135 CONTD.

PAUL's efforts are rewarded by a tremendous sweep of applause from the AUDIENCE as he finishes off the instrumental, distinguished by hand-clapping rather than screams.

STOKER

(non-plussed)

Right ...

(into mic)

Do you want to hear "Fireball" ...

136 INT. PALLADIUM - PASSAGE OUTSIDE DRESSING ROOM. NIGHT. 136

STOKER lays into PAUL as they return to the Dressing Room for a pre-encore break.

STOKER

You stupid bastard! I know you think you're bleedin' Jimi Hendrix, but there's no need to try and prove it by screwing up the whole act!

PAUL

If you weren't so poxey big-headed you'd give someone else a break now and then. All that "it's me Mum's birthday" crap ... at least I was playin' music..

STOKER

Oh yeah?

CHARLIE

(harmlessly)

Seemed to go down alright.

STOKER

(to CHARLIE)

Go on goalie - get back in goal!

(to PAUL)

Listen, if you want to go solo, that's up to you. But let's just get this over with, huh?

The dressing-room door opens and SEYMOUR appears.

SEYMOUR

Oh there you are ... we were just setting off for London.