

## Scene Analysis for *Sweeney Todd*

Scene Selection: Act 2, page 117-123

### Page 117-119

Characters in scene: Mrs. Lovett, Tobias

Beat

Start: (*Tobias puts [the “Sold Out” sign] on the door, and goes to Mrs. Lovett.*)

End: TOBIAS: ...Little things what I've been thinking and wondering about...

**Character:** Martha

**Literal:** Tobias is telling Mrs. Lovett that he would do anything for her, no matter what.

### Analysis:

1. Action: To convince a friend that I am loyal/they can trust me  
As if: Caitlin and Lizzy are having a fight, and I want Caitlin to know that I'm on her side.  
Tools: comfort, reassure, assert, prove, hint, remind  
Cap: Mrs. Lovett earnestly tell me she trusts me.
2. Action: To receive reassurance from a loved one.  
As if: Jake said something that felt hurtful, and I want them to clarify what they meant.  
Tools: beg, plead, hint  
Cap: Mrs. Lovett gives me a hug.

### Externals:

Bodily Adjustments – slow, small, hesitant movements; making the body “smaller”;  
slow-to-normal talking speed; bolder, more confident movements when making  
statements

Ornaments – loosened, layered period clothing to communicate time period,  
environment, and comfort in the setting

Physical States – anxious, on edge; confident, bold

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### Page 119-120

Characters in scene: Mrs. Lovett, Tobias

Beat

Start: TOBIAS: It's him, you see- Mr. Todd.

End: MRS. LOVETT: Let's just sit nice and quiet for a bit.

**Character:** Tobias

**Literal:** Tobias is admitting that he is suspicious of Sweeney Todd, and that he's worried about Mrs. Lovett's safety.

**Analysis:**

1. Action: To convince a friend that they are wrong.  
As if: My group partner wants to include a source in our class paper that I know is unreliable.  
Tools: prove, suggest, hint, assert, discredit  
Cap: Mrs. Lovett says "You're right."
2. Action: To convince a loved one that I care more about them than another person does.  
As if: Caitlin thinks her new relationship is healthy but I know her girlfriend is abusive.  
Tools: reason, insist, explain, refuse, dissuade, distract  
Cap: Mrs. Lovett says she will leave Sweeney.

**Externals:**

Bodily Adjustments – I'm a buoy that Mrs. Lovett can hold on to in rocky waters – I'm a bit frantic, but I'm reliable more than anything else.  
Ornaments – loosened, layered period clothing to communicate time period, environment, and comfort in the setting  
Physical States – frustrated, confident, unwavering

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**Page 120-121**

Characters in scene: Mrs. Lovett, Tobias

Beat

Start: MRS. LOVETT: Here. (*She pulls out Pirelli's purse, which Tobias recognizes.*)

End: TOBIAS: Not while I'm around! (end of song)

**Character:** Tobias

**Literal:** Tobias is trying to convince Mrs. Lovett that Sweeney Todd killed Pirelli, with evidence.

**Analysis:**

1. Action: To convince a friend that I'm telling the truth.  
As if: My professor doesn't believe that I was sick last week and won't let me turn in a paper.  
Tools: suggest, prove, insist  
Cap: "I believe you."
2. Action: To make a friend understand me.  
As if: I am explaining to Ashlee how to do a calculus problem.  
Tools: demand, insist, convince, enlighten  
Cap: "I understand your worries."

**Externals:**

Bodily Adjustments – Toby is constantly searching the room, physically and with his eyes, to find evidence and tools to convince Mrs. Lovett

Ornaments – loosened, layered period clothing to communicate time period,  
environment, and comfort in the setting

Physical States – anxious, tense, desperate