

Children's Roles

Matilda: Oh yes. You see, unfortunately, Nigel suffers from the rare but chronic sleep disorder, narcolepsy. The condition is characterized by the sufferer experiencing bouts of chronic fatigue and falling suddenly asleep, often without knowing or any warning at all. You see he fell asleep and we put him in the coats for safety.

Matilda: Once upon a time the two greatest circus performers in the world - an escapologist, who could escape from any lock that was ever invented, and an acrobat, who was so skilled as if she could actually fly - fell in love and got married.

Nigel: Hide me! Someone poured a whole can of treacle onto Trunchbull's chair! She sat down and when she got back up her knickers stayed stuck to the seat! Someone told her I did it but I never and now she's after me!

Bruce: Okay, look, alright, I stole the cake. And honestly, I was really, definitely, sort of almost thinking about owning up...maybe? But the thing was I was having a lot of trouble with my belly. You see, the Trunchbull's cake was so good that I'd scoffed it down too quick and now it was beginning to fight back. *(His belly rumbles)* Ooops. See?

Lavender: Hello. I'm Lavender by the way. Matilda's best friend. There's a bit coming up that's all about me.

Well, not exactly about me, but I play a big part in it. But I'm not gonna say what happens because I don't want to spoil it for you.

Alright, look, what I do is I volunteer to get the Trunchbull a jug of water. And then...No! I don't want to tell you any more because I don't want to ruin it!

Amanda: But...my mummy likes them. She says they make me look pretty.

Scary Big Kid: Why? Why? Didn't you hear what we said?

The alphabet? You've got to learn to listen, kid...

Adult Roles

Miss Honey: Matilda, could I speak to you please? I'm afraid I have not been too successful in getting others to recognise your...abilities. So, starting tomorrow I shall bring in a selection of very clever books that will challenge your mind. You may sit and read them while I teach the others and if you have any questions, well, I shall do my best to answer them. How does that sound?

Miss Honey: Well they don't, actually. But I am even poorer than most, because of...other reasons. You see, I used to live with my aunt. But one day I was out walking and I came across this old shed - I fell completely in love with it. I ran to the farmer and begged him to let me move in. He thought I was mad! But he agreed and I've lived here ever since.

Trunchbull: ...miserable collection of excuses for children, and you, madam, standing there like the squat of squits, are its beating heart. But I am a match for you and I tell you that there is nothing that I shall not do, no length to which I shall not go, no punishment I shall not inflict, no ear I shall not stretch back, no finger I shall not... what is it?... what is it? Get it off me. Get it off me...it's heading north...I've got a newt in my knickers. I've got a newt in my knickers!

Trunchbull: In this world, children, there are two types of human being. The winners and the losers. I am a winner. I play by the rules and I win. But if I play by the rules and I do not win, then something is wrong, something is not working. And when something is wrong you have to put it right. Even if it screams.

Mr. Wormwood: Brand new stock sir. Yes sir, completely different cars, sir. Green hair? Yeah, it was erm, 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. Dosvidoodah.

Mrs. Wormwood: I'm not in favour of girls getting all clever pants, Miss Hussey. A girl should think about make-up and hair dye. Looks are more important than books. Now, look at you, look at me. You chose books, I chose looks.

Mrs. Phelps: Oh no, Matilda, we must find out how it ends. And I'm not crying because it's sad. It's just that they want that child so very much. It must be wonderful for a child to be so wanted.

Doctor: A baby, Mrs. Wormwood! A child, the most precious gift that the natural world can bestow upon us has been handed to you! A brand new human being, a life, a person, a wonderful new person is about to come into your life to bring love and magic and happiness and wonder!

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

Sergei (*Russian accent*): Matilda, your father has been stupid and rude to both of us, yes? I can very easily have one of my friends...teach him manners. And one day, when he leaves hospital, he will still be stupid, but not so rude, I think. I give this as a gift to you. What do you say?