

I'M NOT BOVVERED

By Rod

CAST

Lauren *Schoolgirl. She has a bag over her shoulder with a purse inside.*
Amy *Friend of Lauren*
Becca *Friend of Lauren and Amy. She has a charity collecting tin.*
Chaz *Also a member of the school*

Enter Lauren. She stands on stage filing her nails. Enter Amy and Becca who approach.

Amy Hi Lauren.

Lauren Hi Amy, Becca. How are you doing?

Becca We're cool thanks, Loz. Do you like wanna make a contribution?
[Holds up a collecting tin]

Lauren Yer what?

Becca Yunno. Give us some money like.

Lauren *[Incredulous]* Give you some money? You ask, do I want to give you some money?

Amy It's for charity like.

Lauren I wasn't born yesterday.

Amy No, straight up. It is kosher. We've got permission from Mr Taylor.

Becca It's for 'Children In Need'.

Lauren Look, I don't want to be rude and that, but the only 'Child In Need' I know is me. My money stays in my bag.

Amy But don't you care about others? There's thousands of children in Africa dying every day because they haven't got enough to eat.

Becca There's children in South Africa who are born HIV because their mothers were infected with AIDS.

Amy And there are thousands of orphans in Sudan because their parents were butchered in tribal wars.

Becca And there are child soldiers as young as 12 who are daily involved in warfare.

Amy And that's just Africa. You've got to care a little bit, Lauren.

Becca Lauren? What do you say? *[Holds up tin]*

Lauren *[After pause in which she looks away]* I'm not bowvered.

Amy What?

Lauren I'm not bowvered.

Becca But.

Lauren I said, I'm not bowvered.

Amy But there are kids in India as young as 6 who have to work a 12 hour day to earn money so their families can afford food and shelter.

Becca And there are orphans in Colombia who live on rubbish tips selling what they can scavenge – just to stay alive.

Lauren I ain't bowvererd.

Amy Lauren.

Lauren I ain't bowvered.

Becca Come on, Loz.

Lauren Do I look bowvered? No. *[Points to face]* Does my face look bowvered? No. *[Points to feet]* Do my feet look bowvered? No. *[Points to legs]* Do my legs look bowvered? No. I ain't bowvered. *[Deliberately]* I'm not bowvered.

Amy I can't believe your attitude. You're so selfish.

Lauren Are you disrespecting me?

Amy No, but I can't believe your lack of charity.

Lauren For me charity begins at home.

Becca *[To Amy]* I've never seen much charity in her home.

Lauren Are you disrespecting my family?

Becca No, but you've got to care a little.

Lauren *[Turning away]* I'm not bowvered.

Enter Chaz who stands behind Lauren from a little distance.

Amy *[Approaching Lauren]* Go on , Lauren, just a small contribution.

Becca *[Holding up tin]* Out of the kindness of your heart.

Lauren Don't you get it. The answers 'No'. My money is my money and it stays in my bag.

[Meanwhile Chaz walks casually across stage behind the three and pickpockets Lauren's purse from her bag. He hopes noone has seen. He stands behind Amy and Becca backstage, opens the purse surreptitiously taking out the money.]

Amy Lauren.

Lauren What?

Amy Do you see Chaz over there?

Lauren Yeah, what about him?

Amy I don't think he knows you very well.

Lauren What make you say that?

Amy Well, you know you said 'My money is my money, and it stays in my bag'?

Lauren What of it?

Amy He can't have heard you. *[Shares joke with Becca. They giggle]*

Lauren How do you mean?

Becca He's just nicked your money out of your bag.

Lauren *[Looks worried. Frantically searches bag.]* The thieving git. *[Looks at Chaz, who catches her eye, drops purse keeping money and runs off. Lauren starts to run, stops and turns to Amy and Becca.]* Well come on you two, aren't you gonna help me catch him?

[Amy and Becca look at each other, then turn to the audience, fold their arms and say together..]

Amy & Becca We ain't bovvered.

[Lauren grunts in annoyance and runs off after Chaz]