

Roger Only she's been in the family for generations.

Vicki Great. Come on, then. (*She starts upstairs.*) I've got to be in Basingstoke by four.

Roger Perhaps we should just have a glass of champagne.

Vicki We'll take it up with us.

Roger Yes. Well . . .

Vicki And don't let my files out of sight.

Roger No. Only . . .

Vicki What?

Roger Well . . .

Vicki Her?

Roger She *has* been in the family for generations.

Enter Mrs Clackett from the study, with the newspaper but without the sardines.

Mrs Clackett Sardines . . . Sardines . . . It's not for me to say, of course, dear, only I will just say this: don't think twice about it – take the plunge. You'll really enjoy it here.

Vicki Oh. Great.

Mrs Clackett (*to Roger*) Won't she, love?

Roger Yes. Well. Yes!

Mrs Clackett (*to Vicki*) And we'll enjoy having you. (*To Roger.*) Won't we, love?

Roger Oh. Well.

Vicki Terrific.

Mrs Clackett Sardines, sardines. Can't put your feet up on an empty stomach, can you.

Exit Mrs Clackett to service quarters.

Scene #2
Brooke/Vickie
Gerry/Roger
Dotty/Clackett

Vicki You see? She thinks it's great. She's even making us sardines!

Roger Well . . .

Vicki I think she's terrific.

Roger Terrific.

Vicki So which way?

Roger (*picking up the bags*) All right. Before she comes back with the sardines.

Vicki Up here?

Roger Yes, yes.

Vicki In here?

Roger Yes, yes, yes.

Exeunt Roger and Vicki into mezzanine bathroom.

Vicki (*off*) It's another bathroom.

They reappear.

Roger No, no, no.

Vicki Always trying to get me into bathrooms.

Roger I mean in *here*.

He nods at the next door – the first along the gallery. Vicki leads the way in. Roger follows.

Vicki Oh, black sheets! (*She produces one.*)

Roger It's the airing cupboard. (*He throws the sheet back.*) This one, this one.

He drops the bag and box, and struggles nervously to open the second door along the gallery, the bedroom.

Vicki Oh, you're in a real state! You can't even get the door open.

Exeunt Roger and Vicki into the bedroom.

END