

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

What about me? I've got a whole house to look after, dinners don't microwave themselves you know! I am off to bleach my roots and I shan't be talking to you for the rest of the evening.

**MR. WORMWOOD**

But I'm going to make us rich!

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

How rich?

**MR. WORMWOOD**

Very rich. Russian businessmen. Very, very stupid. Your genius husband is going to sell them one hundred and fifty-five old bangers as... brand new luxury cars!

**MATILDA**

But that's not fair! The cars will break down, what about the Russians?

**MR. WORMWOOD**

Fair? Listen to the boy!

**MATILDA**

I'm a girl.

**MR. WORMWOOD**

Fair does not get you anywhere, you thick-headed twit brain! All I can say is thank heavens Michael has inherited his old man's brains, eh son?

**MICHAEL**

*(watches TV)*

Mi-chael.

**MRS. WORMWOOD**

Well, I shall take the money when you earn it. And I shall spend it. But I shan't enjoy it because of the despicable way in which you have spoken to me tonight.

*(MRS. WORMWOOD exits.)*

*(#2 – INTRO TO NAUGHTY begins.)*

**MR. WORMWOOD**

*(to MATILDA)*

This is your fault! With your stupid books and your stupid reading!

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Dad says I should watch more T. V.

## SCENE 1: THE WORMWOOD'S LIVING ROOM

(MR. WORMWOOD bursts in, pushing past MATILDA and speaking into a telephone.)

**MR. WORMWOOD:** Yes, sir. That's right, sir. One hundred and fifty-five brand new luxury cars, sir.

**MRS. WORMWOOD:** (screams noticing MATILDA reading a book)  
Ahhhh! Harry!

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### MR. WORMWOOD

Hang on—

### MRS. WORMWOOD

Look at this, she's reading a book. That's not normal for a five-year-old. I think she might be an idiot.

### MATILDA

(reading out loud)

Listen to this: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."

(MRS. WORMWOOD covers her ears.)

### MR. WORMWOOD

Stop scaring your mother with that book, boy!

### MATILDA

I'm a girl.

### MRS. WORMWOOD

And she keeps trying to tell me stories, Harry. It's not normal for a girl to be all thinking—

### MR. WORMWOOD

(into the phone)

I'm gonna call you straight back.

(hangs up, to MRS. WORMWOOD)

I'm trying to pull off the biggest business deal of my life and I have to listen to this?