**38:46**

**JOE:** Gentleman to see you, Pip.

*A figure steps out of the shadows. A large, well-dressed man with a dark complexion, a face from the past. MISS HAVISHAM’s solicitor. JAGGERS.*

*JAGGERS seems incongruous and uneasy in the humble kitchen.*

**JAGGERS:** You are Phillip Pirrip, more commonly known as Pip, am I right?

**PIP:** Yes, sir.

**JAGGERS:** And this is your brother-in-law, Joseph, or ‘Joe’ Gargery.

**JOE:** I am that man.

**JAGGERS:** Your wife, Mr. Gargery?

**JOE:** Dead, sir. Bad heart. Passed away five years since, sir, while on the rampage and I miss her every -

**JAGGERS:** Condolences. My name is Jaggers and I am a lawyer in London. I am pretty well known. I have unusual business to transact with you. Joseph Gargery, I am the bearer of an offer to relieve you of this young fellow your apprentice. I am here to inform you that he has great expectations! *(PIP and JOE uncomprehending.)* He has come into a handsome fortune, and it is the desire of the present possessor of this fortune that he be removed from his present circumstances and brought up as a gentleman in London. (*PIP, his heart beating fast, turns to JOE.)* Do you have any objections?

PIP: No...no, I don’t think so...

**JAGGERS:** There are, of course, conditions. The first is that you always retain the name of Pip. You have no objection I daresay.

PIP: I...have no objection.

**JAGGERS:** The second stipulation is that the name of the liberal benefactor remain a profound secret until the person chooses to reveal it. You are most positively prohibited from making any enquiry on this question. Do you understand?

PIP: I understand.

**JAGGERS:** Mr. Gargery?

*Throughout the above, JOE has gone into a sort of trance.*

**JAGGERS:** Mr. Gargery, this is for you. *(A purse - )* Twenty guineas. As compensation for the

loss of his services. *(He drops the money on the table. JOE stares at it.)* Very generous, I think you would agree.

**JOE:** If you think money can make compensation for the loss of the little orphan what come to the forge and was ever the best of friends...

**JAGGERS:** Yes, the sentiment is touching, now do you want the money or not -

*And JOE is standing suddenly, fist raised, red-faced.*

**JOE:** If you’re a man, come on! Bull-baiting and badgering me in my own home. Well come on! Come on I say!

**PIP:** Enough, Joe! Please, enough!

*And JOE sits back down. Gingerly, JAGGERS returns the money to his pocket.*

*PIP escorts JAGGERS from the house.*

**JAGGERS:** Well Mr. Pip, I think the sooner you leave here the better. Shall we say one week?

**PIP:** And what will I do in London?

**JAGGERS:** ‘Do’?

**PIP:** What will be my trade, my profession?

**JAGGERS:** A gentleman. You will be a gentleman. *(He offers his hand -)* You will please consider me your guardian now.

PIP takes JAGGERS’ manicured hand. JOE watches from the doorway. He sees the handshake.