

HUGH McGINNES

AUDITION EXCERPT

Please read for the character that you will be auditioning for. You will be expected to learn these lines by heart. There will be a reader in the room to read the other lines.

There are two sections to this excerpt. Please prepare both.

PART 1

In this section, Reilly and McGinnes are talking. This is early on, while they are both working on the ship.

McGINNES

Now I'm really hungry.

REILLY

Well, you're a good laddie, even if you won't live long.

McGINNES

What's that supposed to mean?

REILLY

"I thought this was Captain Watt's ship." You're going to get beaten up if you keep making comments like that.

McGINNES

Speak for yourself.

REILLY

I am. I know from experience, laddie. No one likes a smart mouth.

McGINNES

(Pause)

I know from experience too. I've been hurt a lot. But I don't let that change me. If I do, if I become all polite and that, I let them win.

A pause.

REILLY

I was wrong. Oh, you're a smart mouth for sure. But I like you.

PART 2

In this section, McGinnes finds Bryson and David after Bryson has suffered a beating. The idea of escaping off the ship is formed.

McGINNES enters.

McGINNES

(To BRYSON) Well, you're alive. I guess that counts for something.

BRYSON

Still breathing.

McGINNES

(Turning to DAVID) I heard —

BRYSON

What's done is done. I just want to get off this damned ship.

DAVID

We could do it, you know. *(Pause.)* Drop over the edge, escape across the ice, never come back.

McGINNES

You're mad.

DAVID

Maybe. But I — *(Pause.)* I need to look after them. And maybe this is the only way to do that.

HENRY exits.

McGINNES

Leaving is suicide.

BRYSON

Staying is suicide.

Lights down on DAVID, BRYSON, and McGINNES.