

**DR GRIMWIG**

**BROWNLOW**

Come along Dr Grimwig, I think you'll find a great improvement in the boy.

**DR GRIMWIG**

That sir, is for me to decide.

**MR BROWNLOW**

How do you feel today, my boy?

**OLIVER**

Very happy, sir. May I stay here always, sir?

**GRIMWIG**

Well, he's certainly looking better. But you're still not sleeping well, are you?

**OLIVER**

Oh yes, I sleep very well sir.

**GRIMWIG**

Ah. Bad dreams, though, I've no doubt. Nightmares eh?

**OLIVER**

No sir, I don't have dreams

**GRIMWIG**

Thought so! But you're hungry aren't you?

**OLIVER**

No, doctor.

**GRIMWIG**

No. You're not hungry. Not thirsty are you? If that boy is thirsty, I'll eat my head! Are you?

**OLIVER**

Yes sir. I am rather thirsty.

**GRIMWIG**

Just as I expected. It's very natural he should be thirsty. You may give him a little tea.

**OLIVER**

May I get up sir?

GRIMWIG

*(Inserting a spatula into his mouth )*

Say aahhh...

OLIVER

Aahhh

DR GRIMWIG

I think you may. And take a little fresh air. Don't keep him too warm Mrs Bedwin, but be careful that you don't let him be too cold.

*GRIMWIG rises and makes to leave the bedroom.*

Will you have the goodness?

MRS BEDWIN

Certainly, Doctor.

*BROWNLOW and GRIMWIG leave the room and go downstairs speaking as they go.  
OLIVER jumps up and gets dressed with the help of MRS BEDWIN.*

BROWNLOW

He's a fine looking boy, don't you think, Grimwig?

GRIMWIG

Couldn't tell you. I only know two sorts of boys. Mealy boys and beef-faced boys.

BROWNLOW

And which is Oliver?

GRIMWIG

Mealy! Where does he come from?

BROWNLOW

You know I haven't the faintest idea. He was arrested for stealing my pocket handkerchief. And when the shopkeeper told us what really happened and he was released by the magistrate, I brought him here to make what amends I could. But I must confess I find myself strangely attached to the child.

GRIMWIG

He's deceiving you my good friend. He has had a fever. What of that? Fevers are not peculiar to good people are they? Bad people have fevers sometimes don't they? He stole your pocket handkerchief didn't he? Then he'll steal more sir. What do you know of him? Nothing.