

**MUSICAL CREATED BY WEDNESDAY ACCESS ALL AREAS GROUP**

**SOUNDSCAPE OF FACTORY**

**WHAT BAKING CAN DO DANCE ROUTINE**

**The opening scene:**

*The year is 1853 Henry is working at his father (Joseph's) shop. We see Henry piling crates or boxes on top of each other downstage right and. His father centre stage writing. As he sits on his table looking half asleep and then a customer walks in.*

Customer: Excuse me, are you still open?

Joseph: Yeah, what are you here for?

Customer: Well what are you selling at the moment?

*Henry and Joseph share a look of confusion with one another*

Joseph: Wait a minute, are you telling me that you came into my shop and you don't even know what you're getting?

Customer: Yes, this place felt welcoming so I walked in to see what I can find. So, what have you got?

*Henry was walking from downstage right to upstage left as his father calls*

Joseph: Henry, help our friend here will you

Henry: of course, follow me

*Henry brings the customer to centre stage left*

Customer: So how are you?

Henry: I'm alright thanks

Customer: Okay so how do you feel about working here it seems quite silent and dismal

Henry: Well it's fine I'm just here to support my dad and gain some money

Customer: oh, what is this?

The customer picks up an object

Henry: Oh well that's a (old book) about famous businessman. It's been up on the shelf for ages.

Customer: Well I would like to purchase it please

Henry: That will be three pounds please

Customer: oh you know what, for such wonderful service here's ten pounds sir

Henry: No sir I can't take it that will not be right

Customer: no no no I insist take it you need it more than I do anyway, good luck kid

*The customer leaves and Henry turns around facing his father and just walks toward him with a smile and puts the money on the table*

Joseph: oh my god, that much, what did he buy?

Henry: the book on the top shelf

Joseph: This is great

*Then Joseph looks at the clock on the wall*

Joseph: well it's time to close up for the night

Henry: okay, how much money have we got today?

*Joseph walks to his paper and writes a sign, he's in a rush and runs to Henry and shows him*

Henry: 19 pounds 75p, that's more than we get in a week

Joseph: I know right anyway let's not celebrate here let's head home

*Henry runs to his jacket and gives his father his and then they both walk out the door*

### **CHORUS 1**

Time marches on across Victorian Britain.

### **CHORUS 2**

As industrial centres stretch up to the smog-filled skies...

### **CHORUS 3**

Railways begin to snake their way up and down the nation.

### **CHORUS 4**

Florence Nightingale makes a name for herself.

**CHORUS 5**

We invent drainpipes, syringes, and Christmas crackers.

**CHORUS 4**

Progress seems unavoidable.

**CHORUS 5**

And up in York, the Rowntrees have a family business to maintain.

**CHORUS 1**

Joseph Sr passes on, and leaves his business to his sons.

**CHORUS 2**

Joseph Jr takes the lead in upholding his father's legacy.

**CHORUS 3**

But this is not the only tragedy he will endure...

**CHORUS 2**

His young wife and infant daughter are taken by illness...

**CHORUS 1**

Leaving him alone with his work.

***JOSEPH** is hunched over his desk, fretting over the family's accounts;  
something isn't adding up.*

**CHORUS**

Almost alone...

*He thinks he might finally have it when **HANNAH** bursts into the room with a  
bundle of packages and a teapot, making him jump to his senses.*

**HANNAH**

Ah, there you are. These are for you, no need to sign, don't bother with that-  
Good grief! You'd think someone had broken in!

**JOSEPH**

*(Looking at his overcrowded desk)* I was just tidying.

**HANNAH**

You had better be; *(Sniffing at a discarded bowl)* is this soup from today or-

**JOSEPH**

Last week, maybe.

**HANNAH**

You'd better freshen up and head downstairs soon, Mother's been chewing my ear off all afternoon about how she never sees you.

**JOSEPH**

And I've told her she's very welcome to take tea up here any time she wishes.

**HANNAH**

*(Observing the clutter)* Right. She's not the only one; I'm concerned that it's not just the accounts that have turned you into a recluse.

**JOSEPH**

I am not a recluse! Did you bring any news from outside?

**HANNAH**

Yes, *(Handing him a letter)* this is from the new potato supplier. Look, you run a family business Joseph, you can't cut out the family for the sake of the business.

**JOSEPH**

There's a whole community that depends on me to do the right thing.

**HANNAH**

And you will. Just promise me we'll eat together, as a family, tonight.

**JOSEPH**

You have my word... as soon as I can chase up where this £70 was going to.

**HANNAH**

Well that will be the roof, won't it?

**JOSEPH**

What?

**HANNAH**

The repairs for the school roof. It's all Mrs Oswick's been going on about.  
We're financing it.

**JOSEPH**

Right. Of course.

***JOSEPH** is just about to amend the documents when **HENRY** suddenly bursts in, startling him again.*

**HENRY**

Joseph! Hannah! A wonderful afternoon to you both! Blimey, what's happened here?

**HANNAH**

He was just tidying.

**HENRY**

Good thing too. *(Moving to the soup)* May I?

**HANNAH & JOSEPH**

No!

**JOSEPH**

Henry, listen, it's very lovely to see you again, but perhaps it would be better-

**HENRY**

I thought you'd say something like that, so I'll make this quick.

**JOSEPH**

If this is another madcap idea for-

**HENRY**

What do you think... of this!

*He produces a small, brown lump from his pocket. All the Rowntree's freeze.*

**CHORUS 3**

Here, in this room, Henry debuts the product that will change the legacy of the Rowntrees forever.

**CHORUS 4**

He hopes this lump of confectionery will replace beer as the working man's drink of choice...

**CHORUS 5**

But it will lead to much, much more..

*They un-freeze.*

**HANNAH**

What exactly... is it?

**HENRY**

This is the non-alcoholic beverage of the future: formerly Tuke's Rock Cocoa, now H.I. Rowntree and Co's Rock Cocoa!

**JOSEPH**

And Co?

**HENRY**

Well, it will be, just as soon as you or John or Joshua agree to help me get things started..

**JOSEPH**

Here we go..

**HANNAH**

And where is this cocoa going to be manufactured? In a dangerous factory, where people have to work long hours?

**JOSEPH**

It's not what your father would have imagined, confectionary, I mean.

**HENRY**

No, no, I have ideas! Big ideas to help people!

**JOSEPH**

And big ideas come with big risks! Too large for our business to undertake.

**HENRY**

But we won't help anyone if we can't imagine a radically better future - that's what father always imagined: a business that gives as much back as its workers put in.

**HANNAH**

A factory of the future!

**HENRY**

Not just a place to work, but to study, pray, and socialise.

**JOSEPH**

And how much will this be costing us exactly?

**HENRY**

I'll figure that out later, for now Joseph, try to use your imagination!

*Into 'Pure Imagination'*

