

**EXT. SIDE STREET - DAY**

Ms. Agnes walks down the street. In the background, something darts across the road. Ms. Agnes turns around but sees nothing. She continues to walk and the figure once again sprints forward and, again, is out of sight when Agnes turns around. Agnes, still looking back, starts to move forward but then trips over something. She falls to the ground. LAUGHTER comes from above her and she slowly turns over to look up at what is cackling at her. Ms. Agnes sees Adam hanging underneath the awning directly above her.

ADAM

Peek-a-boo!

Adam drops down right next to Agnes.

ADAM (CONT'D)

You want to play a game?

Ms. Agnes catches her wits and smiles at the young boy.

MS. AGNES

Oh well, of course. Aren't you the cutest thing.

Adam looks away and suddenly looks scared.

ADAM

Uh oh, she found us!

Ms. Agnes looks over and sees Rose emerge from behind a shed. She starts striding towards Ms. Agnes and Adam. Ms. Agnes struggles to get up and starts walking away.

MS. AGNES

You better go with your mother.

ADAM

No. We have to run. You have to hide.

Ms. Agnes walks faster. She looks back and sees that Rose has picked up her pace so Agnes begins to jog. Adam is behind her, still running on all fours.

ADAM (CONT'D)

She's going to get us.

**EXT. MS. AGNES'S HOUSE - DAY**

Ms. Agnes is now running. She heads to her home and tries to open the door.

There is a box in front of it so she bends down to move it and is stunned to see Linda, all folded up inside.

LINDA

Don't you want to play?

The contortionist unwinds herself and steps out of the box towards Ms. Agnes. Rose turns the corner, spots Agnes, Linda, and Adam. She slowly makes her way towards them.

ADAM

Aw, looks like the game is over.

Ms. Agnes trembles in fear.

MS. AGNES

I thought, perhaps, maybe, you would want to see what your gentleman have been working on today.

Linda and Rose seem surprised.

LINDA

(angrily)

They're doing what?

**EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - DUSK**

THE MAYOR

What is going on here?! There is work to do, Gentleman!

The Mayor walks over to the workers, all of whom are sitting around.

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)

This bank isn't going to build itself--

The Mayor freezes when he takes his first good look at the work site and sees that there has been much progress made. The Sheriff and Frank walk to the Mayor's side.

FRANK

The boys deserve the break Mr. Mayor. They did as much today as they did in the last two weeks.

THE SHERIFF

I think the new help made a difference.

The Mayor, The Sheriff, and Frank look over to where Emmett, Alfred, and James are standing. While the men around them seem exhausted, the three Freaks look like they could work another full day.

FRANK

Now hold on. They might have helped a little but no more than the rest of us. And I'd like to add that it took a seasoned leader to make sure everything went smoothly.

Frank, clearly talking about himself, puffs his chest out and awaits the onrush of admiration.

THE MAYOR

Thanks for noticing my foresight. I just have a knack for seeing the big picture.

The Mayor steps past Frank to make an announcement.

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)

Gentleman. I believe this calls for a celebration. Tonight, drinks are on the house.

A loud cheer goes up from the men.

The Sheriff looks over the group of excited men and spies Bianca, carrying cups of water, heading over to the Freaks. He makes a bee-line over to her before she can reach them.

THE SHERIFF

What did I tell you?

BIANCA

I washed off the perfume.

The Sheriff glares at Bianca as if to say, "You know that's not what I meant".

A hand reaches over to the tray and takes a cup of water. Bianca and The Sheriff look over and see Alfred standing directly in front of them.

ALFRED

Is there anything I can do? My friends and I are always willing to lend a hand.

Emmett saunters over and snatches a drink off of the tray.

EMMETT

Well, maybe not always. But in certain cases.

Emmett looks Bianca up and down.

JAMES

Don't mind him, little lady.

James's hand engulfs two cups.

JAMES (CONT'D)

(to The Sheriff)

Sir.

James turns around and HEADS BACK towards the work area.

BIANCA

I guess I should get going.

The Sheriff puts his hand on Bianca's shoulder to help lead her away but it is immediately ripped away by The Mayor.

THE MAYOR

Don't be foolish. These men have helped us so much today.

Bianca and The Sheriff seem stunned by The Mayor. They share a look and turn to see how the Freaks respond. Alfred smiles politely and nods, accepting the praise.

ALFRED

Thank you sir. It's just the beginning of what we're capable of.

Alfred turns and leaves. Emmett takes his cup and throws it on the tray, almost knocking it out of Bianca's hands.

EMMETT

See ya tonight.

An evil smirk comes over his lips as he turns to walk away.

THE MAYOR

I have a good feeling about these freaks.

Bianca and The Sheriff look up at The Mayor, stunned by his naivete. Something catches The Sheriff's attention and he looks off towards the Freaks.

THE SHERIFF

I wouldn't be so sure.

The Mayor, The Sheriff, and Bianca looks over to see Linda storming towards Alfred. Rose tries to keep up with Linda's furious pace and is almost dragging Adam alongside her.

LINDA

Alfred! What in the blazes are you doing?

ALFRED

PLEASE! You are causing a scene.

ROSE

You probably should have talked to us beforehand.

The Mayor stops watching the Freaks fight and turns to The Sheriff.

THE MAYOR

It seems to me that the walking picture book wants to settle down. And he strikes me as a man who knows how to get what he wants.

The Mayor WALKS OFF. Bianca looks at him leave and then turns back towards the freaks.

BIANCA

That's what I'm afraid of.

#### **INT. JONESVILLE - NIGHT**

Night falls over the town. Much of the town is quiet but the saloon is filled with life.

#### **INT. BOARDING HOUSE - NIGHT**

The Sheriff enters the boarding house and looks around.

THE SHERIFF

John?

Linda appears behind him.

LINDA

Do you want me to find him for you?

Frightened, The Sheriff spins around.

LINDA (CONT'D)  
I mean, we're already doing  
everyone else's job.

Linda stares down The Sheriff but John breaks the tension by walking into the room.

JOHN  
Was somebody calling for me?

The Sheriff heads over to John and pulls the blind man aside.

THE SHERIFF  
(whisper)  
John, I was wondering if you could  
tell me about anything out of the  
ordinary. I mean, have you seen  
anything strange recently?

JOHN  
(loudly)  
I'm a blind man in a house of  
freaks. Fuck you think, Doc.

The Sheriff grimaces and looks over his shoulder towards Linda. She scowls and starts to make her way over to him.

THE SHERIFF  
But how have they been? Did any of  
them leave late last night? Did  
you hear them discussing anything?

JOHN  
Well, I did think I heard someone  
coming in late last night. At  
first I thought it was the wind--

LINDA  
--If you want to know about our  
whereabouts Sheriff, why don't you  
just ask?

THE SHERIFF  
Fine. Where are your friends right  
now?

LINDA  
The men went off to the saloon to  
celebrate with your Mayor.

THE SHERIFF  
I see.

LINDA

You should tell him not to get his hopes up.

THE SHERIFF

Excuse me.

LINDA

I know your Mayor talked to Alfred but don't think for a second that we're going to stay here longer than we have to.

Linda gives The Sheriff one last icy glare and heads upstairs.