

#1

BEGGAR WOMAN

ANTHONY / TODD

*(Singing as SHE goes)*

ALMS! ... ALMS! ...  
FOR A PITIFUL WOMAN ...

*(Music continues under)*

ANTHONY

*(A little bewildered)*

Pardon me, sir, but there's no need to fear the likes of her. She was only a half-crazed beggar woman. London's full of them.

TODD

*(Half to himself, half to ANTHONY)*

I beg your indulgence, boy. My mind is far from easy, for in these once-familiar streets I feel the chill of ghostly shadows everywhere. Forgive me.

ANTHONY

There's nothing to forgive.

TODD

Farewell, Anthony.

ANTHONY

Mr. Todd, before we part—

TODD

*(Suddenly fierce)*

What is it?

ANTHONY

I have honored my promise never to question you. Whatever brought you to that sorry shipwreck is your affair. And yet, during those many weeks of the voyage home, I have come to think of you as friend and, if trouble lies ahead for you in London ... if you need help — or money ...

TODD

*(Almost shouting)*

No!

*(ANTHONY starts, perplexed; TODD makes a placating gesture, sings quietly and intensely)*

THERE'S A HOLE IN THE WORLD  
LIKE A GREAT BLACK PIT  
AND THE VERMIN OF THE WORLD