MOTHER Robert?

ROBERT All right, I promise.

MOTHER Very well, but you must stay close to Cook at all times.

ROBERT (bored tone) Of course we will.

ANNE Hooray! Let's go!

[ANNE skips out of the kitchen, ROBERT following. COOK, MARTHA &

TILLY pick up baskets.]

COOK We'll be on our way, your Ladyship. Come along Martha, Tilly...

[ALL exit.]

SCENE 4

[The marketplace. TRADERS sing out their street cries. Among the crowd is TOM, sitting in a corner cleaning his recorder, perhaps eating a crust of bread. See page 48 for additional Street Cries]

Song - Street Cries © Track 15 'Cherries so Ripe'.

CHERRIES SO RIPE AND SO ROUND, THE BEST IN THE MARKET FOUND. THEY'RE ONLY A PENNY A POUND, SO WHO WILL BUY? CHERRIES SO RIPE AND SO ROUND, THE BEST IN THE MARKET FOUND. THEY'RE ONLY A PENNY A POUND, SO WHO WILL BUY?

Song - Street Cries © Track 16 'Chairs to Wend'

CHAIRS TO MEND, OLD CHAIRS TO MEND! MACKEREL, FRESH MACKEREL! ANY OLD RAGS? ANY OLD RAGS?

CHAIRS TO MEND, OLD CHAIRS TO MEND! MACKEREL, FRESH MACKEREL! ANY OLD RAGS? ANY OLD RAGS

[Enter COOK, MARTHA, TILLY, ANNE and ROBERT.]

COOK Now then, Miss Anne, you go over there with Martha and Tilly,

and Master Robert, you had better stay with me.

[MARTHA & TILLY go to TRADER 1. COOK & ROBERT go elsewhere.]

TRADER 1 (to Tilly) What can I get you miss?

TILLY Could we have two loaves of bread and some fruit please?

TRADER 1 Right you are. Pass me your basket.

[TILLY hands over the basket to be filled.]

TRADER 1 Anything else?

TILLY No, thank you.

[TRADER hands back the basket.]

TILLY Ooh! That's heavy! You can help me carry some of this, Miss Anne.

[TILLY puts some things into a separate basket and gives it to ANNE.]

MARTHA Could you tell us who we should get our meat from?

TRADER 1 (pointing) The gent over there with the cap on.

MARTHA Right, thank you.

[MARTHA, TILLY & ANNE go to TRADER 2.]

TRADER 2 What can I get you three lovely ladies?

MARTHA Could we have some ham and some beef please?

TRADER 2 Right-oh. (Putting it into another basket) You'll need something to wash this

down with!

MARTHA Actually, we do need some cider and ale if you've got it.

TRADER 2 Of course I do my lovelies. (Putting it into baskets.) And here's a special bottle of

spirit for you, on the 'ouse!

[MARTHA giggles and nudges TILLY]

TILLY Why thank you. That'll warm us up later on.

[MARTHA, TILLY & ANNE wander until COOK & ROBERT rejoin them.]

COOK Children, can you be trusted to look after the baskets for a few moments?

ANNE & ROBERT Yes, Cook.

COOK Stay here, then. We need to have a quick look at something over there (*pointing*).

[COOK, MARTHA & TILLY move away.]

TRADER 1 Fresh bread! Lovely fresh bread!

TRADER 2 Best beef you can buy! Best beef you can buy!

[Other traders may call out to advertise their wares ad lib.]

ROBERT I hate shopping.

ANNE Oh, I don't. I love it!