

Scene

(The children are sweeping, folding, or scrubbing floors. The Headmistress storms in, clapping her hands sharply. The children freeze.)

Marina:

Work faster, children! This orphanage won't clean itself.

Talia:

But we've been scrubbing since morning.

Elia:

My arms are aching already.

Rafaella:

She never gives us a break.

Maya C:

Why is she always so mean?

Marina:

No excuses! Lazy children must learn to work.

Abi:

I don't even know who my family is.

Maya B:

Me neither. Sometimes I wonder if they'll ever find me.

Keturah:

I dream of a home where people care about me.

Lenie:

That sounds like heaven.

Orly:

Maybe our families are still out there.

Marina:

Ha! Families forget orphans. Stop daydreaming and get back to work!

Talia:

That's not fair.

Elia:

Everyone deserves a family.

Rafaella:

And people who love them.

Maya C:

Don't let her crush your hopes.

Abi:

We have to keep believing.

Maya B:

Even one small step can change everything.

Marina:

Enough! One of you is going to the fish factory. Maybe that will teach the rest of you a lesson.

(She points at Keturah. The others gasp and huddle around her. The Headmistress stomps off. The children comfort Keturah and rally together.)

Keturah:

But the factory is cold, and the work is awful.

Lenie:

Don't be afraid—we'll stand with you.

Orly:

We'll face this together, no matter what.

Talia:

Maybe this is the start of something new.

Elia:

Maybe it will even lead us to our families.

Rafaella:

We're braver than she thinks.

Maya C:

If we follow our hearts, they'll show us the way.

Rafaella:

Yes, our hearts will guide us home.

Maya B:

And we'll never stop believing.

Heart, don't fail me now!

Courage, don't desert me!
Don't turn back now that we're here
People always say
Life is full of choices
No one ever mentions fear
Or how the world can seem so vast
On a journey to the past
Somewhere down this road
I know someone's waiting
Years of dreams just can't be wrong
Arms will open wide
I'll be safe and wanted
Finally home where I belong
Well, starting now I'm learning fast
On this journey to the past
Home, love, family
There was once a time I must have had
them too
Home, love, family
I will never be complete until I find you
One step at a time
One hope, then another
Who knows where this road may go?
Back to who I was
On to find my future
Things my heart still needs to know
Yes, let this be a sign!
Let this road be mine!
Let it lead me to my past
And bring me home at last!