64 Earthquakes in London

The Mothers look her up and down. Smile in a fake way.

Mothers Not being funny but –

Freya Okay.

Mothers Yeah.

Freya My baby's kicking.

Mothers How sweet!

Freya Not in a good way.

Mothers Ahhhh.

Freya Do you worry about the future?

Mothers Not really.

Freya What might happen?

Mothers No.

Freya What might happen to your children?

Mothers Henry's very bright, he's already reading.

He'll go into hedge funds

Or a surgeon. Something like that.

Freya How was the birth?

Mothers Natural.

Freya How do you manage with it all?

Mothers Easily.

Freya None of you got down about it?

None of you felt your child was a ...

Mothers A?

Freya A mistake?

Mothers No. God. No.

Freya And what about people who are poorer

than you?

Mothers We do what we can.

Freya Yes but -

Mothers Charity work. Every Thursday. Primrose

Hill. We carbon offset holidays.

You know.

Freya But that's not enough, and if it's not enough,

then what's the point.

Aaaahhh!

She clutches her belly again. They look at her for a moment, more serious now, almost threatening. They stand, wielding their children, almost like weapons.

Freya (over singing) Call me an ambulance.

Please.

Please!

The singing continues.

Then they slowly encircle her. She is scared but has nowhere to go.

The women throw the babies up in the air.

They explode into black powder, like soot or dust, that covers everyone, and is blown about by the wind.

The music continues as the women disappear, Freya falls to the floor, and the lights fade.

End of Act Two.