

THE  
FANTASTICKS

Bellomy  
Monologue

BELL: That's right, drink away. Open up your thirsty little mouths.

*(To the audience.)*

I'm her father. And believe me, it isn't easy. Perhaps that's why I love vegetables. So dependable. I mean, you plant a radish, and you know what you're about. You don't get a turnip or a cabbage, no. Plant a turnip, get a turnip; plant a cabbage, get a cabbage. While with children — I thought I had planted a turnip or at worst perhaps an avocado: something remotely useful. I'm a merchant. I sell buttons. What need do I have for a rose? — There she is.

Now, go inside  
as you're told. Our enemy is beyond that wall. Up  
to something: I can feel it!

*(Shouts over the "Wall.")*

Him and his no-good son!

*(LUISA angrily steps off the platform.)*

Look out, you've stepped in my peppers! That settles it. I'll put a fence here by this wall. A high fence, with barbed stickers! An arsenal of wire!