

Snippet # 2

EXT: OLD MOTHER HUBBARD'S SHOE HOUSE, FRONT YARD - LATE
AFTERNOON

Izzy is removing the lace from the shoe house, while Reginald begins removing the picket fence, and Samuel rips up plants from the garden. Old Mother Hubbard, and some children run out of the house. Old Mother Hubbard, hands clasped to her face, is beside herself.

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"Wha, wha, what are you doing, who are you?"

Izzy stops removing the laces for a moment.

IZZY

"Good day Madam. (Unrolling a piece of parchment)
Mother Hubbard is it? (Looking at the parchment)
Right. (He rolls up the parchment and puts it in his
pocket) My name is Izzy, that bloke is Reginald, and
the other gentleman tearing up your garden is Samuel.
We are the king's tax collectors."

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"But, but why are you destroying my home?"

IZZY

"Ah." (Izzy holds up a finger and approaches Old
Mother Hubbard)

Izzy takes out a another piece of parchment and hands it to Old Mother Hubbard with little NANCY by her side. Izzy smiles brightly at Nancy as Old Mother Hubbard reads the notice. Old Mother Hubbard then looks quickly with shock at Izzy.

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"E, e, evicted, but why?"

IZZY

"Nonpayment of taxes."

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"Taxes? But we have nothing to take." (Incredulously)

SAMUEL

"If there's nothing to take, and we take your nothing, then you won't miss nothing, will you?" (Guffaws)

REGINALD

"Iz?"

Reginald nods in the direction of Old Mother Hubbard. Izzy remembers and stupidly chuckles. Children appear at every window and door. Izzy is amazed by the amount of children.

IZZY

"Good Lord, this is quite a brood. If these were my kids I'd whip them all soundly and put them to bed."

NANCY

"If we were your kids, we'd run away from home."
(Snottily)

IZZY

"What a darling little child. (Smiling sarcastically. Izzy playfully ruffles the hair of Nancy, who tries to bite him. Izzy retreats his hand away quickly. Izzy turns his attention back to Old Mother Hubbard) We are also looking for someone, male, about twenty years old?"

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"No, there's no one here that old." (Looking and sounding alarmed)

NANCY

"But mother, Henry's twenty, I heard him say he's..."

Old Mother Hubbard quickly puts her hand over Nancy's mouth and tries to cover up her words.

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"Children and their imaginations." (Nervously smiling)

IZZY

"Henry is it?" (Smiling triumphantly. Izzy looks at Nancy with delight) Well you turned out to be a delight today."

Izzy roughly wrenches a doll out of Nancy's hand.

NANCY

"Hey, that's mine!" (Angry)

Nancy cries and kicks Izzy in the shin. Izzy hops around on one foot howling in pain. Three boys draw their toy swords and begin attacking the King's Guards. The other children join in, throwing mud at the Guards, chasing them around the yard, while others throw sticks and stones at them, sometimes hitting them. Not knowing which way to turn, Old Mother Hubbard tries to maintain decorum.

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD

"Children, please!"

Old Mother Hubbard is beside herself, left hand on her chest, her right hand crumpling the eviction notice.