

Alderman Fitzwarren Audition Piece 1

(There are two sections to this audition, please prepare BOTH parts. Part 1 is where we first meet the Alderman.)

Alderman Ah good morning Alice, good morning everyone.

Alice Oh Daddy, the good people here are worried about the rats. They're eating their stock and destroying their business'. If we can't stop them soon, the shops will have to close down. It'll be like Bletchley High Street round here, all nail bars and charity shops.

Alderman Well I'm very sorry everyone, it's the same for us at the Alderman Store – and we're the biggest shop in town! I rang the Pied Piper and he says he's too busy in Hamlin. I was going to try putting down rat poison. Then I remembered it hasn't been invented yet.

Townie That's all very well Mr Fitzwarren but you are our Alderman round here, what are you going to do about it?

All Yeah!

Alderman Relax friends, relax. I'll do what any other like minded politician would do when facing a demanding situation like this.

All What's that?

Alderman Run away.

All What?

Alderman Yes, I'm sorry but tomorrow Captain Codfish here and I leave to sail to the Orient.

Townie Leyton Orient?

Alderman No, the far east! We'll search the continent for new and exotic stock for the store. I'll bring home the sumptuous silks, aromatic spices... and the finest Tarka Masala this side of the Thames.

Townie Tarka Masala?

Alderman Yes, it's like a Tikka Masala but a little 'otter.

Alderman Fitzwarren Audition Piece 2

(In Part 2, Alderman is impressed with the arrival of a rat chasing cat! The 'Call Me Al' song he sings is the famous Paul Simon song.)

Alderman Excuse me young lad but does this cat belong to you?

Dick Tommy? Oh yes sir he does sir. And my name's Whittington, Dick Whittington. (*Slaps thigh.*)

Alderman Dick Whittington? (*Slaps thigh.*)

Dick Yes, Dick Whittington. (*Slaps thigh.*)

Alderman Well I'm very pleased to meet you. I am Alderman Fitzwarren. But you can call me Aldi. As in, (*sings badly,*) "Call me Al...di!" Hmm well, this is my daughter Alice.

(*Their eyes meet. SFX: Bing!*)

Dick Hello Miss Alice.

Alice (*Shy,*) I'm very pleased to meet you... Dick.

Alderman I'm pleased to meet you too, especially that fine looking animal there. He's an excellent ratter isn't he, the best I've ever seen...

Dick Is he? Well yes, so I hear. Though I don't see any rats around here.

Alderman That's because your splendid fellow here has scared them off! We were overrun with the blighters, until Tommy came along. Would you be interested in selling him?

Dick Oh I'm sorry Sir, I couldn't do that, he's my friend...

Alderman Oh go on, I'll pay a handsome price. And even throw in some Aldi Stores points.

Alice Oh Daddy, you can't ask Dick to sell his cat! And besides, he says he's looking for work, why don't you offer him a job here? He could help around the shop and you'd have Tommy to keep the rats away.

Alderman Well I could do with some extra pair of hands. And I could certainly do with an excellent ratter like Tommy...

Alice And they could stay over with us in the shop too; you always said you could do with the more security.

Alderman An excellent idea. Well Dick, as usual my daughter seems to have made my mind up for me. You seem a fine fellow. How would you like to come and stay with us?

Dick Would I? Oh thank you Mr Alderman Sir... Aldi!

Alderman Very well, I'll leave it to Alice to show you around, she seems to have a knack for organising things round here. (*Alderman exits.*)