# ROBERTSON AY

Please, Mrs. Brill. I don't mind, honest.

#### MRS. BRILL

All right. I will give you one task and one task only. And, so help me, if you get this wrong I'll swing for you and sing as they pull the lever!

## ROBERTSON AY

(filled with a sense of the task's importance)

What is it, Mrs. Brill?

# MRS. BRILL

Put the icing tools next to the cake, and I'll need a bowl of hot water to warm them. I will make the icing as soon as I'm back.

# ROBERTSON AY

(simultaneously committing the tasks to memory)

Icing tools... cake... hot water... I will make the icing as soon as I'm back...

# MRS. BRILL

Now, do you think you can manage that?

#### ROBERTSON AY

Is that all?

#### MRS. BRILL

For you, yes. For me, no. Once the cake's done, I've the sandwiches next because Madam wants them fresh. So I can't start them until there's no time to finish them. I swear, a slave in ancient Rome was on a pleasure cruise compared to my life in this house!

(MRS. BRILL storms out and slams the door behind her.)

## JANE

Well, don't just stand there, Robertson Ay.

# ROBERTSON AY

Right... no...

(ROBERTSON AY looks around.)

# **JANE**

What are you looking for?

#### **ROBERTSON AY**

A bowl. For the water.

(ROBERTSON AY goes to the kitchen dresser. JANE has an idea.)

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Michael, why don't we make the icing?

**MICHAEL** 

Because we don't know how?

JANE

Don't be so feeble. Get the eggs. If Mrs. Brill can do it, it can't be that hard.

**MICHAEL** 

Are there eggs in icing?

JANE

There are in mine.

(JANE starts to mix the sugar and water as MICHAEL finds the eggs. ROBERTSON AY carries the icing stuff to the table.)

#### ROBERTSON AY

I don't think Mrs. Brill will thank you -

**JANE** 

Then she will be guilty of great ingratitude.

(MICHAEL and ROBERTSON AY look at Jane's mix.)

**MICHAEL** 

Is it supposed to look like this?

**ROBERTSON AY** 

It doesn't look like that when Mrs. Brill does it.

JANE

Don't be impertinent and get me the cake!

(ROBERTSON AY goes to the sink to fetch some water.)

# ROBERTSON AY

Honestly, Miss Jane, I was only trying to be helpful. If you would -

(ROBERTSON AY burns his hand on the faucet and is thrown back by force. Ricocheting across the room, he destroys the entire kitchen and ends up in an unconscious heap.)

JANE, MICHAEL

Yeah!

WINIFRED (O.S.)

Mrs. Brill, go up and get ready now –

(WINIFRED appears in the doorway and breaks off, stunned.)