

## Under Milk Wood : Audition Pieces (4)

### **POLLY GARTER AND LILY SMALLS**

**Polly Garter:** A woman who has had a lot of liaisons with local men and consequently, lots of babies.

**Lily Smalls:** The hired help who works for the Butcher Beynon family. Downtrodden but enjoys a rich fantasy life.

**POLLY G:** Me, Polly Garter, under the washing line, giving the breast in the garden to my bonny new baby. Nothing grows in our garden, only washing. And babies. And where's their fathers live, my love? Over the hills and far away. You're looking up at me now. I know what you're thinking, you poor little milky creature. You're thinking, you're no better than you should be, Polly, and that's good enough for me. Oh, isn't life a terrible thing, thank God?

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**LILY S:** Oh there's a face!  
Where you get that hair from?  
Got it from a old tom cat.  
Give it back then, love.  
Oh there's a perm!

Where you get that nose from, Lily?  
Got it from my father, silly.  
You've got it on upside down!  
Oh there's a conk!

Look at your complexion!

Oh no, *you* look.

Needs a bit of make-up.

Needs a veil.

Oh there's glamour!

Where you get that smile, Lil?

Never you mind, girl.

Nobody loves you.

That's what *you* think.

Who is it loves you?

Shan't tell.

Come on, Lily.

Cross your heart, then?

Cross my heart.

**1<sup>st</sup> VOICE:** And very softly, her lips almost touching her reflection, she breathes the name and clouds the shaving-glass.

**MRS BEYNON:** Lily!

**LILY S:** Yes, mum.

**MRS BEYNON:** Where's my tea, girl?

**LILY S:** *(soft)* Where d'you think? In the cat-box?

*(loud)* Coming up, mum.

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