

SCENE 3: PRACTICALLY PERFECT – Nursery

(The nursery is an airy room, light and full of optimism. The CHILDREN rush in to find that MARY POPPINS is already there.)

MARY POPPINS

Very tidy, I must say. Tidier than I was expecting. Who's responsible for that?

JANE

Mrs. Bri—

MICHAEL

Me. I am. I like to keep things neat.

MARY POPPINS

Do you indeed? Well, I look forward to making use of that. If there's one thing I appreciate, it's a child whose word I can depend on.

(scoops up a boy doll)

Who's he when he's at home?

JANE

That's Valentine. He's mine.

MARY POPPINS

From the look on his face, I'm not sure he'd agree with you.

JANE

He's just a doll and I don't want to play with him now.

(JANE throws the doll into a box.)

MARY POPPINS

Treat him like that and he might not want to play with you. Now, first things first. I always say the proper place to hang a hat is on a hat stand.

(MARY POPPINS reaches in her bag and takes out a hat stand. JANE and MICHAEL look inside as they move the bag.)