

Whistle Down the Wind (Mary Hayley Bell)

Swallow (age 12) is living in a village where they are taught Jesus will return to the world. There is a criminal on the run near her village and Swallow finds a sick, homeless man in her father's barn who she thinks is Jesus. In this monologue she tells some other children about the man.

SWALLOW:

Can you keep a secret? A really big secret? You've got to hold up your hand and do the 'See this wet' routine:

See this wet, see this dry,
Cut my throat if I tell a lie...

This is a great and fabulous secret known to none but those within these walls. You have to join a society to be allowed to know the secret, and all who know must swear never to divulge. Will you absolutely swear? If you ever breathe a word something ghastly will happen to you... alright... That's Jesus... We have proof. We were in here messing about. There was a sort of knock on the door and I opened it. He stood there smiling at us, and said, 'Knock on the door and it shall be opened unto you'... And I said, 'Who are you?' and he stood staring round this place, not answering at once, and then suddenly said, rather loud: 'JESUS'... just like that... His legs were all cut and his boots and socks crammed with mud and he kind of lurched. I asked Him if I should get someone and He said 'Don't tell them till I've recovered'... He's ill... too ill to talk. He's been asleep for six hours!... In the daytime!... The grown-ups may not believe... suppose they try and take Him away... after all they did last time... But we can have a gigantic meeting, we can tell them all... swear them all to secrecy. There's hundreds of children around here and every child knows other children. We can bring them a few at a time to see Him and hear His words. Little by little we can spread the news to children all over the country that the first people to know Jesus has come back will be the children. And... if the grown-ups try to take Him away again, we'll defend Him... Hundreds of us!