

SNYDER

After his release I caught him myself, red handed, trafficking stolen food and clothing. He was last sentenced to six months, but the willful ruffian escaped.

PULITZER

So you'd be doing the city a service removing this criminal from our streets.

MAYOR

If that's the case, we can take him in quietly and -

PULITZER

(exploding)

What good would quiet do me? I want a public example made of him.

(HANNAH rushes into the office.)

HANNAH

Mr. Pulitzer - the boy, Jack Kelly, is here.

PULITZER

Here?

HANNAH

Just outside. He's asked to see you.

PULITZER

Ask and ye shall be received. Mr. Snyder, if you please. Sit.

(PULITZER directs SNYDER to retreat to the shadowy corner and spins KATHERINE in the swivel chair so she's hidden as well. HANNAH escorts JACK into the room.)

HANNAH

Mr. Jack Kelly.

JACK

Afternoon, boys...

PULITZER

And which Jack Kelly is this? The charismatic union organizer, or the petty thief and escaped convict?

JACK

Which one gives us more in common?

PULITZER

Impudence is in bad taste when crawling for mercy.