

**"NEWSIES!"**

GOWG ON STRIKE  
JACK, DAVEY, NEWSIES

-1-

**START →**

**JACK**

All right. Here's the deal. If we don't sell papes then no one sells papes.  
Nobody gets to that window 'til they put the price back where it belongs.

**DAVEY**

You mean like a strike?

**JACK**

You heard Davey. We're on strike.

**DAVEY**

Hold on. I didn't say...

**JACK**

We shut down this place like them workers shut down the trolleys.

**FINCH**

And the cops will bust our heads! Half them strikers is laid up with broke bones.

**JACK**

Cops ain't gonna care about a bunch of kids. Right, Davey?

**DAVEY**

Leave me out of this. I'm just here trying to feed my family...

**JACK**

And the rest of us is on playtime? Just because we only make pennies don't give nobody the right to rub our noses in it.

**DAVEY**

It doesn't matter. You can't strike. You're not a union.

**JACK**

And what if I says we is?

**DAVEY**

There's a lot of stuff you gotta have in order to be a union. Like membership.

**JACK**

What do you call these guys?

**DAVEY**

And officers.

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CRUTCHIE

I nominate Jack president.

JACK

Gee, I'm touched.

DAVEY

How about a statement of purpose?

JACK

Must'a left it in my other pants.

RACE

What's a statement of purpose?

DAVEY

A reason for forming the union.

JACK

What reason did the Trolley Workers have?

DAVEY

I don't know. Wages? Work hours? Safety on the job?

JACK

Who don't need that? Bet if your father had a union you wouldn't be out here sellin' papes right now. Yeah?

DAVEY

Yeah.

JACK

So, our union is hereby formed to watch each other's backs. "Union'd we stand". Hey, that's not bad. Somebody write that down.

LES

I got a pencil.

JACK

Meet our Secretary of State. Now what?

DAVEY

If you want to strike, the membership's gotta vote.

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**JACK**

So let's vote. What do you say, fellas? The choice is yours. Do we roll over and let Pulitzer pick our pockets or do we strike?

**NEWSIES**

**STRIKE!!!!**

**JACK**

And who tells Pulitzer? Davey?

**DAVEY**

I don't know... I guess...

(Giving in)

You do, Mr President.

**JACK**

That's right, we do!!!

(to DAVEY)

What do we tell 'em?

**DAVEY**

The newspaper owners need to respect your rights as employees.

**JACK**

Pulitzer and Hearst gotta respect the rights of the workin' kids of this city.

**DAVEY**

They can't just change the rules when they feel like it.

**JACK**

That's right. We do the work so we get a say.

**DAVEY**

(Finally committing)

We've got a union.

← **STOP**

PIANO/VOCAL

Davey  
Jack  
Newsies  
(Wiesel)  
(Morris)

“Newsies”  
#10

Music: Alan Menken  
Lyric: Jack Feldman  
Arr.: M. Kosarin/  
M. Hummel

# Seize the Day

DAVEY, -|-  
JACK

Warn: DAVEY: Say something. Tell them if we  
back off now they will never listen to us again.

Cue: JACK: We can't back down now.

Gentle hymn, ca. ♩=92

1 2 3

(JACK) No matter who does or doesn't show. Like it or not, now is when we take a stand.  
FINCH: How's about we just don't show for work? That'll send a message.

4 5 6 7

JACK: They'll just replace us. They need to see we'll stand our ground. C'mon, Davey. Tell 'em.

8 9 10 11

DAVEY: [sung somewhat freely]  
Now is the time to seize the day. Stare down the odds and seize the day.

12 Min-ute by min - ute, that's how you win it. We will find a way. But

Musical notation for measures 12-15. The vocal line is on a single staff with lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and melodic lines.

16 let us seize the day. CRUTCHIE: Hey, Jack. Look what I made! Good, huh? RACE: That's great. That's pitiful. LES: Don't be so quick to judge. Maybe Pulitzer will see that out his window and feel sorry for us, JACK: Hey Specs, any sign of reinforcements?

Musical notation for measures 16-20. The vocal line includes dialogue between characters. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and melodic lines.

Davey...? [VAMP]

21 DAVEY: (last x) Cour - age can - not e - rase our fear.

*very gently*

Musical notation for measures 21-22. The vocal line starts with a repeat sign. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

23 Cour - age is when we face our fear.

Musical notation for measures 23-24. The vocal line continues with lyrics. The piano accompaniment maintains the rhythmic pattern.

25 26 27

Tell those with pow - er, safe in their tow - er, we will not o -

28 29 JACK, DAVEY:

bey. Be -

30 31 32

hold the brave bat - ta - lion that stands side by side, too few in num - ber and

*mp*

33 34 35

too proud to hide. Then say to the oth - ers who did not fol - low through,

-4-

36 37 38 39

"You're still our brothers, and we will fight for you."

Moving a bit more ♩=96

40 JACK, DAVEY:

Now is the time to seize the day. Stare down the odds and seize the day.

RACE, CRUTCHIE:

Now is the time to seize the day. Stare down the odds and seize the day.

41 42 43

+MUSH: 44 45 +LES: 46 47

Once we've be-gun, if we stand as one, some - day be - comes some - how, and a

+FINCH: +SPECS:

Once we've be-gun, if we stand as one, some - day be - comes some - how, and a

- 5 -

48 JACK: 49 50 51

prayer be-comes a vow. And the strike starts right damn

prayer be-comes a vow.

52 53

now!

*mp*



"NEWSIES!"

**START →**

**DAVEY**

How 'bout lettin' a pal know you're alive? Where'd you go? We couldn't find you.

**JACK**

Ever think I didn't wanna be found?

**DAVEY**

Is that a real place? That Santa Fe?

*Suddenly remembering, DAVEY holds out the newspaper for JACK to see.*

**DAVEY (CONT'D)**

Hey! You see the pape? We're front page news above the fold. Oh, yes. Above the fold.

**JACK**

Good for you.

**DAVEY**

Everyone wants to meet the famous Jack Kelly. Even Spot Conlon sent a kid just to say; next event you can count on Brooklyn. How about that?

**JACK**

We got stomped into the ground.

**DAVEY**

They got us this time. I'll grant you that. But we took round one. And with press like this our fight is far from over.

**JACK**

Every newsie who could walk showed up this morning to sell papes like the strike never happened.

**DAVEY**

And I was out there with them. If I don't sell papes, my folks don't eat.

**JACK**

Save your breath. I get it. It's hopeless.

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**DAVEY**

But then I saw this look on Weasel's face: He was actually nervous. And I realized this isn't over, we got them worried. Really worried. And I walked away. Lots of other kids did too. And that is what you call a beginning.

**JACK**

Word is you wrote a great story.

**DAVEY**

(To JACK)

It's what I been trying to tell you; we want to hold a rally. A citywide meeting where every Newsie gets a say and a vote. And we do it after working hours so no one loses a day's pay. Smart?

**JACK**

Smart enough to get you committed to a padded room.

**DAVEY**

The guy who paints places he's never seen is calling us crazy?

**JACK**

Want to see a place I seen? How about this?

*JACK turns the SUNSET PAINTING around and reveals a large passionately executed black and white drawing (in the style of a political cartoon) of the NEWSIES being crushed by PULITZER in NEWSIE SQUARE.*

*EVERYONE stares in awe.*

**JACK (CONT'D)**

Newsies Square, thanks to my big mouth, filled to overflowing with failure. Kids hurt, others arrested...

**DAVEY**

Lighten up. No one died.

**JACK**

Is that what you're aiming for? Go on and call me a quitter, call me a coward.... No way I'm puttin' them kids back in danger.

**DAVEY**

We're doing something that has never been done before. How could that not be dangerous?

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**JACK**

I tried to see Crutchie at the Refuge. I slipped around back, climbed the fire escape... They busted him up so bad he couldn't even come to the window. What if he don't make it? You willing to shoulder that for half a penny a pape?

**DAVEY**

It's not about pennies. You said it yourself; my family wouldn't be in the mess we're in if my father had a union. This is a fight we have to win.

**JACK**

If I wanted a sermon I'd show up for church.

**DAVEY**

Tell me how quitting does Crutchie any good?

*JACK doesn't answer him.*

**DAVEY (CONT'D)**

Exactly.

← **STOP**