

DAVEY

How 'bout lettin' a pal know you're alive? Where'd you go? We couldn't find you.

JACK

Ever think I didn't wanna be found?

DAVEY (holds out the newspaper)

You see the pape? We're front-page news!

KATHERINE

Above the fold!

JACK

Good for you.

DAVEY

What's with the attitude? Katherine wrote a great story.

KATHERINE

Thanks, Davey. Everyone wants to meet the famous Jack Kelly.

LES

Even Spot Conlon sent a kid to say: Next event you can count on Brooklyn. How 'bout that?

JACK

But we got stomped into the ground!

DAVEY

Yeah, but with press like this, our fight is far from over.

KATHERINE

Jack, you have to come to the rally tonight. The newsies need you. They look up to you. They'll listen to you! You're their leader.

JACK

Save your breath. It's hopeless.

LES (studying the painting)

Hey, Jack. Where's that supposed to be?

JACK

It's Santa Fe.

LES

It's beautiful.

JACK

Soon as I get me enough money, I'm gonna move there.

DAVEY

Hey, it's good to have a plan.

JACK

Nah, it ain't a plan, it's just a dream. Another dream that ain't gonna happen, like the strike.

DAVEY

But it's not just a dream, not after tonight's rally – a citywide meeting where every newsie gets a say and a vote. And we do it after working hours so no one loses a day's pay. Smart?

JACK

You wanna know how smart it is? Take a look at this!

(#20 – JACK’S PAINTING. JACK turns the backdrop around, revealing a large, political cartoon of the newsies being crushed by Pulitzer in Newsie Square. KATHERINE, DAVEY, and LES stare in awe.)

LES

Wow! What is it?

JACK

Pulitzer putting the big boot to the newsies.

KATHERINE

Jack, that’s amazing! You’ve got real talent. You should be inside the paper illustrating, not outside hawking it.

JACK

You kiddin’ me? I’m a newsie!

DAVEY

Which is why you have to come to the rally tonight!

JACK

They kicked our butts all over Newsie Square, thanks to my big mouth. No way I’m puttin’ my pals back in danger.

DAVEY

We’re doing something that has never been done before. How could that not be dangerous?

JACK

Specs brung me a letter from Crutchie at The Refuge. They beat the kid so bad... What if Crutchie don’t make it? You willing to shoulder that for a tenth of a penny a pape?

DAVEY

Jack, you said it yourself: My family wouldn’t be in this mess if my father had a union. This is a fight we have to win.

