

**MATILDA**

You'd better hide. Quick! Blazers!

Cue (#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!

Cue

#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.)*

