

DAVEY

Sorry. Excuse me. I paid for twenty but you gave me nineteen.

*(EVERYONE freezes and watches.)*

WIESEL

You seen how nice I was to dis new kid? And what did I get for my civility? Ungrounded accusations.

DAVEY

I just want what I paid for.

OSCAR

He said beat it!

*(The DELANCEYS start to crack their knuckles when JACK swoops in and quickly counts the papers.)*

JACK

New kid's right, Weasel. Ya gave me nineteen. I'm sure it was an honest mistake on account'a Oscar can't count with his shoes on.

*(OSCAR threatens to attack. WIESEL pushes him back and tosses another paper to DAVEY.)*

WIESEL

Here. Now take a hike.

JACK

*(flipping a coin onto the counter)*

Give him another fifty papas.

DAVEY

I don't want more papas.

JACK

What kind'a newsie don't want more papas?

*(OSCAR hands DAVEY a stack of papers. DAVEY follows JACK with them.)*

**Start** → DAVEY

I'm no charity case. I don't even know you.

LES

His name's Jack.

CRUTCHIE

This here is the famous Jack Kelly. He once escaped jail on the back of Teddy Roosevelt's carriage. Made all the papas.

JACK

(to LES)

How old are you, kid?

LES

I'm ten. Almost.

JACK

If anybody asks, you're seven. Younger sells more papas, and if we're gonna be partners...

DAVEY

Who said we want a partner?

CRUTCHIE

Sellin' with Jack is the chance of a lifetime. You learn from him, you learn from the best.

DAVEY

If he's the best, what's he need with me?

JACK

'Cause you got a little brother and I don't. That puss could easy sell a thousand papas a week.

(to LES)

Look sad, kid.

(LES makes a sad face.)

We're gonna make millions.

LES

This is my brother David. I'm Les.

JACK

Nice to meet ya, Davey. My two bits come off the top, then we split everything 70-30.

LES

50-50! You wouldn't try to pull a fast one on a little kid.

JACK

60-40 and that's my final offer.

LES

Deal.

(JACK spits in his hand and holds it out to shake. LES copies him and they shake.)

#3

DAVEY

That's disgusting.

End →

JACK

It's just business.

(to ALL)

Newsies, hit the streets. The sun is up, the headline stinks, and this kid ain't gettin' any younger!

#3 - Carrying the Banner (Tag) Newsies

NEWSIES

WE'LL ALL BE OUT THERE  
 CARRYING THE BANNER MAN TO MAN  
 WE'RE ALWAYS OUT THERE  
 SOAK UP EV'RY SUCKER THAT WE CAN  
 HERE'S THE HEADLINE:  
 "NEWSIES ON A MISSION!"  
 KILL THE COMPETITION!  
 SELL THE NEXT EDITION!  
 WE'LL BE OUT THERE  
 CARRYING THE BANNER  
 SEE US OUT THERE  
 CARRYING THE BANNER!  
 ALWAYS OUT THERE  
 CARRYING THE BANNER!  
 AH, AH, AH  
 HO!

(The NEWSIES exit as the scene shifts to...)