

Director's Notes

The cast requires 6 main characters, and 20 other scripted speaking parts, some of which can be shared between 2-3 children if required. The chorus may be extended as required to meet the needs of larger groups.

MAIN CHARACTERS

Kim	Gang leader, tough, mean
Frankie	Kim's sidekick, also a very strong character
Ruby	A gang member, Ellie's 'sponsor'
Ellie	Wants to be in the gang
Danny	Kim's younger brother
Jake	Same age as Danny, victim of the gang's bullying

OTHER CHARACTERS

Girl 1,2,3,4	Four gang members are scripted, but lines can be shared if needed, making a larger 'gang' group
Child 1,2,3,4	Jake's friends
Ant	Jake's friend
Teacher	Sympathetic to Jake, only appears in one scene
Ellie's Mum & Dad	Ellie's parents, who only appear in one scene
Rachel	Ellie's older sister, who is very unpleasant, bullying Ellie
Mother, Father } Son, Daughter }	Stereotypical happy family, who appear in one scene
Matt, Josh	Police officers
Laura, Amy	" "

PROPS

Scene 1: sweets for gang, mobile phone for Jake

Scene 3: Table & chair for Ellie's house. Schoolbook for Ellie.

Scene 4: backpacks for Jake & Danny containing coats and water bottles. Coins for Jake's pockets

Scene 6: bottles of drink for Jake and Danny, large boxes for warehouse containing plenty of costumes, including pop star outfit & wig for Laura, tutu for Josh, Charlie Chaplin hat and stick for Amy.

STAGING SUGGESTIONS

A street environment needs to be suggested for most of the scenes, but, unless you have the facility to make major scene changes, this should be done in a reasonably minimal way.

The street might be suggested by positioning a signpost to one side, indicating town centre directions such as 'Bus Station', 'Town Hall', 'Toilets', etc. You might also include a couple of shop window flats, an advertisement billboard, a bus-stop, etc. Graffiti on a brick wall backdrop is effective.

There are also scene switches to Ellie's house and warehouse interiors, which may be achieved as follows: Ellie's house can be suggested by simply bringing a couple of chairs and a table to centre stage, and placing other household props with them. The warehouse can be suggested by placing several packing cases or large cardboard boxes upstage right. These need to be positioned so that Jake and Danny can hide in one place, while the police officers can rummage in other boxes nearby.

Director's Overview

SCENE 1 (p. 5) On the street. Ellie becomes a bully.

SONG - WHERE'S KIM? (☉ Track 1 / 16)

Ellie earns a place in Kim's gang by bullying Jake into giving her his mobile phone.

SONG - IN THE GANG (☉ Track 2 / 17)

SCENE 2 (p. 8) The street. People try to cheer Jake up, first a teacher, then some police officers (who we learn are going to a fancy dress party later on). Then Jake tells some friends what has happened. They all wish they were as strong and brave as superheroes.

SONG - REAL TOUGH STUFF (☉ Track 3 / 18)

SCENE 3 (p. 12) Ellie's house Ellie's parents are going out. Ellie is being 'babysat' by her older sister, Rachel. We discover that Rachel is bullying Ellie.

SAD STUFF - incidental (☉ Track 4 / 19)

TOUGH STUFF - incidental (☉ Track 5 / 20)

SCENE 4 (p. 13) The street. Jake's money is stolen by Ellie and her friend Ruby, who have another go at him. Jake is miserable, and wishes he could change things.

SONG - MAKE TIME GO BACKWARDS (☉ Track 6 / 21)

Jake tells his friend Danny he wants to run away. Danny says he'll show him a great place to hide.

SCENE 5 (p. 17) In the street on Saturday, with the gang and others. Jake's friends confront Kim's gang, asking for Jake's phone to be returned.

SONG - SATURDAY (☉ Track 7 / 22)

Kim is devastated that her brother Danny has gone missing. The gang offer to help her look for him.

SONG - OUT THERE (☉ Track 8 / 23)

SCENE 6 (p.20) In the warehouse. Danny and Jake pass a happy family in the street before going into the warehouse. The boys realise that they will be in trouble already by this time, so decide to stay overnight in the warehouse.

BACKWARDS - incidental (☉ Track 9 / 24)

SCENE 7 (p. 22) The dressing-up scene The police officers arrive at the warehouse and try on costumes that are stored there.

SONG - SOMEONE ELSE'S EYES (☉ Track 10 / 25)

The boys are nearly discovered after Danny coughs, but then the officers leave.

SONG - OUT THERE (short reprise) (☉ Track 11 / 26)

SCENE 8 (p. 26) The warehouse, early next day. The boys wake up. Danny goes outside to buy food, and meets his sister Kim and her gang in the street. She's delighted to find him. He explains that his friend has been bullied, and that's why they ran away. In the warehouse, Danny is horrified to discover his own sister is the leader of the gang that bullied his friend.

MORNING MUSIC - incidental (☉ Track 12 / 27)

Danny is ashamed of Kim, but Jake persuades him to give her another chance, as the gang have explained that they all became bullies because they had been bullied themselves. Ellie gives Jake back his phone, and they decide to confront her sister, Rachel, to see what turned her into a bully.

SONG - BULLY! (☉ Track 13 / 28)

SCENE 9 (p. 30) In the street, Jake and Ellie confront Rachel backed up by the gang.

SONG - WRONG AIN'T RIGHT (☉ Track 14 / 29)

Rachel and Ellie are reconciled.

SONG - REAL TOUGH STUFF (reprise) (☉ Track 15 / 30)