Audition Materials For

JOSEPH PULITZER



About the Character: A pompous businessman through and through, owns the World and is concerned solely with the bottom line. Katherine's no-nonsense father, Pulitzer doesn't sympathize with the strikers, but he does eventually – and grudgingly – respect Jack. For this non-singing role, we're looking for a strong actor with a sharp and imposing presence. We may incorporate this actor into the newsies ensemble when possible.

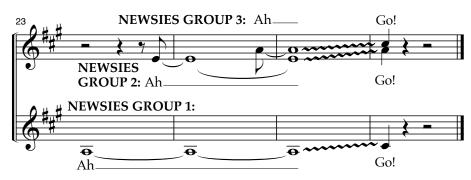
Gender: Male

Grade: Rising 6th-9th Vocal range top: N/A Total Lines: 45; Solos: 0

Audition Song: King of New York

Pages: 19-21 (Scene 2)





SCENE TWO: PULITZER'S OFFICE

(That afternoon, atop the New York World building, editor SEITZ, secretary HANNAH, and accountant BUNSEN huddle in a business meeting with the newspaper's owner, JOSEPH PULITZER.)

PULITZER

(looking up from a report)

The *World* is in trouble. Our circulation is down for the third quarter in a row.

BUNSEN

We could use an exciting headline, Mr. Pulitzer.

PULITZER

What have we got today?

SEITZ

The trolley strike.

PULITZER

That's not exciting? It's epic!

HANNAH

It's boring. Folks just wanna know, "Is the trolley comin' or ain't it?"

SEITZ

Big photos attract readers, sir.

PULITZER

Do you know what big photos cost?

BUNSEN

But without flashy photos or headlines, how are we supposed to sell more papers?

HANNAH

We don't sell papers – <u>newsies</u> sell papers.

BUNSEN

That's ridiculous.

PULITZER

We don't sell papers, newsies sell papers!

BUNSEN

That's brilliant!

HANNAH

Thank you.

BUNSEN

Right now, we charge the newsies fifty cents for a hundred papers.

PULITZER

What if we raised their price to <u>sixty</u> cents per hundred?

SEITZ

A mere tenth of a penny per paper.

BUNSEN

(does a quick mental calculation)

Every newsie would have to sell a hundred... <u>and twenty-five</u> papers to earn the same amount.

PULITZER

Exactly. And my circulation would grow!

HANNAH

What if you gave them an incentive to sell more papers, like a bonus?

PULITZER

This is a business, not a charity. Those children need to learn the value of hard work, just like I did when I was their age. I started out with nothing and look at me now!

BUNSEN

You're a kingmaker! An inspiration!

SEITZ

A role model for the young and destitute!

PULITZER

This is a real-life lesson in economics. In a week's time, the newsies will be working twice as hard and they'll be twice as proud of themselves. They'll thank me for this someday!

HANNAH

Yeah, someday...

PULITZER

The price for the newsies goes up in the morning!

BUNSEN, SEITZ

(excited)

Hurrah!

HANNAH

(overlapping, disappointed)

Hurrah!

(HANNAH, BUNSEN, and SEITZ rush out to implement the boss's order. PULITZER smiles as he exits. **#6 – TRANSITION** TO THE STREET.)

For audition, sing all parts except JoJo & Katherine. You can sing it up the octave if it is too low.

(#18 - KING OF NEW YORK.)

KING OF NEW YORK

(RACE): They gives ya whatever ya want gratis!

