

Act 1  
Scene 3

**HIGGINS**

Pledge of good faith, Eliza. I eat one half...

*(HE does)*

you eat the other.

*(SHE opens her mouth in retort, HIGGINS stuffs the chocolate in HER mouth)*

You shall have boxes of them, barrels of them, every day. You shall live on them, eh?

**ELIZA**

*(Speaking with a mouthful)*

I wouldn't have ate it, only I'm too ladylike to take it out of me mouth.

**HIGGINS**

*(Leading HER up the stairs)*

Think of it, Eliza. Think of chocolates, and taxis, and gold, and diamonds.

**ELIZA**

*(At top of balcony. MRS. PEARCE X to front of wing chair)*

No! I don't want no gold and no diamonds. I'm a good girl, I am.

**PICKERING**

Excuse me, Higgins... ! But I really must interfere! Mrs. Pearce is quite right. If this girl is to put herself in your hands for six months for an experiment in teaching, she must understand thoroughly what she's doing!

**HIGGINS**

*(HE walks a few steps in thought and turns to HER suddenly)*

Eliza; you are to stay here for the next six months learning how to speak beautifully, like a lady in a florist's shop. If you're good and do whatever you're told, you shall sleep in a proper bedroom and have lots to eat, and money to buy chocolates and take rides in taxis. If you're naughty and idle you will sleep in the back kitchen among the black beetles, and be walloped by Mrs. Pearce with a broomstick. At the end of six months you shall go to Buckingham Palace in a carriage, beautifully dressed. If the King finds out you're not a lady, you will be taken by the Police to the Tower of London where your head will be cut off as a warning to other presumptuous flower girls. If you are not found out, you shall have a present of seven-and-six to start life with as a lady in a shop. If you refuse this offer you will be the most ungrateful, wicked girl; and the angels will weep for you.

*(To PICKERING)*

Now are you satisfied, Pickering?

*(PICKERING turns upstage with a hopeless shrug.)*

*To MRS. PEARCE)*

Could I put it more plainly or fairly, Mrs. Pearce?