

Side-Driver & Harker

SCENE ONE

Actor One dons a blazer and eyeglasses to become... JONATHAN HARKER, who addresses the audience, speaking aloud his letter home to his fiancé. Meanwhile two benches are adjusted to become a CARRIAGE, and Actor Four dons a hat & cape to become the DRIVER.

HARKER

October the 5th, 1897. Dearest Lucy, apologies for my unsteady penmanship. I write to you from the inside of a carriage en route to my client's home in the mountains of Transylvania.

He sits in the "rear seat" of the carriage, and thrashes about (to indicate a very bumpy road), holds onto a briefcase, and shouts to the DRIVER over the wind.

HARKER

Excuse me, driver? This road is awfully bumpy. How much further is it? I've an inner ear imbalance and my stomach-

START

DRIVER

(Transylvanian accent)
We're going as quickly as possible. This area is treacherous. The Carpathian Mountains are known for their steep cliffs and man eating wolves.

HARKER

Are..are we in danger?

DRIVER

In this part of the world, danger is never far from your front drawbridge.

SOUND: THUNDER

DRIVER (CONT'D)

But I'm sure you'll be fine. It's only eleven. The wolves don't come out until after midnight.

SOUND: WOLVES CRY

DRIVER (CONT'D)

I guess my watch is broken.

HARKER

Oh, this is not good. We certainly wouldn't want to be stranded around here.

DRIVER

Not on the Borgo Pass. People in this region tend to mysteriously disappear.

SFX: HORSES NEIGH LOUDLY

HARKER

Are they alright, the horses?

DRIVER

Oh yes. I've trained them to punctuate my lines for dramatic effect.

SFX: HORSE NEIGH AGAIN

DRIVER

Sometimes, they overdo it.

HARKER

Well I hope they've enough strength for the remainder of the journey because I have to get the castle. I have urgent business with Count Dracula.

SFX: HORSES WHINNY

DRIVER

(deep concern)
Count Dracula?

HARKER

Yes, I must have these papers signed and return to England post haste. I am soon to be married!

DRIVER

Sir, you don't understand--

HARKER

Oh, I understand completely! They say marriage changes everything for a chap, but not me. I've been preparing to be married my entire life. I make daily schedules, clean compulsively, and adore being taken for granted.

DRIVER

Mr. Harker. I beg of you; heed my warning. For the sake of your betrothed, do not enter that wretched castle.

HARKER

It can't be that bad. I can find something nice to say about any home. I'm a real estate broker.

SFX: HORSES NEIGH.

DRIVER

Then I can only wish you the best of luck. And my condolences to your bride.

HARKER

Sorry?

SFX: HORSES EXHALE. CLOPPING STOPS. WIND THROUGH TREES.

HARKER (CONT'D)

Why have the horses stopped?

DRIVER

They sense danger. You will have to walk the rest of the way.

HARKER

Walk?

DRIVER

It's not far, you'll probably make it.

Harker slowly exits the carriage.

HARKER

But what about the wolves?

DRIVER

Try this.

Driver pulls a small braid of garlic from a hidden pocket and tosses it to Harker.

HARKER

Garlic?

DRIVER

From the farmers market in Bucharest. God be with you, sir.
(MORE)

DRIVER (CONT'D)

(beat)

And please... remember to give me
five stars. |

END

SFX THUNDER. LIGHTNING.

ACTOR TWO

Jonathan Harker made his way
through the Carpathian woods.

ACTOR FOUR

Where he could see the glow of
yellow eyes through the trees.

Actors Two, Three & Four hold LIGHT UP WOLF EYES in their
hands.

ACTOR THREE

Staring at him hungrily.

ACTOR FOUR

Growling with menace.

They GROWL.

ACTOR THREE

He was terrified.

ACTOR FOUR

Like Margaret Thatcher at a dental
convention.

ACTOR TWO

Just as the wolves were poised to
attack.

MORE GROWLING

HARKER

(terrified)

Good doggy. Good doggy. Who's a
good doggy? How about some fresh
garlic, then?

SFX WHIMPERING WOLVES LEAVING

HARKER (CONT'D)

(calling after them)

Don't you want any? It's from the
farmer's market! Huh. How queer.

SIDE - Harker & Dracula

Scene 1

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Alexa, turn down the music.

MUSIC LOWERS.

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Mr. Harker.

START

HARKER

So good to finally be here.

Dracula shakes his hand, and Harker shrinks in pain.

HARKER

It was... quite a journey.

DRACULA

Welcome to my house. Please note that you have entered under no duress and of your own free will.

SFX DOOR CLOSE - BANK VAULT FINALITY

HARKER

Isn't that a unique greeting?

DRACULA

Liability issues.

HARKER

Speaking of, is your solicitor here? For the signing, I mean.

DRACULA

I couldn't find one who keeps my hours.

HARKER

Yes, I was wondering why we had to meet so late. It's a bit... unorthodox, isn't it?

DRACULA

I'm a unicorn. You actually caught me in the middle of my morning workout.

HARKER

Morning? It's nearly midnight.

DRACULA

I slept late.

(pivoting)

(MORE)

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Where are my manners? Can I get you something to drink? To eat?

Dracula sexily removes Harker's jacket.

HARKER

You wouldn't happen to have anything gluten free, cruelty free, vegan, non-gmo, and certified organic, would you?

DRACULA

You're in luck. I get all my overpriced produce from the farmer's market in town.

HARKER

Perfect. In fact, that's where my carriage driver got this bag of fresh garlic! Look!

He pulls out the braid of garlic. Dracula recoils, HISSES.

HARKER (CONT'D)

You alright there, Dracula?

DRACULA

Oh, yes. Just...allergic.

HARKER

Bad luck! Makes cooking a challenge, eh?

DRACULA

Not at all! I'm a baker. More sweet than savory.

HARKER

Oh, lovely. I'm sure Mrs. Dracula appreciates that.

DRACULA

(weighted)

There is no Mrs. Dracula.

SFX: LONELY WOLF HOWL

HARKER

Oh. Forgive my presumption.

DRACULA

No, naturally you assumed as much.

MUSIC IN.

END

DRACULA
I'm highly desirable. /

SNAP - Dracula rips off his vest and, bare chested, begins to workout with resistance bands.

DRACULA
But I've been through every single woman in Romania, and I have yet to find the right person.

HARKER
It is a small country, I suppose.

DRACULA
Full of small minded people. How many more conversations can a man have about chicken coops and borscht? I long for someone who will challenge me; a match; an equal! Someone whose strength of character makes me want to be better.

(beat)
Also, she has to be hot. That is what I truly crave, Mr. Harker; the love, the companionship, the taste of that one special person.

HARKER
The taste?

DRACULA
I'm sorry, the trust of that one special person.

HARKER
Well, no shortage of singletons in London! Let's get you there straight away. I have all the legal documents for you to take ownership of your five new properties.

DRACULA
Wonderful.

They sit next to one another. Harker offers him a thick stack of legal papers to sign.

HARKER
So I'll just need your autograph here.

He offers a pen and points where to sign.

Side: Bosun & Captain

SCENE TWO

SFX: FOG HORN, WAVES CRASHING, LOUD WIND

Actor Four stands on a bench, holding a ship's wheel, Actor One throws on a seaweed covered poncho. Actors Two and Three hold SPRAY BOTTLES and spritz water into the air toward the scene.

START

CAPTAIN

(yelling over the storm)
Bosun! We're nearing the eye of the storm. Hoist the mizzen and raise the top sail!

BOSUN

(Irish, yelling over the storm)
What's that, Captain?

CAPTAIN

I said we're nearing the eye of the storm!

BOSUN

What, I can't hear you!

CAPTAIN

The blasted rain is coming down so hard!

Actors Two & Three spray directly at the Captain.

CAPTAIN

(to actors)
NOT THAT HARD!

Actors Two & Three exit.

BOSUN

What was that, sir?

CAPTAIN

Nevermind! What is the report today?

BOSUN

Due to high winds volleyball has been cancelled.

CAPTAIN

What else?

BOSUN

And...the buffet is down.

CAPTAIN

Damn it.

BOSUN

And you're gonna have to change
your own linens, if'n you don't
mind, sir.

CAPTAIN

What is this nonsense? We need all
hands on deck!

BOSUN

Sir, the men are not well!

CAPTAIN

How's that?

BOSUN

They've all taken ill!

CAPTAIN

How ill?

BOSUN

Dead, sir. Every last one!

CAPTAIN

Every single one?

BOSUN

All but you, me and the passenger.
He's been asleep all day. In fact,
he's slept every day since we've been
on the ship. I can only assume he's
overdone it with the Dramamine.

The wind picks up and storm rages.

CAPTAIN

Then, by God, bring him above deck.
The wind is picking up and we're
taking on water. I don't know how
much longer she'll hold in this
squall.

BOSUN

Aye aye, sir!

END

SOUND STOPS. LIGHT SHIFT.

Side: Lucy, Harker & Mina

Scene 3

LUCY

Mina on your back!

Mina desperately tries to brush it off.

LUCY

No the other side!

Renfield captures the spider and shoves it in his mouth.

RENFIELD

Get in my mouth you delicious
little crumpet.

LUCY

I thought you were working on that.

RENFIELD

(while eating)
It's my cheat day.

Renfield exits.

LUCY

Maybe not so much.

START

Jonathan enters.

HARKER

Is everything alright in here?

MINA

Apologies, Jonathan. My nerves got
the better of--

HARKER

Oh thank God, Lucy, you're alright.
Almost ready?

LUCY

Of course, darling.

MINA

I'm alright too, thanks.

HARKER

Great Mina.

(noticing Lucy)

Darling, you're not even dressed.
According to my schedule, we're due
downstairs in three minutes! How
does it look if we're late to our
own engagement party?

LUCY

Like our passion is so fiery, we've run off to some far flung land to live on berries and lovemaking. Like in one of those adventure stories. Wouldn't that be something?

HARKER

Something dangerous. Do you know unwashed berries contain parasites?

LUCY

I wasn't being literal. I wish you would relax, darling.

HARKER

I'm sorry. I am trying, you know?

LUCY

I know, my love.
(flirtatiously)
Come here, then. Give us a kiss.

HARKER

I don't see how that is going to--

Lucy kisses him.

HARKER

Ooh, that was nice. Thank you, darling.

LUCY

How about another?

HARKER

Well we do have another two minutes.

She kisses him three more times.

HARKER

We're wicked aren't we? Sorry, Mina.

MINA

Don't worry about me. I like to watch.

HARKER

(to Lucy)
What's all this sand in your hair?

He picks it out lovingly.

LUCY

I was down at the beach last night foraging for souvenirs from the wreck!

HARKER

At night? Are you out of your mind? There are all sorts of ruffians and thugs. They come out of the woodwork whenever a ship runs aground.

LUCY

Jonathan, you're sweet to worry about me, but you know there isn't any need to be so skittish.

HARKER

I can't help it. I worry about your safety. A woman shouldn't be out on her own after nightfall.

LUCY

That's silly.

HARKER

It's all a little close to home for my taste. Do you know my incredibly wealthy client Count Dracula was on that ship?

MINA

A Count? Is he single?!

HARKER

Was. Apparently he went down with the ship.

MINA

Why do bad things always happen to me?

LUCY

Mina!

MINA

Sorry. Poor man.

HARKER

He was so looking forward to England. And to meeting you, Lucy.

MINA
(resentful)
Naturally.

HARKER
He was rather impressed with your
skin care regime.

LUCY
Regime? It's just soap and water!

HARKER
Of course, beautiful inside and
out. Silver lining, I can sell
creepy old Withering Manor again!
And all those properties in London.
Double commission!

LUCY
How nice!

MINA
Yay. More good things happening for
my sister. Meantime, this mole on
my neck seems to be growing larger.

LUCY
Mina, will you give us a moment
alone?

Lucy and Jonathan canoodle on the bed.

MINA
No problem. I'll just head down to
the party, then.

LUCY
Wonderful.

MINA
There are quite a few handsome
gentlemen there. Some of your
former suitors!

LUCY
Have fun.

MINA
I'm hoping for sloppy seconds!

LUCY
Mina.

END

Going. |

MINA

Mina exits.

HARKER

My darling, you have a little more sand in your hair. Do you mind?

LUCY

Oh, leave it. People will think we've been rolling around on the beach.

HARKER

It's six degrees and raining. We'd end up in bed for a week.

LUCY

I would love a week in bed with you, Jonathan.

She goes to unbutton his shirt.

HARKER

You're a devil, you are. But we can't do this now!

LUCY

Why not?

HARKER

We have a room full of important guests waiting, including three judges, a barrister and a beadle.

Renfield pops his head in.

RENFIELD

Did someone say beetle?

LUCY AND HARKER

No!

Renfield pops his head out.

HARKER

Darling, please.

LUCY

(disappointed)
So I guess tonight is for all those important people, then.

*SIDE- Kitty, Dr. Westfeldt, Parker (playing Worthington/
Cavendish/Blavemercy)
& Mina*

Scene 4

DR. WESTFELDT

Alright, alright. Soft touch,
darling.

CAVENDISH

And where is your sister?

WINDSOR

I'm eager to bestow my well wishes.

MINA

Of course you are.

KITTY RUTHERFORD, a kleptomaniac mental patient turned maid,
by way of Mrs. Lovett, offers them champagne.

KITTY

START / Care for a top off, sir?

DR. WESTFELDT

Kitty, please go fetch Lucy and
Jonathan. You can tell the love
birds they have a restless crowd
down here.

KITTY

Yes, Dr. Westfeldt. Anyfink ewse I
can gitcha?

DR. WESTFELDT

You can get me my stethoscope. I
noticed it went missing after our
last check up.

KITTY

Yes, mister doctor, sir.

She slowly pulls the stethoscope from her apron pocket.

DR. WESTFELDT

I can't very well be expected to
cure your kleptomania without the
tools of my trade, can I?

KITTY

No, sir doctor mister.

DR. WESTFELDT

Run along then, Kitty.

She starts to go.

DR. WESTFELDT

Eh, eh! And leave the champagne.

She places the bottle on the table.

DR. WESTFELDT
And also, my watch.

She removes the watch from her apron, sheepishly hands it over and exits.

MINA
I, for one, think Kitty is making excellent progress.

WINDSOR
Sir, I must say, allowing your patients to live right here in your home? Really?

CAVENDISH
Is that not troublesome?

HAVEMERCY
Livin' with a bunch of fruit loops?

DR. WESTFELDT
Gentlemen, insanity is merely society's failure to recognize individuality and sparkle.

MINA
Father is an advocate for sparkle.

DR. WESTFELDT
I am. I love sparkles. I can't deny it.

WINDSOR
Be that as it may. I am not entirely comfortable with them.

MINA
Sparkles?

HAVEMERCY
No, crazy people.

CAVENDISH
We refuse to be served by these monsters!

MINA
These people are not monsters.

SFX: MUSIC STOPS. PARTY GOES SILENT.

MINA

They are suffering. They live a lonely existence, and no one is able to see them for their true worth. They are overlooked, under-acknowledged, and judged by a world obsessed with externals. So if none of you recognize their potential, then none of you are worthy to call yourself my suitor.

WINDSOR

We weren't.

CAVENDISH

We're here for your sister.

HAVEMERCY

In case she changes her mind.

MINA

Vultures. Get out of our house now. The only monsters here are you.

They leave, mumbling their disapprovals.

DR. WESTFELDT

Well done, Mina. I didn't know you had that in you.

MINA

(overwhelmed)

Neither did I. There are other things I wish I had in me.

DR. WESTFELDT

(coughs)

Mina.

MINA

But alas, I am destined to live my life unloved and alone. /

END

SFX: WOOSH

Dracula magically appears in the room, holding a cake. He SPRAYS FOG IN A CAN on himself for some extra drama.

DRACULA

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Count Dracula.

Side: Mina & Dracula

SFX: THUNDER, LIGHTNING

Scene 4

RENFIELD

Chef.

He leaves. Mina returns with two drinks.

ROMANTIC VIOLIN MUSIC

Start

MINA

(flirtatious, liquid courage)

I'm back! Down the hatch!

Mina drinks both drinks, while Dracula puts his cape back on.

MINA

Count, might I be so bold as to ask
you...for a dance?

DRACULA

You may; but full disclosure, I'm
not emotionally available right
now. My heart lies elsewhere.

MINA

I'll take what I can get.

DRACULA

Very well.

They bow and dance, slowly.

MINA

You're much livelier than my usual
dance partner.

DRACULA

And who is that?

MINA

The bench over there.

DRACULA

Has anyone ever told you your neck
is almost as beautiful as your
sister's?

MINA

(giggling)

Why, no! No, they haven't. They usually
comment on my thick fingers or extra tooth.

She beams. Dracula coughs.

DRACULA

You don't say.

MINA

I know! It's silly. Men are ever so predictable. But my neck! What a refreshing compliment.

DRACULA

The way it curves gently, from your chin to your lovely...mole, pitching it at just the right angle to show off your exquisite jugular.

MINA

You're not like all the other men in Whitby, are you?

DRACULA

Transylvania is very far from here. Simply put, I'm a stranger in a strange land.

MINA

(melting to him)

Funny. I've always felt that way myself.

DRACULA

Of course you have. All of us are alone, aren't we? Craving momentary comfort in the arms of one who will hold you tight, caress your skin, and take complete control of you.

Mina DROPS to bench, desperate for him.

MINA

(gutteral)

You wanna get outta here?

DRACULA

My house is just across town.

MINA

Good. I'll grab a bottle.

DRACULA

Don't bother. I'm suddenly thirsty for something else.

END

SFX: THUNDER, LIGHTNING

Sc. 5

SIDE: Van Helsing/Mina, Lucy, Harker, Dr. W/Renfield

LUCY

Drat! You're right. It's clearly more acute than that. It seems to have gone directly to her blood.

SFX: RUMBLE.

Dr. Westfeldt enters.

DR. WESTFELDT

Just finished testing her blood. The arsenic doesn't seem to have helped. Maybe we should get her some of that new "cocaine" everyone's so hyped up about.

LUCY

You think that's a good idea?

DR. WESTFELDT

Van Helsing will surely have insights. He's the most accomplished doctor in all of Germany. There's nothing he hasn't seen.

SFX: DOORBELL CHIMES

DR. WESTFELDT

Ah, speak of the devil. That'll be them now!

LUCY

Thank goodness. You hear that Mina? You're on your way to recovery, now that Dr. Van Helsing is here. And he came all the way from the Continent! Isn't that something?

DOCTOR VAN HELSING, a woman in her 40's with handsome face and sturdy comportment (a la Trunchbull), enters. It's the same performer who plays Mina.

VAN HELSING

Excuse me, Doctor Westfeldt?

DR. WESTFELDT

Hello there! So nice to meet you. You must be...Mrs. Van Helsing?

VAN HELSING

Doctor Van Helsing.

Start

DR. WESTFELDT

Yes, Doctor Van Helsing's wife. Is your husband lifting the heavy bags from the carriage?

VAN HELSING

I have no husband.

Beat. He starts LAUGHING again.

LUCY

Father!

DR. WESTFELDT

(sarcastic)

Ah, that famous German sense of humor! I'll go help him with the bags.

He leaves.

LUCY

Apologies, doctor. My father is under a great deal of stress with my sister's illness. Could you please take a look at her right now? Time is of the essence.

Van Helsing approaches the bed, looking under the covers.

VAN HELSING

She looks depleted. Any other symptoms?

LUCY

(taking stock)

She complains of terrible dreams, some... sexier than others, and a weakness, a bloodlessness, that confounds her doctors.

VAN HELSING

How long have these bite marks been visible?

HARKER

Bite marks?

VAN HELSING

Right where her carotid artery and jugular intersect.

Renfield pops his head in from proscenium. (We only see his head.)

RENFIELD

Did someone say insects?

HARKER, LUCY

No!

Renfield pops his head out. (Actor removes wig.)

LUCY

Where's my father.

Actor TWO immediately re-enters as...

DR. WESTFELDT

Sorry about that. Carriage seems to have gone.

VAN HELSING

Peculiar butler you have.

HARKER

He's also a patient.

DR. WESTFELDT

We're wasting precious time. Where is Dr. Van Helsing?

VAN HELSING

I am here.

DR. WESTFELDT

No, you're not! I sent for Doctor Jean (Jhhon) Van Helsing. As in, Jean (Jhhon) Valjean (Val-Jhhon.)

VAN HELSING

No, you sent for Doctor Jean (Gene) Van Helsing. As in...Jean (Gene) Val-Gene.

DR. WESTFELDT

So I sent for...a lady doctor?

VAN HELSING

Correct.

Dr. Westfeldt starts laughing.

VAN HELSING (CONT'D)

I wouldn't be laughing if I were you. Your daughter is in grave danger. This is no ordinary insect bite.

DR. WESTFELDT

What do you mean?

VAN HELSING

It appears she may have been
bitten...by something more
sinister.

SFX: MUSICAL STING. WOLVES HOWL.

VAN HELSING

(interrogating)

Have any of you been out of the
country?

HARKER

I was in Eastern Europe.

VAN HELSING

Did you bring back any fruits or
vegetables?

HARKER

(pulls out the bag of garlic)

Just this garlic from the farmers
market in Bucharest. But she wasn't
exposed to it.

VAN HELSING

Anything else? Maybe something from
Duty Free?

HARKER

No.

VAN HELSING

(dead serious)

Good. The savings are minimal. Have
you noticed anything or anyone
unusual in the area lately?

HARKER

Just the regular, workaday English
life. Soggy sandwiches, lots of
rain, ghost ship washed up on
shore. Nothing out of the ordinary.

VAN HELSING

Hold on. What was that?

HARKER

Nothing out of the ordinary.

VAN HELSING

No, go back a word or two.

HARKER

Shore. On. Up. Washed?

VAN HELSING

Continue--

HARKER

Ship. Ghost?

VAN HELSING

A ghost ship! The very thing. Was there a manifest?

LUCY

Yes! I found it on the beach. There was no cargo at all, apart from some bird seed, canned tuna, and six coffins of Transylvanian earth. Nothing out of the ordinary.

VAN HELSING

Hold on. What was that?

LUCY

Nothing out of the ordinary.

VAN HELSING

No, go back a word or two.

LUCY

Earth. Transylvanian. Of?

VAN HELSING

Continue--

LUCY

Coffins. Six?

VAN HELSING

Six coffins! That could be the key.

DR. WESTFELDT

They key to what? The make up counter at Selfridge's? This female medicine is not for me, I'm afraid. I'm going out to pick up some leeches and tape worms to drain her evil humours. Like a real doctor. I'll be back before nightfall./

END

He exits.

SIDE: Lucy & Dracula

Scene 6

HARKER

I want to.

LUCY

Then stop being so frightened of things that might be and start living in the present.

HARKER

Of course I want to live in the present, and I will...very soon!

LUCY

What if I cannot wait any longer? What if I do not wish to negotiate every decision until I'm blue in the face? What if, just once, I want to move through life without fear, with a courageous partner rather than a coward.

Beat. They share a look.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I didn't mean--

HARKER

Yes you did.

LUCY

Jonathan, please--

HARKER

No. If that's what you want, then you should have it. And not with a tuppenny coward.

Harker exits.

LUCY

Jonathan, wait!

Start SFX: GUST OF WIND. Dracula appears magically.

DRACULA

(urgently)

How is she holding up?

LUCY

Count! You frightened me. Where did you come from?

DRACULA

I'm here to help. What can I do?

LUCY

I've got it covered for now, but I can't tell you how much it means to me that you offered.

DRACULA

My heart is breaking for you and your family.

LUCY

Thank you. She's got a strong spirit. She'll pull through.

DRACULA

But if she doesn't...

LUCY

She will.

DRACULA

But if she doesn't, her death will not have been in vain.

LUCY

I don't know how people view death where you come from, but in England it is nothing short of a tragedy when it comes so early to a beautiful young girl.

DRACULA

Are we still talking about Mina?

LUCY

Yes of course!

DRACULA

Of course, yes! Also, I'd like to pick up my cake plate, if you don't mind. It's Wedgwood.

LUCY

Yes I'm sorry, I'm just a little unnerved right now. Jonathan and I--

DRACULA

I heard.

LUCY

How did you--

DRACULA

You are a strong courageous woman.
You deserve a strong courageous
man.

MUSIC. Dracula draws closer to her.

LUCY

What are you doing?

DRACULA

Offering you a gift.

He hands her a STRANGE AND EXOTIC FLOWER.

LUCY

It looks like. No, it couldn't be.
Is this a...a Germanicus Vita
Vamperious?

DRACULA

It is indeed.

LUCY

I studied them at Oxford. The books
say they're extinct.

DRACULA

And yet here it is. Take comfort
knowing there is more to life than
that which we see in the light of
day.

LUCY

I thought it might be a sundew or a
waterwheel, but this is clearly
carnivorous.

SFX: CHOMP! The flower SNAPS closed, making Lucy's finger
bleed.

LUCY

Ooof! Will you look at that? I'm
bleeding.

She holds her finger up to him, then looks at it, then looks
from afar, while Dracula follows the bloody finger.

LUCY

(excited)
Isn't that something?

DRACULA
(salivating)
Something delicious.

He moves in on her, thirsty for her blood.

LUCY
What was that?

DRACULA
Auspicious. Something auspicious: I
happen to have a handkerchief.

He hands it to her, she wipes her finger on it.

LUCY
Thank you so much. I'll have this
washed and ironed and return it to
you next week.

DRACULA
Don't you dare! I mean, I wouldn't
hear of it. I'll just take that
back from you.

LUCY
No, please. It's no problem.

DRACULA
Really, I insist.

LUCY
But aren't you worried about the
germs--?

DRACULA
Give it here! Now!

He jerks it out of her hand, lunges to the ground inhaling it
in need of a fix.

LUCY
Where did that come from?

DRACULA
You inspire it in me. Lucy - fate
has dealt me a torturous hand.
Being near you only reminds me of
what I don't have. /

END

LUCY
You have everything.

Side: Gravedigger, Van Helsing & Dr. Westfeldt

GRAVEDIGGER

Scene 8

Start

(cockney)

Careful, misses. Strange goings on
in here tonight.

VAN HELSING

What do you mean?

DR. WESTFELDT

Grave robbers? Hooligans?

GRAVEDIGGER

No, sir. But most peculiar fink. I
just started me night shift when I
noticed what looked like a cape
fluttering in the wind. I ran
outside to see what it was, and I
could have swore it were the grim
reaper himself. All in black. And
then suddenly, 'e just lifted off
the ground and flew into the sky,
like 'e was a bird or, or...a bat
or somefink...

VAN HELSING

A bat? Are you sure?

GRAVEDIGGER

Troof be told, I am very drunk.

VAN HELSING

Still. Which way did he fly?

Gravedigger points.

GRAVEDIGGER

Towards Withering Manor.

VAN HELSING

Of course! Dracula!

DR. WESTFELDT

Thank you for your help, old man.

GRAVEDIGGER

I'm twenty-six. /

END

SUSPENSE MUSIC

SFX: WOLF HOWL, MUSIC

Side: Renfield/Dr. W, Harker, Van Helsing/Mina & Lucy

HARKER

Scene 12

Nothing!

DR. WESTFELDT

To Knightsbridge!

SFX: WIND SHEAR

As they all RUN DOWNSTAGE AND JUMP, landing in:

DR. WESTFELDT

He wasn't there, but we did buy some beautiful clothing at Harrods!

VAN HELSING

We've been through all the properties. Only one remains.

DR. WESTFELDT

To Abbey Road!

SFX: WIND SHEAR

They jump up, landing in position, approximating the Beatle's album cover photo.

LUCY

Abbey Road.

HARKER

It certainly is long and winding.

DR. WESTFELDT

With a spiffy view of the Octopus' Garden in the shade.

Start

VAN HELSING

Let it be! We get it. The Beatles.

Westfeldt SPINS AROUND, ADDS WIG AND LOWERS PIPE TO BECOME RENFIELD.

RENFIELD

Did someone say beetles?

ALL

Renfield!

HARKER

Stay away from her! I command you.

VAN HELSING

What have you done with Wallace?

RENFIELD

I don't know what you're talking about.

He SPINS AROUND, REMOVES WIG, RAISES PIPE TO BECOME WESTFELDT.

DR. WESTFELDT

I've just gone to the loo. Popping out for a smoke now. Won't be a moment.

He SPINS AROUND, ADDS WIG TO BECOME RENFIELD.

LUCY

Renfield, where have you been?

RENFIELD

At the mercy of the Count.

VAN HELSING

Well it ends now.

He SPINS AROUND, REMOVES WIG, RAISES PIPE TO BECOME WESTFELDT.

DR. WESTFELDT

And my dear Mina can return to us.

He SPINS AROUND, ADDS WIG AND LOWERS PIPE TO BECOME RENFIELD.

RENFIELD

Will you take me back, Doctor? Can you ever forgive my trespasses?

He SPINS AROUND, REMOVES WIG, RAISES PIPE TO BECOME WESTFELDT.

DR. WESTFELDT

Of course, James, of course.

VAN HELSING

Focus!

DR. WESTFELDT

Okey-dokey!

He SPINS AROUND, ADDS WIG AND LOWERS PIPE TO BECOME RENFIELD.

RENFIELD

END

Yes mum! /