well, come in if you must.

*(inviting MISS HONEY inside)*

This is Rudolpho, he's my dance partner. We're rehearsing.

**RUDOLPHO**

Ciao *(chow)*.

**MISS HONEY**

Ah, parle Italiano? Bene.

**RUDOLPHO**

*(beat)*

What?

*(to MRS. WORMWOOD)*

Who is this, babe? You know what interruptions do to my energy flow.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

What do you want, Miss Chutney?

**MISS HONEY**

It's Miss Honey. Well, as you know Matilda is in the bottom class and children in the bottom class aren't really expected to read—

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Well stop her reading then. Lord knows we've tried.

**RUDOLPHO**

*(dancing)*

I'm in the zone, doll. I can feel it in my hips. Don't waste this.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

I'm not in favor of girls getting all clever pants, Miss Hussey. Looks are more important than books. Now, look at you, look at me. You chose books, I chose looks. Good day.

*(MRS. WORMWOOD forces MISS HONEY out the door.)*

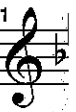
*(#20 – THIS LITTLE GIRL begins.)*

(MISS

B



P



**(TRUNCHBULL)**

Well?

*(They have no idea what she means.)*

Come along, Bogtrotter.

**BRUCE**

What? Where?

**TRUNCHBULL**

Oh, did I not mention? That was the first part of your punishment. There's more. The second part. And the second part is... chokey!

**BRUCE**

What?

*(#29 - BRUCE (PART 2) begins.)*

**MISS HONEY**

No, Miss Trunchbull please, you can't!

**TRUNCHBULL**

Do you think I would allow myself to be defeated by these maggots? Did you? Who do you think I am, Miss Honey? A weakling? An idiot? You?

*(The TRUNCHBULL storms back to BRUCE and grabs him by the wrist.)*

**BRUCE**

No, please! Not that! Don't take me to chokey. Not that! Nooo!

*(The TRUNCHBULL drags BRUCE out.)*

**MATILDA**

That's not right!

*(#30 - BRUCE (PLAYOFF) begins.)*

## SCENE 11: THE LIBRARY

*(MRS. PHELPS is in the library. MATILDA enters.)*

**MRS. PHELPS**

Matilda, thank god you're here, I'm dying for the next part of the story! I haven't slept a wink.

*Acting side 5  
Mrs. Phelps  
Matilda Acrobat  
Escapologist*



**MATILDA**

Mrs. Phelps, where's the revenge section?

**MRS. PHELPS**

What? Is there a child at school who's behaving like a bully?

**MATILDA**

Not a child exactly. Do you want to hear the next part of the story?

*(#31 – ACROBAT STORY III (PART 1) begins.)*

**MRS. PHELPS**

What are we waiting for?

**MATILDA**

As they prepared themselves for the most dangerous feat that had ever been performed, the Acrobat gave her husband a kiss—

**ACROBAT**

Smile – we have done this a thousand times.

**ESCAPOLOGIST**

First I escape from the cage, lean out, catch you with one hand, grab a fire extinguisher with the other, and put out the flames on your specially designed dress before they reach the dynamite and blow your head off!

**MRS. PHELPS**

*(screams)*

Ahhhhhhh!

*(beat)*

Sorry. Go on.

**MATILDA**

The trick started well. The moment the dress was set alight, the Acrobat swung into the air. She hurled over the sharks and spiky objects – suddenly the padlocks pinged open and the huge chains fell away – the door flung open and the Escapologist reached out to catch his wife and the child—

**MRS. PHELPS**

Oh, I can't look!

**MATILDA**

He grabs her hand and suddenly the flames are covered in foam before they can both be blown to pieces.