

SCENE IX

Lights rise again on Satis House with present day Adult Pip standing, as he was at the beginning, next to Satis House.

A young boy darts out of the gate of Satis House almost knocking into Pip.

YOUNG PIP
I beg your pardon, sir.

Adult Pip is taken aback as this young boy is the spit and image of his younger self.

ADULT PIP
(curiously, but kindly)
And who gave you leave to prowl
about?

YOUNG PIP
Miss Estella, Sir.

ADULT PIP
And give us your name.

YOUNG PIP
Pip, sir. Pip Gargery, son of Joe
Gargery, the blacksmith, sir..

ADULT PIP
The blacksmith, eh, now. And why
do you visit Miss Estella, Pip?

A light comes up on an older Estella who is watching and listening by the gate.

YOUNG PIP
I come to play cards with her.

ADULT PIP
And who wins?

YOUNG PIP
I win most every game, though
sometimes I think she lets me win.

ADULT PIP
Hmmm, "Pip". Now that's an
interesting name.

YOUNG PIP

I am named for my Uncle Pip who lives in Egypt, sir..

ADULT PIP

Well then, make haste, Pip, and convey to your most wonderful father and mother that your Uncle Pip has returned and will be along presently.

Young Pip looks confused, then ecstatic.

YOUNG PIP

Oh, sir. Oh oh...Oh, what larks, sir.

Young Pip runs partway across the stage. He turns, looks back, then dashes off stage crying out. "What larks, what larks.!" Adult Pip laughs, there is a slight pause. Then....

ESTELLA

Do you still call the knaves jacks?

Pip turns to see Estella.

Pip

Estella.

ESTELLA

I am greatly changed. I wonder that you know me.

PIP

I'd know you anywhere. After so many years, it is good that we should meet again. Joe wrote to me of Miss Havisham's passing.

ESTELLA

She left me the bulk of her estate, but I'd thought you'd like to know that she settled a substantial sum on Matthew Pocket.

PIP

Yes, Herbert told me.

ESTELLA

And you've kept all this time in Cairo?

PIP

Yes. Eleven years time. I work hard for a sufficient living. And you? I heard that Bentley Drummle died.

ESTELLA

Died a true gentleman, falling off his horse. Did you also hear that he drank and gambled my fortune away?

PIP

(statement)

So, you are living back here then.

ESTELLA

Yes. It is all I have left. Dear old Satis House. How could I want for more?

SONG: THIS OLD HOUSE

ESTELLA:

WEEDS GROW WELL WITHIN THESE GATES
WHERE FLOWERS WOULDN'T DARE
PAINFUL MEM'RIES CLING LIKE VINES
SO WHY DO I STILL CARE
FOR THIS OLD HOUSE
In THIS OLD HOUSE
THE ROOMS ARE DAMP AND COLD
DECAYED WITH MOLD
YET KEEP THEIR HOLD ON ME

PIP:

ROADS WE TOOK LED US ASTRAY
BUT CIRCLED BACK AROUND
WE SHOULD TAKE WHAT COMES OUR WAY
GIVE THANKS FOR WHAT WE'VE FOUND
IN THIS OLD HOUSE
YES THIS OLD HOUSE
FAMILIAR WAYS ARE DEAR
THEY BROUGHT US HERE
AND NOW THEY'RE CLEAR TO SEE

BOTH:

THO' SHADOWS BEAT THEIR WINGS,
WE'VE FOUND A PLACE TO RUN TO
TWO HEARTS CAN OPEN DOORS,
THEY MAY HAVE JUST BEGUN TO...

ESTELLA:

MANY WALLS HAVE BROKEN DOWN

PIP:

AND OTHERS MIGHT WITH TIME

BOTH:

NOW THAT WE CAN LOOK WITHIN
 WE'LL FIND WHAT'S LEFT INSIDE
 OF THIS OLD HOUSE
 IN THIS OLD HOUSE
 OUR STORY HAS NO END
 IT ALL DEPENDS
 ON WHAT FRIENDS GROW TO BE
 IN THIS OLD HOUSE
 IN THIS OLD HOUSE
 TWO SOULS RETURN ALONE
 TO FIND A HOME IN THIS OLD HOUSE

ESTELLA

You mustn't keep your family
 waiting.

PIP

No.

Pip looks at his suitcase.

ESTELLA

(in a slight rush of
 emotion)

I have been bent and broken, but --
 I hope-- into a better shape. Be
 as considerate and good to me as
 you once were, and tell me we are
 friends.

PIP

(lovingly)

Estella, how could we not be
 friends.

Pip takes Estella's hand. The Cast emerges from the shadows
 of Satis House.

CHORUS:

WE WON'T START FROM THE BEGINNING (THEY HAVE COME SO FAR)
 MANY SHADOWS ARE NOT WELCOME (LEAVE THEM WHERE THEY ARE)
 JUST STAY, UNTIL YOU FEEL YOU NEED TO GO
 MY OLD FRIENDS, WELCOME HOME

Lights fade to black.

The End