

Jack We're not going to have any more meetings. And Ralph's not going to be chief any more. Anyone who wants can come with me. Out in the woods there. We'll feast and hunt and have fires and do anything we want. Who's coming?

No one moves. They are backing away from the body.

Ralph isn't chief any more. Put your hands up if you want me for chief. *(He stamps.)* See? That's how we'll do it! And I'll be chief. For ever and ever, amen.

Pause.

Come on. Come on then!

Pause. Still nobody moves. Jack turns on Ralph.

I hate you. You and your stupid shell. Look! I've still got it! *(He pulls it out of his tatters.)* But I don't want it. And I don't want you. I'm going away for good. And anyone who wants can come with me. OK? If you want you can join me!

*Still no one moves. Jack moves back into the darkness.
Silence after he's gone.*

SIDE 2 – Roger

Roger They'll bomb each other to bits, won't they? Isn't that why we were sent away like that? To get away from the bombs? Well . . .

Pause.

They get bigger and bigger bombs. There won't be any of them left, will there? There probably isn't a Queen left. Or any of those things. Just us. (*Throwing earth.*) Why should they? Why should they bother to follow us? They're all too busy . . . (*He does that frightening mime again.*) killing one another.

Simon is in front of the pig's head.

It's blood. And it's flies. It's blood. (*He starts to reach for the head.*) That head. That head. When I was eight I saw a man kill a bird. And I thought . . . Merridew says I don't pull my weight. Funny. Why should you pull weight? Eh, Piggy? Piggy? (*He is touching it with a thrill of horror.*) Those are flies. There's blood and there are flies. It's not my fault there's blood and flies is it? You look stupid come to that. (*He starts to work the pig's mouth, like a puppet's.*) 'Oh no I don't!' 'Oh yes you do!' 'You're a bad boy do you hear me!' (*Starting to giggle.*) Like Jenkins on that picnic. 'You're no go, boy!' 'You're no go!' 'I'm not no go, sir!' 'Oh yes you are – you're an ignorant, silly, little boy! And I know you are because I'm the beast! You hear me! I'm the beast!' (*He has scared himself. Starting to feel the fit coming on him.*) You're not. You're not. Pig's head on a stick. You're just a silly . . . (*very scared*) I feel funny. I'm going to . . . don't make me have a turn, sir, will you? Please don't let me have a turn, sir. Ralph! Ralph! (*And the fit starts. He begins reaching out for the head then falls, feet drumming on the earth, choking.*)

Ralph is near enough, in the darkness, to hear something, even if it isn't the whole story.

Piggy I did!

He has stepped out from the trees. His interruption makes a break in the struggle between Ralph and Jack. Everyone stops to look at the half-blind figure, coming alone into the space before the crest of the hill.

I did. And I got the shell to prove it.

Silence. They are all listening.

I got the conch. Ralph? Are you there, Ralph? You better listen anyway. And you, Jack Merridew, you better listen.

Pause.

Which is better -- law and rescue or hunting and breaking things up? To have rules and agree or to hunt and kill like a pack of savages?

Ralph Piggy –

Piggy Woch you think you're doing eh? With them spears and stones? This says I got to be listened to. You hear me? This says we got something to hold on to so's we can remember who we . . . who we . . . are. OK? I remember

an' remember all the good advice I got an' all. (*He walks up the hill.*)

Ralph Piggy –

Piggy Where are yer, Ralph? They'll listen. 'Course they'll listen. 'ere it is. An' I can't blow it like 'e can. But I can hold it up like this and see it shine and know iss something we can all agree on. And you may not like me but this is stronger than I am and more important!

SIDE 5 – Ralph (1)

Ralph Why aren't you happy if you're not thinking of the things to do? Why does everything else seem like second best to you? I don't care. I honestly don't care. But fair is fair you know. I was voted. I was voted for. And that's democratic. Why isn't that enough for you? Why do you always have to be in charge?

SIDE 6 – Ralph (2)

Ralph Please. Somebody. Please.

Upstage, the brands are handed out. The tribe start their chant: 'Ay Ay Ayyy!'

(He hunches up small) There can't just be me. There's always . . . there's always someone. When we were at Devonport. Think about Devonport. When we went up on to the moor and there were those . . . what were there, there were . . . *(Hugs himself in fear and misery.)* Simon. And Piggy. Why did they do that to you? How can they?