

**EXT. THE SALOON - NIGHT**

The Sheriff heads towards the saloon. As The Sheriff walks onto the saloon porch, Jeb is pushed out of the bar.

JEB

Serve them god damn freaks but  
won't serve me! Throw me out?!

THE SHERIFF

Take it home Jeb. I really don't  
need this tonight.

JEB

There's something not right with  
them there--

THE SHERIFF

--I know Jeb. That's why I can't be  
wasting my time dealing with you.

JEB

We gotta do something.

The Sheriff pushes Jeb away from the saloon.

THE SHERIFF

Now 'git.

The Sheriff walks through the saloon door.

**INT. THE SALOON - NIGHT**

The saloon is, like the rest of the town, built in typical Old West fashion. Next to the bar is a medium sized stage with stained curtains. The crowd is made up mostly of men. The Sheriff walks past Frank, who is pleading his case to the BOUNCER.

FRANK

I told Jeb to calm down. I'm just  
here to watch the show.

The Sheriff keeps walking and sees Emmett, James, and Alfred sitting with The Mayor and Bianca. The Sheriff makes eye contact with Bianca but she quickly turns her head away. The Sheriff keeps walking to the bar.

ANGLE ON The Mayor's table where The Mayor laughs out loud while Alfred and James smile. Emmett stares at Bianca who seems very uncomfortable.

THE MAYOR

I tell you boys, once you been  
around this town, you'll love it.

ALFRED

You're preaching to the choir, Mr.  
Mayor.

JAMES

I have to say that it does have its  
charms.

EMMETT

That it does.

A creepy smile crosses Emmett's lips as he stares at Bianca's  
beasts. The young girl jumps up from her chair.

BIANCA

I'm going to get a new drink.

THE MAYOR

Oh, let someone get it for--

BIANCA

--That OK. I'd like to stretch my  
legs.

EMMETT

Well, I'm going to get some fresh  
air.

Emmett gets up and brushes by Bianca. He runs his hand down  
her arm. She bristles from the contact and strides over to  
the bar.

Bianca walks over and stands a few feet away from The  
Sheriff. He turns to her.

BIANCA

Don't look at me!

The Sheriff turns away, deflated by the harsh dismissal.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

You know how The Mayor gets.

Bianca flashes a quick, nervous look towards The Sheriff. He  
shoots a glance at The Freaks and The Mayor to make sure  
nobody is watching. He then calmly slides a little closer to  
Bianca so they can talk more easily.

THE SHERIFF  
Is The Mayor being, I don't know,  
manipulated by the--

BIANCA  
--If only. He thinks he's using  
them.

THE SHERIFF  
Well, as long as the Freaks are  
giving him something he wants, I'm  
sure he'll get along with them  
fine.

Bianca turns and looks towards The Sheriff.

BIANCA  
And what about the rest of us?

The Sheriff breaks from stealth mode and looks directly at  
Bianca.

THE SHERIFF  
I'm doing what I can.

Bianca is neither impressed nor calmed by this answer.

BIANCA  
And what if that's not enough?

The Sheriff has no response. He just watches as Bianca walks  
back to The Mayor's table.

Bianca sits down at the table and smiles at The Mayor. A  
WAITRESS walks over and hands a note to The Mayor, who reads  
it and smiles.

THE MAYOR  
Well, James, it looks like you  
caught the charms of our local  
talent. Ms. Helen would like to  
meet you. Head over to the barkeep  
and he'll direct you to her  
dressing room where you can wait  
for her.

JAMES  
Are you sure it's OK? I don't want--

THE MAYOR  
--Oh, you will when you see her.  
You surely will.

James gets up and heads over to the barkeep.

ALFRED

This town sure has welcomed us with open arms Mr. Mayor, I thank you for that.

THE MAYOR

We're not all that different Alfred.

The piano players starts to play a tune.

THE MAYOR (CONT'D)

So just sit back and enjoy the show.

The stage curtain starts to open a bit, drawing a huge cheer from the crowd.

ANGLE ON STAGE as HELEN, the beautiful, sultry showgirl, steps out from behind the curtain. She paces back and forth a bit and then slowly slides off the scarf that had been covering her cleavage. The crowd roars.

Helen walks towards the front of the stage.

HELEN

Boys! Welcome the women... that are going to make you men!

The crowd explodes as the curtain opens. The music starts and fifteen scantily clad women walk forward to the edge of the stage and start to walk in a circle.

Suddenly, the music changes and the band begins to play off-key. The women break from their circle and run to various spots on the stage and start to do completely random acts. One woman starts to do jumping jacks, two women get into a fight, one woman runs across the stage and launches herself into a wall.

Helen stands in the middle of it, her arms spread wide, a huge smile on her face. The crowd is in a frenzy.

*NOTE: The point of view of the film now changes from the townsfolk to the Freaks. Until this point, everything we've seen or heard of the Freaks was from a townie watching them or a piece of overheard conversations. However, they now become our protagonists and the townspeople become the real freaks.*

Alfred can only sit in shock at the scene in front of him. He looks around and sees everyone hootin' and hollerin'.

THE MAYOR

Can't say you were expecting this,  
now can yah?

Alfred can only nod his head as he watches the insanity unfolding on stage.

**INT. SALOON BASEMENT (STORAGE ROOM) - NIGHT**

A door in the dark, dank room opens and James pokes his head in.

JAMES

Hello?

James walks in and looks around.

JAMES (CONT'D)

I was told to meet Ms. Helen...

James sees a figure dart around a corner. He takes a couple of cautious steps in the direction of the figure.

JAMES (CONT'D)

I can come back after the show.

James awaits a response but gets nothing.

**INT. SALOON - CONTINUOUS**

Helen screams at the top of her lungs.

ALFRED

So is this the typical, um, show?

THE MAYOR

Oh no. The girls seem to be giving  
a little extra tonight. Probably  
trying to impress you and your  
friends.

**EXT. SALOON - CONTINUOUS**

Emmett stands on the porch, looking out over the town. A CRASH comes from inside the saloon and he turns to check it out. The window of the saloon are filthy so Emmett can barely make out what is going on.

He sees a little bit of the insanity inside but before he can get a good look, Frank is THROWN OUT through the saloon doors and bangs into Emmett. The two fall on the ground.

BOUNCER

And stay out!

Frank pushes off of Emmett as he gets up.

FRANK

I ain't the one you should be  
tossin'.

Emmett gets up.

EMMETT

And just who should that be?

Emmett gets into Frank's face.

EMMETT (CONT'D)

Or are you still too hungover to be  
a man about it?

**INT. SALOON BASEMENT (STORAGE ROOM) - NIGHT**

A figure scoots into another dark corner. James peers over but doesn't follow.

JAMES

Well, it sounds like the show is  
going on now so I'll look for Helen  
upstairs.

James turns around to leave and is almost clocked in the head by a falling piece of metal. A couple more props from the show begin to "fall" and as James pushes them away from him, a figure hustles off into a corner. James isn't able to get a look at the figure because a prop holding a curtain falls on him.

James starts to pick up the curtain just as an arrow flies through and pins the curtain to a post.

**INT. SALOON - CONTINUOUS**

The show wraps up. Most of the women are strewn about the stage. Helen stands in the middle of the carnage and takes a bow as the curtain closes. Alfred looks everything over and takes a deep breath.

ALFRED  
It's definitely unique.

Alfred starts clapping. The Mayor smiles and pats him on the back.

**INT. SALOON BASEMENT (STORAGE ROOM) - NIGHT**

James struggles to get free and he sees the figure dart over to his left. James leans back, trying to get a glimpse of who is running away. Just then, he hears something in front of him. He turns to see someone's shadow on the curtain. The person is standing directly over James. James tries to get his wits about him but before he can, The Barkeep rips the curtain off of him.

THE BARKEEP  
What in the world are you doing in here?

JAMES  
You said to go here. Downstairs and take a left.

The Barkeep looks around and realizes his mistake.

THE BARKEEP  
I meant your other left. You shouldn't be messing around in here.

The Barkeep walks over and picks up a crossbow that is on the floor.

THE BARKEEP (CONT'D)  
You're knocking around some expensive props.

The Barkeep puts the crossbow back on a table.

THE BARKEEP (CONT'D)  
Go on now.

**INT. SALOON BASEMENT (HALLWAY) - CONTINUOUS**

James backs out of the room.

THE BARKEEP (O.C.)  
It's the door behind you.

James turns and looks at the door. He slowly reaches for the door handle. He opens the door and cautiously makes his way in.

JAMES

Hello?

**INT. SALOON BASEMENT (DRESSING ROOM) - CONTINUOUS**

James walks in the room and sees nobody there. The door CREAKS closed behind him. He looks over the room and bends over to look at some piles of clothes on the floor. The door BANGS open.

MIRIAM

Can I help you?

James stands up and Miriam, a petite dancer, is stunned (and turned on) by his size.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

Why yes you can.

Helen saunters into the room and slaps Miriam in the back of the head. Without pausing, she walks over to her makeup area.

HELEN

That package belongs to me.

Helen winks at James and then sits at her table. James has no idea what he's gotten himself into.