

CHARLEY

Excerpt 2

*(Enter CHARLEY running)*

CHARLEY I've done it, Jack, I've done it!

JACK. Done what?

CHARLEY I've let the cat out of the bag, and told her everything.

JACK You fool! Why did you --told her what?

CHARLEY That I love her.

JACK Oh, is that all?

CHARLEY Yes, but Jack, she's gone off to find Donna Lucia to get her uncle's consent. We shall be in the dickens of a mess yet.

JACK Well, keep cool, man, keep cool! We're all right up to now.

*(Enter LORD FANCOURT, hides. Enter SPETTIGUE)*

SPETTIGUE *(strolls across stage singing, out of tune)* "Come into the garden Maud, for the black-bat night has flown. Come into the garden Maud, I am here at the gate alone"

*(Exits, They pull out LORD FANCOURT)*

CHARLEY You'll drag us into awful disgrace.

LORD FANCOURT You don't know the things he keeps on saying to me.

JACK He? Who?

LORD FANCOURT Why, my masher-old Spettigue.

CHARLEY Jack, I can live this lie no longer. I wish to goodness you'd bring it all to an end.

LORD FANCOURT So do I! I want a drink!

JACK We'd be all right if the donkey would only be reasonable and behave like a lady.

CHARLEY I wish we'd asked Freddy Peel now.

JACK At any rate, Freddy Peel would have stood by us like a man.

*(LORD FANCOURT undoes dress)*

CHARLEY We were fools to trust him.

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Excerpt 2

JACK The selfish little beast!

LORD FANCOURT Here, you chaps--I won't stand this any longer, let Charley have a go.

*(SPETTIGUE enters, LORD FANCOURT hides behind JACK and CHARLEY)*

SPETTIGUE Mr Chesney, have you seen Donna Lucia?

CHARLEY I think she was in the garden

SPETTIGUE I have been the length and breadth of the garden

JACK But did you look among the vegetables

SPETTIGUE The vegetables?

CHARLEY Yes, she often sits among the cabbages and peas

*(SPETTIGUE looks with suspicion then exits. They help LORD FANCOURT to dress)*