SCENE 4 Act 1 – Pip meets Miss Havisham

*Miss Havisham’s dressing room. Bright jewels sparkling on the dressing table. Half-packed trunks lay all about.*

Narrator: (*Spot light on. Appears on the left of the stage addressing the audience*) Miss Havisham is dressed in rich lace and silk that are all white. She’s wearing a long, white veil. There are wedding flowers in her hair. She has not quite finished dressing as she has just one shoe on. Everything that should be white is faded and yellow. Miss Havisham, the bride, has grown old and wrinkled. Her dress hangs loose as she is now just skin and bones. (*Light off. Leaves stage*.)

(*All lights on stage. Miss Havisham is sitting at her dressing table*.)

Miss Havisham: (*Turning her head towards the sound of someone approaching*) Who is it?

Pip: It’s Pip, ma’am – Mr. Pumblechook’s boy. I’m here to play.

Miss Havisham: Come close. Let me look at you.

(*As Pip approaches Miss Havisham, he notices her watch and the clock in the room have stopped at exactly 8:40*)

Miss Havisham: Look at me. Are you afraid of a woman who has not seen the sun since you were born?

Pip: (*Nervously*) No.

Miss Havisham: (*Putting her hands over her heart*) Do you know what I touch here?

Pip: Your heart?

Miss Havisham: Yes – and it’s broken! (*Smiling awkwardly*) Now, I want to see some play. Go to the door. Call Estella.

(*Pip walks towards the door and looks into the dark hallway*.)

Pip: Estella!

(Estella, holding her head high, comes through the dark hall and enters the room.)

Miss Havisham: (*Gestures to her to come close. Takes a jewel from the table and holds it against Estella’s hair*) Yours, one day, my dear. And you will use it well. Let me see you play cards with this boy.

Estella: (*arrogantly*) With this boy? Why he is nothing but a common working boy!

Miss Havisham: (Leaning towards Estella. Whispers) Well, you can break his heart.

(*Pip and Estella play cards as Miss Havisham looks on*.)

Estella: (*with disgust*) What coarse hands he has! And what thick, ugly boots!

(*Pip and Estella continue to play the game to its end. Estella wins and throws the cards down*.)

Miss Havisham: Go now, Pip. You shall come here again after six days. (*Turns to Estella*) Estella, take the boy downstairs and give him a bite of something to eat.

(*Pip follows Estella into the dark hall offstage. Lights off.*)

Scene 4 Act 2 – Pip and Estella in the Kitchen

Estella: (*Pompously*) You wait here, you boy.