**TRISTAN** Right gather round, everyone, gather round. We’ll be going live shortly, but I wanted to wish you all the best with our marvellous show and-

**PEGGY** Tristan, should you introduce…

**TRISTAN** Oh yes, of course. This is Gemma-

**PEGGY** Jenny.

**TRISTAN** Jenny, yes, good. Fresh from college at the request of Sir Brian, to help work on our tremendous show. You’ve got your script, alright?

**JENNY** Yes, hello, yes. I just wanted to check…

**TRISTAN** Smashing, good. And you’re all got yours? Just wanted to add a few notes for the performance…

**MIRIAM** (LOW) And where is Johnny?

**PEGGY** (LOW) Not here. Yet.

**ABIGAIL** (LOW) You did tell him we were starting earlier today? And that we’re live?

**PEGGY** (LOW) I told him again last night. By the punch bowl.

**MIRIAM/ABIGAIL** (LOW) Oh.

**TRISTAN** So, Sidney. Our star. Our Captain Morningstar. We’re loving your bombast, you’re dynamic daring-do. We’ve also had a couple of suggestions from Sir Brian himself.

**SIDNEY** An acknowledgement of my nuance, recognition of the kernel of truth in every sentence.

**TRISTAN** We’d like you to push the more hobbyist side of our hero. The human side, the side that makes us love him.

**SIDNEY** Ah, his thoughtfulness, his pathos, his love of his fellow man – and woman.

**TRISTAN** And his love of birdwatching.

**SIDNEY** Sorry?

**TRISTAN** Yes, we’ve peppered the script with some little references that, in other places around the network, have hit well with the audience.

**SIDNEY** Is this to do with that bloody Hobbs programme

**PETER** The curse of International Pigeon Fancying…

**TRISTAN** No, it’s okay, it’s subtle – you’ll be fine. Sir Brian is very keen for it to work. Heathcliffe, in that second section, just after we get to Perpetual Christmas…