# The Mystery of Renfield & Dracula

# By Andrew Loudon

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DR SEWARD and two NURSES mingle with the audience as they enter. They busy themselves taking notes and seating the audience, in the manner of keeping order in an asylum. RENFIELD is on stage, chained in his cell.

# Dr Seward's Private asylum

RENFIELD

HELP! HELP! HELP ME!!

NURSE 1

Shh! Calm down! Calm down.

RENFIELD

He wants their souls!

NURSE 2

Mr Renfield, Please!

RENFIELD

He is here!

NURSE 1

Settle down, now. Relax.

NURSE 2

Will you please be quiet!

NURSE 1

Dr Seward!

RENFIELD

He is here!

NURSE 1

Who, Dr Seward?

RENFIELD

NO! Not Dr Seward! HE is HERE!

DR SEWARD enters.

NURSE 1

Dr Seward.

DR SEWARD

Good evening, nurse.

RENFIELD

Buzz, buzz, buzz.

NURSE 2

Good evening, Dr Seward.

DR SEWARD

Good evening.

RENFIELD

Like flies around sugar.

NURSE 2

We've been trying to calm him down, but he's disturbing the whole ward.

DR SEWARD

Please be quiet, Mr Renfield. You are disturbing the other patients.

RENFIELD

I don't want to talk to you. You don't count. The master is here.

NURSE 2

Oh, charming.

RENFIELD

He wants your soul!

DR SEWARD

Thank you, nurse, I'll take charge from here.

NURSE 2

I'd better check on the other patients.

DR SEWARD

Yes, fine, thank you.

NURSE 2

(smiling, simpering)
Thank you, doctor.

NURSE 2 exits.

NURSE 1

Now, Mr Renfield...

RENFIELD

Ssh! Don't move.

DR SEWARD

Relax, Mr Renfield. Try to relax. Remember our relaxation techniques. Let your arms and legs relax and begin to feel very heavy... NURSE 1

Thank you, doctor.

Pleased, RENFIELD displays his catch in the palm of his hand, before going to add it to his collection.

RENFIELD

See! A fly! I have thirty now!

DR SEWARD

Yes, of course, your... collection of flies.

RENFIELD

I don't want their souls!

DR SEWARD

Do flies have souls?

RENFIELD

I want to feed them to the spiders!

DR SEWARD

Fascinating.

RENFIELD

How many do you have? In your collection?

DR SEWARD

I don't...

RENFIELD

I think you have two. I saw you catch them.

RENFIELD indicates the NURSES. An awkward pause.

DR SEWARD

Thank you, nurse. That will be all.

NURSE 1

Yes, doctor.

DR SEWARD

Oh, and could you fetch Mr Renfield's medication?

NURSE 1 exits.

RENFIELD

Twilight.

DR SEWARD

Twilight?

Yes, Dr Seward. Twilight. The time between day and night. It's when he comes.

DR SEWARD

Who?

RENFIELD

Him. He was here again.

DR SEWARD

We have spoken about this. You must learn to know the difference between things that are real and things that are in your dreams.

RENFIELD

I wasn't dreaming, he was here.

DR SEWARD

You're seeing things again?

RENFIELD

No! I didn't just see him. I felt his presence. I smelt him. He spoke to me.

DR SEWARD

I see. And what did he say to you?

RENFIELD

He has taken a prisoner, just as you have taken me prisoner.

DR SEWARD

You are not a prisoner. You are here to get better. To learn to distinguish between reality and

RENFIELD

He has summoned Jonathan Harker to his castle.

DR SEWARD

Who?

RENFIELD

Jonathan Harker.

DR SEWARD

Who's he?

A young man. A solicitor. His fiancee will miss him terribly.

DR SEWARD

And how do you know this Jonathan Harker?

RENFIELD

I don't.

NURSE 1 enters and gives RENFIELD an injection.

DR SEWARD

I see. I must attend to the other patients, Mr Renfield. Try to rest peacefully tonight. Your medication will help you to sleep.

#### SONG - TWILIGHT

RENFIELD

He has summoned Jonathan to his castle. Jonathan must go. His employer has sent him. He has been journeying for many days and nights. Eastwards, ever eastwards, to Transylvania.

#### TRANSYLAVANIA

The sound of horses hooves galloping through the snow, with howling wolves. RENFIELD howls. The two NURSES become horses, as JONATHAN sits in the carriage, next to DRACULA.

DRACULA

Get along! Move! MOVE!
Faster!

JONATHAN

What are those strange lights?

RENFIELD howls.

DRACULA

Listen to the wolves, the children of the night. What music they make.

DRACULA silences RENFIELD's howls with a sweeping gesture.

DRACULA (CONT'D)

SILENCE! Enough!

Dracula seems to control the wolves! It is midnight when they reach their destination. Castle Dracula...

DRACULA

Whoa there! Whoa!

RENFIELD

...a vast ruined castle, from whose tall black windows comes no ray of light.

DRACULA

Welcome to my house. Enter freely and of your own will.

#### DRACULA'S CASTLE

JONATHAN

Count Dracula?

DRACULA

I am Dracula. I bid you welcome Jonathan Harker. The night air is chill and you must need to eat.

JONATHAN

But, are your servants not asleep at this hour?

DRACULA

Servants? No, it is only me here. And you, of course.

JONATHAN

Of course.

DRACULA

Come, and enjoy our Transylvanian delicacy. Goulash of Goat.

JONATHAN eats politely, but chokes on the food.

JONATHAN

Agh! Oh! It's... quite spicy!

DRACULA

Yes, that is the paprika.

JONATHAN tries to eat, but is distracted by the sight of an eye on the plate.

JONATHAN

What is that?

DRACULA

A goat's eye. Delicious.

JONATHAN

It seems to be looking at me...

DRACULA

Yes. Some say that the goulash enjoys seeing you eat it.

JONATHAN

Is that a goat's ear?

DRACULA

Yes. The goulash enjoys the sounds of being eaten...

JONATHAN

What's that?

DRACULA

A tongue.

JONATHAN

Goat's tongue?

DRACULA

Yes. The goulash enjoys tasting you as it is eaten.

JONATHAN

Thank you for your hospitality. The food was... delicious... but I really must sleep.

DRACULA

I have the recipe, if you would like.

JONATHAN

NO! No, thank you so much, I must -

DRACULA

But you must be tired. Your bedroom is all ready. Sleep as late as you want. I have to be away until late. Sleep well and dream well.

DRACULA exits. JONATHAN begins to sleep.

# DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM

NURSE 2 enters, looking for NURSE 1.

NURSE 2

Where have you been? You're needed on the ward.

NURSE 1

I'm just checking on him. He seems to be sleeping peacefully.

NURSE 2

Makes a bloody change.

RENFIELD

(in his sleep)

I want their blood!

NURSE 2

He gives me the creeps.

NURSE 1

He just needs a bit of attention.

RENFIELD

(in his sleep)

I want their blood!

NURSE 2

(to the sleeping

RENFIELD)

Not much blood in spiders!

NURSE 1

Spiders? I thought he was collecting flies.

RENFIELD wakes from his sleep.

RENFIELD

No! I fed the flies to the spiders.

NURSE 1

Why?

RENFIELD

I don't want their souls buzzing round me.

NURSE 1

So now you're collecting spiders?

No, birds.

NURSE 1

Birds?

RENFIELD

I fed the spiders to the birds.

NURSE 2

So let me guess, now you're collecting birds.

RENFIELD

Yes. What's the use of spiders? There isn't anything in them to eat or...

NURSE 1

Drink?

NURSE 2

Lovely.

NURSE 1

Please... I'll deal with him.

NURSE 2

Well hurry up. Dr Seward needs you on the ward.

NURSE 2 exits.

RENFIELD

Run along. He needs you.

NURSE 1 exits, shaking her head.

RENFIELD (CONT'D)

Jonathan did sleep very well and very late. He decided to explore the castle, but so many doors are locked.

JONATHAN explores the castle but cannot find a way out.

JONATHAN

They're all locked! Every door to the outside world is locked.

He runs to look out of a window.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

And the walls are so steep. A thousand feet or more. There's

no way out. I may as well be a prisoner.

RENFIELD

Count Dracula did not return until darkness fell.

### DRACULA'S CASTLE

JONATHAN sits dejected, reading. DRACULA enters.

DRACULA

I am glad you found your way into my library. You may go anywhere you wish in the castle, except where the doors are locked.

JONATHAN

Yes, but -

DRACULA

We are in Transylvania, and Transylvania is not England. Our ways are not your ways. Do you find our ways strange?

JONATHAN

No, well yes. I don't really know, there seems to be nobody else here.

DRACULA

My books are my friends. I only know your language through books.

JONATHAN

You speak English perfectly.

DRACULA

Thank you, you flatter me. You see, I long to go through the crowded streets of your mighty London, to share its life, its change, its death. So, you will help me to go to England?

JONATHAN

You wish to buy a house, I understand?

DRACULA

Yes, you will help me with the paperwork.

JONATHAN

Yes, of course.

DRACULA

I wish to find a house with a history. I am from an old family.

JONATHAN

I have details of some properties that suit your requests.

DRACULA

I love the shade and the shadow.

JONATHAN

Carfax Abbey. It is one of our more unusual properties. A ruin...

DRACULA

Yes.

JONATHAN

In a secluded spot, as you desired.

DRACULA

Perfect! It's old and big. It would suit my needs.

JONATHAN

It would need some work...

DRACULA

A house cannot be made habitable in a day. After all, how few days go to make up a century? We Transylvanian nobles love not our bones to lie with the common dead.

JONATHAN

(baffled)

I see. It is only overlooked by one property - a lunatic asylum - oh, er, but er... It is not, however, visible from the grounds.

DRACULA

Good. You shall stay here with me a while. I wish to learn all about England. Do you have a family there?

JONATHAN

Not yet, though I am engaged to be married.

DRACULA

Ah! And what is the name of your fiancee, my young friend?

JONATHAN

Mina.

DRACULA

Mina. A pretty name. You must write to her. Tell her that you intend to stay another month here.

JONATHAN

Do you wish me to stay so long?

DRACULA

I desire it much. I shall take no refusal. Your employer promised me that he would send me a man who would help me complete my work.

JONATHAN

Yes, of course.

DRACULA

I have to leave now. But let me advise you, my friend. No, let me warn you. Should you leave these rooms, DO NOT go to sleep in any other part of the castle. It is old, and has many memories, and there are bad dreams for those who sleep unwisely. Be warned!

DRACULA exits. As soon as he has left the room, JONATHAN jumps up to watch DRACULA from a distance, first through the doorway, then through the window.

#### DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM/ DRACULA'S CASTLE

JONATHAN

What's that? In the window. It's him, Dracula, he's...

RENFIELD

He's climbing out of the window!

JONATHAN

He's crawling down the walls...

RENFIELD

...with his cloak spreading out around him like great wings.

JONATHAN

What manner of man is this, or creature, in the shape of a man?

RENFIELD

Like a lizard, descending hundreds of feet down. Then...

JONATHAN

He's vanished! Not a sign of him, but...

RENFIELD

A bat, fluttering into the night.

JONATHAN

He is gone for the night. I must find a way out. I shall try every last door.

JONATHAN frantically searches for an open door or window.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

No! Locked! Locked! No! AH! This one - it's heavy - but it's not locked.

JONATHAN opens the door and enters the room. Creaking hinges and magnified door sounds.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

A lady's bedroom...

RENFIELD

...long-forgotten, and covered with spiders' webs.

JONATHAN

Bats. Everywhere. Bats.

RENFIELD

Bats. Everywhere. Flickering in the moonlight. Round and round.

JONATHAN

Round and round.

RENFIELD

Round and round.

JONATHAN

(yawning)

I feel so heavy.

RENFIELD

Round and round.

JONATHAN

So tired.

RENFIELD

Round and round.

JONATHAN

I must lie down.

RENFIELD

Bats. Everywhere. Bats.

Two giggling VAMPIRE LADIES float in, licking their lips.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

Go on! You are first, I shall follow. It is your right to begin.

VAMPIRE LADY 2

He is young and strong. There are kisses for both of us.

JONATHAN

Who? Are you? I'm so tired.

VAMPIRE LADY 1 tantalises JONATHAN. She licks her fangs and breathes on his neck. VAMPIRE LADY 2 dances hypnotically.

VAMPIRE LADY 2

Do you feel sweet hot breath on your perfect skin?

JONATHAN

Cannot move...

VAMPIRE LADY 2

Honey-sweet breath on your throat.

JONATHAN

Bitter...

VAMPIRE LADY 2

Ahh, the moisture shining on those scarlet lips.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

The skin on your throat, tingling -

VAMPIRE LADY 2 Tingling, as the flesh does, when the hand that is to tickle it approaches nearer, nearer.

VAMPIRE 1 kneels over him, gloating. Unseen by them, DRACULA enters, and silently watches. He carries a bag.

> VAMPIRE LADY 1 Soft, shivering touch of lips,

VAMPIRE LADY 2 on the super sensitive skin of your throat, two sharp teeth, just touching and waiting in ecstasy.

VAMPIRE 1 is poised to bite. VAMPIRE 2 watches in delight. DRACULA drops his bag and grabs VAMPIRE 1 by the throat.

DRACULA

Get back! This man belongs to me! How dare you touch him? How dare you look on him, when I have forbidden it? Keep away from him!

VAMPIRE LADY 2 You don't understand. You never loved.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

You never love!

DRACULA

Yes, I can love. You know that. When I am done with him, you shall kiss him at your will. Now go!

VAMPIRE LADY 2 Are we to have nothing tonight?

VAMPIRE LADY 1 What's in the bag?

DRACULA

Take it.

VAMPIRE LADY 1 picks up the bag and takes out a fleshy object, dripping with blood. The VAMPIRE LADIES feast on the flesh. JONATHAN faints. The VAMPIRES disappear. Bat sounds. DRACULA carries the sleeping JONATHAN to his bed.

# DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM/ DRACULA'S CASTLE

RENFIELD

The next morning, Jonathan awoke in his own bed. Was it all a dream?

JONATHAN

I must escape! If only I could get into his room. I have never seen him in daylight. So...if I can just climb in through his window...

RENFIELD

Jonathan crawled from his window.

JONATHAN

If I can get down to his
window...

RENFIELD

The stones were rough, and time had washed away the mortar between them. At last, Jonathan slid his feet in through Dracula's window.

JONATHAN frantically checks to see if the coast is clear.

JONATHAN

Thank God! There's no sign of him!

RENFIELD

A stone passage led to a circular stairway, which went steeply down.

JONATHAN

So dark. And that sickly smell...

RENFIELD

At the bottom, was a dark tunnel...

JONATHAN

It smells like...

RENFIELD

At last, he reached the end.

JONATHAN

Death!

Jonathan found himself in an old ruined chapel.

JONATHAN

A chapel...

RENFIELD

With a graveyard.

JONATHAN

With a graveyard...

JONATHAN discovers a "coffin"

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

And a coffin.

JONATHAN slowly opens the coffin, to reveal DRACULA, still. JONATHAN leaps back in horror.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

Aaah! Is he dead, or asleep?

DRACULA is motionless. JONATHAN creeps back to investigate.

RENFIELD

His eyes, though dead, are full of hate. His lips are as red as ever.

JONATHAN

But no breath, no heartbeat. I must rid the world of this monster!

JONATHAN looks round for a weapon and finds a shovel.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

I must destroy him!

DRACULA suddenly sits up, staring hatefully. JONATHAN screams, drops the shovel and runs. DRACULA watches him go.

# DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM/ DRACULA'S CASTLE

RENFIELD

Jonathan waited for night to fall. He watched, curiously, as a band of Gypsies arrived.

JONATHAN

Help! Help! You down there!

RENFIELD

They just ignored him.

JONATHAN

Hey! Help! What are you doing?

RENFIELD

They packed fifty coffins, filled with Transylvanian soil, onto Dracula's carriages, and left.

JONATHAN slumps, forlorn. DRACULA enters.

DRACULA

Good evening, my friend.

JONATHAN

Good... evening.

DRACULA

Do you hear them?

JONATHAN

Who?

DRACULA

The gypsies.

JONATHAN

I saw them earlier. But they left some time ago.

DRACULA

They are seven miles away now.

JONATHAN

How do you know?

DRACULA

I hear them.

JONATHAN

How?

DRACULA

I am... of the ancient people, descended from Attila and the Huns. We are superior.

JONATHAN

I saw them taking coffins. Fifty of them.

DRACULA

They are here to do my bidding.

JONATHAN

Why?

DRACULA

They are my cargo.

JONATHAN

Your cargo?

DRACULA

Enough! Tomorrow, my friend, we must part. In the morning, I shall already be gone, but all will be ready for you.

JONATHAN

Why may I not go tonight?

DRACULA

Because, dear sir, my coachman and horses are away on a mission.

JONATHAN

But I can walk. I want to get away at once.

DRACULA

And your baggage?

JONATHAN

I do not care about it.

DRACULA

Come with me, my dear young friend. I am sad at your sudden desire to leave, but... Come!

DRACULA leads JONATHAN to the door and opens it. The sound of a large door opening into a whistling wind. RENFIELD howls like a wolf and VAMPIRE LADIES laugh, off stage.

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Listen!

VAMPIRE LADY 1 (O.S.)

Let me kiss him!

VAMPIRE LADY 2 (O.S.)

It is my turn to kiss him.

VAMPIRE LADY 1 (O.S.)

NO! It is mine.

DRACULA

Not an hour shall you be in my house against your will.

JONATHAN

Shut the door! I shall wait until morning.

DRACULA

Very well, my friend. I hope I shall see you at Castle Dracula again, sometime.

JONATHAN

How shall I be able to leave tomorrow, if you will be gone? The doors are locked. There is no way out. Must I climb down the walls?

DRACULA

The walls are too steep. You would certainly fall to your death. Good night, my friend. Sleep well.

DRACULA kisses his hand to JONATHAN, smiling. As JONATHAN exits, he hears DRACULA talking to the wolves and Vampires.

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Back! Your time is not yet come. Have patience! Tonight is mine. Tomorrow night, he is yours!

VAMPIRE LADIES' laughter.

#### WHITBY - MAYDAY FAIR

RENFIELD erects a May Pole. MINA and LUCY, masked, dance around it, singing traditional English song.

LUCY

My dearest Mina, it is a blessing to see you. It has been too long.

MINA

Lucy, there is no-one in this world with whom I would rather spend a holiday.

LUCY

No-one?

MINA

Except my beloved Jonathan.

LUCY

Tell me, what news of Jonathan? When are you to be married?

MINA

Lucy, I have not heard a word from him.

LUCY

But Jonathan dotes on you.

MINA

I know, that's why I am so worried. He has been in Transylvania for weeks, and still no word.

LUCY

Try not to worry. All will be well, I am sure.

MINA

I fear for his very life. Something is wrong. I know it.

LUCY

Oh Mina. I shall distract you from your woes, by telling you of mine.

MINA

Yes, do.

LUCY

Here am I, nearly twenty, and yet I never had a proposal till today, and today I had three.

Just fancy! Three proposals in one day! Isn't it awful! I feel really and truly sorry, for two of the poor fellows. Oh,

Mina, I am so happy that I don't know what to do with myself.

And three proposals!

MINA

Lucy, who are all these men?

LUCY

Well, the first was an American, Quincey Morris. So handsome. Look, he left his hat! Put it on!

She produces his hat. MINA puts on Quincey Morris's cowboy hat and impersonates a swaggering American walk.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Ha ha! That's it! Very good.

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

Miss Lucy, I know I ain't good enough to ask...

MINA takes off the hat.

LUCY

Don't stop! My dearest Mina, it's so good, it's as if he were here.

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

Why, thank you, ma'am.

LUCY

How did he propose? You kneel here and tell me.

MINA laughs and kneels to propose.

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

Lucy. Won't you just hitch up alongside of me and let us go down the long road together, driving in double harness?

LUCY

I am so sorry, but there is some one else I love, though he has not told yet me that he loves me.

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

My dear, I'm going to have a pretty lonely walk through this life. Won't you give me one kiss? It'll be something happy to remember.

LUCY

Mr. Morris!

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

You can, if you like. That other fellow hasn't spoken up yet.

LUCY

That was brave and sweet of him, wasn't it? And he was so sad, so I leant over and I kissed him.

MINA (AS QUINCEY MORRIS)

Little girl, thank you and goodbye.

MINA leaves as Quincey, then returns, as herself, laughing.

LUCY

Oh, if I were free, I would worship the ground he treads on.

MINA

What about number two?

LUCY

Well, number two came just before lunch. I told you about him, Dr. Seward, the lunatic asylum man.

MINA

Ah, yes.

LUCY

He told me how dear I was to  $\mbox{him...}$ 

DR SEWARD enters to propose. MINA looks on.

DR SEWARD

Lucy, though I have known you so little, my life would be so much better with you to help and cheer me up. I don't know what I'd do if you did not care for me...

LUCY

(crying)

I... I am so sorry...

DR SEWARD

I am a brute. I understand it is not simple for you. But could you love me, in time?

LUCY shakes her head. DR SEWARD is visibly shaken.

LUCY

There is someone else. I am sorry.

DR SEWARD

I only hope that you will be happy. If you ever want a friend, count on me. Please, let me show you out.

They pass RENFIELD on their way out.

RENFIELD

Good evening, Doctor Seward.

DR SEWARD

Good evening, Mr Renfield.

RENFIELD

Good evening, Miss Lucy.

LUCY

How do you know my name?

RENFIELD

Let me look at you, Lucy. Come here. Let me touch your hand.

LUCY seems unable to resist his summons.

DR SEWARD

Be careful, he may be dangerous.

LUCY

He's not dangerous.

RENFIELD

You want her soul.

DR SEWARD

No.

RENFIELD

You want her blood.

DR SEWARD

NO!

RENFIELD

What is it you want, then?!

LUCY

Dr Seward, please, I have to go.

DR SEWARD

Yes, of course, Lucy. Don't worry about him. He's an unusual case. Please, call me if you need me.

DR SEWARD exits.

MINA

Poor Doctor Seward. Come, Lucy, tell me about the third proposal?

LUCY

Oh, I don't need to tell you about number three, do I?

MINA

Yes!

LUCY

It was Arthur.

MTNA

Arthur Holmwood - the nobleman?

ARTHUR enters, and bends down on one knee.

LUCY

(to Mina)

Oh, yes! My beloved Arthur.

ARTHUR

Lucy, will you marry me?

LUCY

Yes! Arthur, I don't know what I have done to deserve you.

They embrace and kiss. MINA exits.

ARTHUR

Oh Lucy! I love you.

LUCY

I am grateful to God for sending me such a husband, and such a friend.

ARTHUR

I shall see you on your return from Whitby. Enjoy your holiday, my darling.

# WHITBY

A thunderclap. Lightning. The company perform a movement sequence to represent the ship and the storm, using fabrics.

RENFIELD

A great storm broke over Whitby, the following day.

MINA

Lucy, quick, we must find shelter.

LUCY

Oh, Mina, look! See! There's a ship out there.

MINA

Where? I can't see anything through this fog.

LUCY

There! They shall surely perish in this tempest.

RENFIELD

The waves rose in growing fury, till the sea was like a roaring and devouring monster.

MINA

No, look! It's a miracle, the ship - it's blowing into the harbour!

LUCY

They're saved.

MINA

Who?

LUCY

All those men on board.

MINA

But Lucy, look! There is nobody on board! Except...

LUCY

Oh, Mina.

A skeleton swings into view, lit by UV.

MINA

Oh, Lord have mercy!

RENFIELD

Tied to the ship's wheel was a corpse. It's drooping head swung horribly with each motion of the ship. There was no other sign of life.

MINA

That ship was steered by the hand of a dead man.

LUCY

Oh!

MINA

Come, Lucy, it is late. Let us go home and sleep. You will feel better in the morning.

LUCY and MINA comfort each other as they exit.

RENFIELD

The harbour workers unloaded the ship's cargo - fifty coffins, to be delivered to Carfax Abbey, London. And night fell.

Darkness falls. DRACULA emerges from the ship/coffin.

DRACULA

Ah! To be free again. On English soil at last. Now come to me, sleeping one. No need to wake. Just come.

Dead Blackout. Pause. In the dark, we suddenly hear a scream and a commotion.

MTNA

LUCY! Lucy! Lucy, where are you? Oh dear God. Lucy! She cannot be far. She is only in her night dress. But where can she have gone? Lucy! LUCY!

In ghostly moonlight, LUCY glides across the stage, sleepwalking, in her nightdress towards the waiting DRACULA. They meet and stare into each others eyes.

Dead Blackout. Bat noises. DRACULA exits.

MINA (CONT'D)

LUCY!

Lights fade up to reveal MINA, over LUCY's slumped body.

MINA (CONT'D)

Lucy! Wake up! What are you doing out here on the cliffs?

Lucy moans and begins to wake.

LUCY

His red eyes...

MINA

Lucy, you've been walking in your sleep. Do you remember anything? I thought I saw - somebody else...

LUCY

Mina.

MINA

Yes.

LUCY

Please don't tell anybody that I've been sleepwalking.

MINA

Of course not, if you don't want me to. Oh, look, you're bleeding.

LUCY tries to conceal her throat.

LUCY

It's nothing. I cannot even
feel it.

MINA

Two little cuts in your neck. Just here, more like two tiny holes.

LUCY

It was a dream, but it was real.

MINA

Come on, you must be cold.

MINA helps LUCY, as they exit.

# DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM

RENFIELD

The Master is at hand! I am here to do your bidding, Master. I am your slave, and you will reward me, for I shall be faithful. I have worshipped you so long.

RENFIELD breaks free from his chains, and gleefully exits through the audience.

### WHITBY

MINA

Lucy, wake up! Oh, such a wonderful morning! And such wonderful news! Jonathan is

alive. I must go to him at once.

LUCY

Yes, oh, how wonderful, of course you must go to him.

MINA

But I don't want to leave you.

LUCY

Mina, you must.

MINA

Do you feel stronger this morning?

LUCY

I must confess, I feel weaker. But Arthur is coming to look after me. So you must go to Jonathan.

MINA

Let me look at your neck.

LUCY

(resisting)

It's nothing!

MINA

Strange. Still there. Two fresh wounds. Tiny little wounds.

LUCY

How is Jonathan?

MINA

I fear he has some sort of brain fever. Or some terrible shock. He does not remember anything that happened in Transylvania.

LUCY

I'm so sorry.

MINA

Fear not. He shall recover. I shall nurse him back to health.

LUCY

Mina...

MINA

Yes.

LUCY

I cannot remember last night.

MINA

Nothing at all?

LUCY

I have a vague memory of something tall and dark with red eyes, and something very sweet and very bitter all around me. And then I seemed to be sinking into deep green water, and there was a singing in my ears, as I have heard there is to drowning men. My soul seemed to go out from my body, and there was an agonizing feeling, as if I were in an earthquake. I came back and found you shaking my body. I saw you do it before I felt you.

MINA

Arthur will be here soon. Rest now. Rest, and you will feel stronger. I must go to Jonathan. Good bye, Lucy.

LUCY

Good bye.

# DR SEWARD'S PRIVATE ASYLUM

RENFIELD is chained and put back in his cell by DR SEWARD.

RENFIELD

I shall be patient, Master. It is coming, coming!

DR SEWARD

Why did you try to escape?

RENFIELD

I don't want to talk to you. You don't count now.

DR SEWARD

What were you doing in the grounds of Carfax Abbey?

RENFIELD

The Master is at hand. You cannot keep me here.

DR SEWARD

You are here for your own good.

NURSE 2 enters the auditorium to patrol for the next 3 scenes.

RENFIELD

Master, do not pass me by, in your distribution of good things!

DR SEWARD

Selfish behaviour, Mr Renfield!

RENFIELD

How so?

DR SEWARD

You demand "good things" from the Lord God himself! This is selfish. Self-interested. Be humble, and ask what you can do for others.

RENFIELD

What's the matter? Still pining for Lucy?!

### LUCY'S HOUSE

ARTHUR is by LUCY's bedside. DR SEWARD joins him.

LUCY

Dr Seward!

DR SEWARD

Hello, Lucy.

ARTHUR

Doctor, Lucy gets weaker every day. She has no disease, but she is losing a lot of blood in the night.

DR SEWARD

May I? This won't hurt a bit.

LUCY

What are you doing?

DR SEWARD

I'm just taking a blood sample.

DR SEWARD begins to take a blood sample.

ARTHUR

The trouble is, Doctor, my father is very ill. Dying. So I am torn. I want to be with him, and yet, I am anxious about leaving her alone.

LUCY

Arthur, you must go.

DR SEWARD

Go to your father. I promise you I will take good care of her.

ARTHUR

Lucy?

LUCY

Go, Arthur, with my blessing.

ARTHUR

Thank you. I love you. Good bye.

ARTHUR exits. DR SEWARD examines the blood sample.

DR SEWARD

You look very pale.

LUCY

Yes, I confess, I feel weaker every day. And at night, I have such terrible dreams.

DR SEWARD

Your blood test seems normal. You just seem to be rather bloodless. I see you have a cut on your neck.

LUCY is unhappy and draws back.

LUCY

I have such dreams, but in the morning I can remember nothing.

DR SEWARD

Lucy, our special friendship makes this a little difficult. I have an old friend, Professor Van Helsing, from Amsterdam. He is an expert in obscure diseases. Maybe he can help.

LUCY

Very well. Thank you, Dr Seward.

DR SEWARD

John.

LUCY

Thank you, John.

# LONDON STREET

Wedding bells. MINA and JONATHAN enter, hand in hand, through the auditorium, as if walking down the aisle.

JONATHAN

Mina.

MINA

Yes, my dear husband.

JONATHAN

Now we are married, we must have no secrets.

MINA

Of course. No secrets.

JONATHAN

In Transylvania, I had a great shock. When I try to think of what happened, I feel my head spin round. I do not know if it was real or the dreaming of a madman.

MINA

Oh, my poor Jonathan. You have not been well.

JONATHAN

I wrote everything down. Please, take it.

MINA

Thank you.

JONATHAN

Was it brain fever? Was I mad? The secret is here, in this book, and I do not want to know it.

MINA

Shall I read it?

JONATHAN

No! You must not read it. Except in an emergency. Promise me!

MINA

I promise. Jonathan?! What's the matter?

JONATHAN

Do you see who it is?

MINA

No. Who is it?

JONATHAN

It is the man himself!

MINA

Who?

JONATHAN

Count Dracula, but he has grown young. Oh, my God! My God!

MINA

Come, darling. You are feverish.

JONATHAN

What is he doing here, in London?

MINA

My poor darling. I fear I must read your story. (Reads) "He can transform. He can appear as a wolf... as mist" !?!

MINA exits through the auditorium, with the journal.

### LUCY'S HOUSE

DR SEWARD shows VAN HELSING in. LUCY is unconscious.

DR SEWARD

Lucy, I have brought Professor Van Helsing to see you.

VAN HELSING rushes to LUCY and prepares for a transfusion.

VAN HELSING

My God! This is dreadful. There is no time to lose. She will die for want of blood.

There must be a blood transfusion at once. Is it you or me?

DR SEWARD

I am younger and stronger, Professor. It must be me.

VAN HELSING

Then get ready at once.

DR SEWARD rolls up his sleeve. VAN HELSING connects a tube to his arm and starts the transfusion. NURSE 2 watches from the auditorium.

DR SEWARD

What do you make of that mark on her throat? Two punctures.
Just over the jugular vein.
Could that be the cause?

VAN HELSING

No, the whole bed would have been drenched scarlet.

Lucy wakes up.

DR SEWARD

Lucy, this is Professor Van Helsing, the doctor I told you about. He is here to help you.

VAN HELSING

Pleased to meet you, Miss Lucy.

LUCY

Good morning, Professor. Oh that sunlight is so bright.

VAN HELSING produces some garlic flowers.

VAN HELSING

These are for you.

LUCY

For me? Oh, thank you!

VAN HELSING

Yes, my dear, but these are medicines. I put them in your window and hang them round your neck, so you sleep well.

LUCY

Oh, you are joking with me. These flowers are only common garlic.

LUCY laughs, pulls a face and throws the garlic away.

VAN HELSING

I warn you! Do not disobey me. There is much virtue in these common flowers.

VAN HELSING distributes garlic around the room.

LUCY

They stink!

DR SEWARD

I know you have your reasons, but this looks like some sort of spell to keep out an evil spirit.

VAN HELSING

Perhaps! Go, fetch Arthur! We must have him here by tomorrow morning.

DR SEWARD

Yes, Professor. Good night. Goodbye, Lucy.

DR SEWARD exits. Bat noises, flapping against the window.

VAN HELSING

What's that noise?

LUCY

The noise I hear, every night.

VAN HELSING

A bat, flapping against the window.

LUCY

Every night.

VAN HELSING

You hear these bats, every night?

LUCY

In my dreams, they...

VAN HELSING

Yes?

LUCY

I... I cannot remember. It is all a blur. But I fear to fall asleep.

VAN HELSING places a wreath of garlic around Lucy's neck.

VAN HELSING

Take care you do not disturb this garlic, and do not open the window or the door! Promise me.

LUCY

I promise.

VAN HELSING

I must go back to Amsterdam tonight. I must consult my books.

LUCY

Thank you for all your kindness.

VAN HELSING

And here, take this.

VAN HELSING gives her a crucifix.

LUCY

The Holy Cross.

VAN HELSING

It will protect you.

LUCY

Thank you.

VAN HELSING

Good night, my young friend.

LUCY

Good night, Professor.

 $\it VAN\ HELSING\ exits.$  LUCY tries to sleep. Bat noises. LUCY wakes suddenly and sits bolt upright.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Urgh! What? Who's there? Who
is there?

Silence. LUCY tries to settle down again.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Oh, I cannot sleep with this suffocating smell. If I cannot

open the windows, then I cannot wear garlic round my neck.

LUCY throws off the garlic, and tries again to sleep. She begins to nod off. Silence. Suddenly, a wolf howls and glass shatters. She runs to open her door to look out

LUCY (CONT'D)

Who's there? What..? Who..? Oh, still that bat, flapping at my window. Won't you let me sleep? So tired. Heavy. Must sleep...

She lies down to sleep. DRACULA enters through the door

DRACULA

Yes, sleep, sleep, so heavy, while I drink, and drink, a deep, deep draught from your veins.

LUCY, sleeping, sits up and stares into his eyes. She pulls her collar down and invites him to drink blood from her neck.

### LUCy'S hOUSE - thE NEXT DAY

VAN HELSING

You must be Arthur.

ARTHUR

Yes.

VAN HELSING

I am Professor Van Helsing.

ARTHUR

Yes, Dr Seward told me all about you. Thank you for your help.

VAN HELSING

How is she?

ARTHUR

I don't know yet! I've only just arrived. But look. There is a broken window.

VAN HELSING

Then I fear we are too late.

ARTHUR

I came as soon as I could.

VAN HELSING

We must hurry. We must save your Lucy from a fate worse than death!

ARTHUR

Oh dear God.

VAN HELSING finds LUCY lying unconscious and feels her pulse.

VAN HELSING

Stand back. See how sharp her teeth are.

ARTHUR

Dear God! What's happening to her?

VAN HELSING

You shall understand all in good time.

VAN HELSING spies the Cross and garlic wreath on the floor.

VAN HELSING

Ah! Look, she has dropped her protection.

He picks up the Cross and the garlic.

ARTHUR

What, that cross?

VAN HELSING

Yes. And the garlic.

ARTHUR

Garlic?

ARTHUR sniffs the garlic, doubtfully. LUCY begins to wake.

VAN HELSING

She's waking up!

VAN HELSING concludes the transfusion.

LUCY

My love, I'm so glad you have come!

ARTHUR

Oh, Lucy.

ARTHUR goes to kiss her. VAN HELSING motions him back.

VAN HELSING

No, not on your life! Not for your living soul and hers!

ARTHUR takes her hand and kneels beside her.

LUCY

Arthur! Oh, my love! Kiss me!

LUCY sits up with a sudden energy, snarling with her fangs. Then she flops back exhausted. VAN HELSING holds her hand.

LUCY

My true friend, and his! Oh, guard him, and give me peace!

VAN HELSING

I swear it!

(to Arthur)

Take her hand in yours, and kiss her on the forehead, and only once.

ARTHUR kisses her forehead, as her eyes close in death.

ARTHUR

It is all over. She is dead!

## LUCY'S GRAVESIDE

VAN HELSING, DR SEWARD, ARTHUR and MINA stand round her grave.

MINA

God, rest her soul. It was a good service.

ARTHUR

Yes, thank you for coming, Mina. It is good to meet you at last.

MINA

And you, Arthur. It must be a very difficult time for you.

ARTHUR

Poor Lucy. Come and look at her.

ARTHUR pulls back the fabric to reveal LUCY's face.

DR SEWARD

How beautiful she is. Was.

ARTHUR

My poor girl, there is peace for her at last. It is the end.

VAN HELSING

Not so! It is only the beginning!

ARTHUR

What do you mean?

VAN HELSING

We must smother her with garlic.

DR SEWARD

Professor, let her rest in peace. She is dead!

VAN HELSING

No! She is not dead. She is undead!

ARTHUR

UnDead! What do you mean?

VAN HELSING

Exorcizo te, omnis spiritus immunde, in nomine Dei Patris omnipotentis, et in noimine Jesu Christi Filii ejus, Domini et Judicis nostri, et in virtute Spiritus Sancti, ut descedas ab hoc plasmate Dei Lucy.

DR SEWARD

You're hysterical!

VAN HELSING

NO! I have studied my books in Amsterdam.

DR SEWARD

I have never seen the word "undead" in any medical book.

VAN HELSING

Not in medical books. In folk stories from the East. From Transylvania.

DR SEWARD

Stories. Fiction.

VAN HELSING

NO! Look! You have seen it with your very eyes. She has been bitten by a "vampire".

DR SEWARD

A vampire! Like the bat? A blood-sucker?

VAN HELSING

She will rise from the dead every night, for eternity. She will drink the blood of innocents!

ARTHUR

Enough! Stop it!

MINA

He speaks true! I was Lucy's best friend, and I saw what happened to her in Whitby! It's all true!

VAN HELSING

Thank you, Madam Mina.

MINA

And my beloved Jonathan! He was in Transylvania, and he saw such terrible things! Bats, vampires

VAN HELSING

Aha! This is the connection!

MINA

It's all in here, in his
journal!

MINA produces Jonathan's journal and gives it to VAN HELSING.

VAN HELSING

Thank you, this will help us in our quest.

ARTHUR

Our quest?

MINA

We must find the vampire that bit Lucy, and destroy him!

DR SEWARD

Why?

VAN HELSING

To stop the contagion. If we can destroy the original

vampire, then all his victims may rest in peace.

DR SEWARD

I can't believe what I'm hearing.

VAN HELSING

No need. Look, it's getting dark. We must hide. And observe.

MINA hussles the others into hiding places.

ARTHUR

What are we looking for?

MINA

You'll know. Don't make a sound. Any of you!

Night falls. Slowly, LUCY rises from her grave. She walks serenely across the stage, snarls with her fangs, and exits. ARTHUR tries to follow her. MINA prevents him.

ARTHUR

Lucy.

MINA

No!

ARTHUR

Lucy. She's alive!

MINA

No! She's not alive! And she is not Lucy! Not any more.

DR SEWARD

It is incredible! If I had not seen it with my own eyes.

ARTHUR

My poor Lucy.

MINA

Poor Lucy indeed! Her soul will never rest in peace until we destroy her undead body.

ARTHUR

No!

VAN HELSING

We must drive a wooden stake through her heart while she sleeps -

ARTHUR

Oh dear God!

VAN HELSING

And cut off her head. Hush! She's coming back!

They rush back to their hiding places. LUCY returns, covered in blood. She blows a kiss to her offstage victim.

LUCY

Thank you, dear child, for your kiss. For now, I am satisfied.

LUCY climbs into her (fabric) coffin and sleeps/dies. The others emerge, horrified.

ARTHUR

This monster... has stolen my Lucy's body. We must destroy it.

MINA

We must all meet here in daylight. It is not safe now. Come.

They exit. LUCY wakes to watch them go.

LUCY

Come to me, Arthur. Leave these others and come to me. I am hungry for you. Come, and we can be together.

ARTHUR

Tell me what I am to do, and I shall not falter.

VAN HELSING

Brave lad! This stake must be driven through her heart.

VAN HELSING produces the stake and a hammer for ARTHUR.

ARTHUR

Go on. From the bottom of my broken heart I thank you. You have given my dear one her soul again.

LUCY writhes and screams for a few moments. Then she is still.

### dr seward's Private asylum

MINA and DR SEWARD are joined by VAN HELSING, who is waving JONATHAN's journal in his hand.

MINA

Poor Lucy.

VAN HELSING

Thank you for sharing Jonathan's book with us.

MINA

He is on his way here now. He knows our plan.

VAN HELSING

Good. Then we may begin.

DR SEWARD

Plan? Could somebody please - ?

MINA

In Transylvania, Jonathan was held prisoner by the vampire, Count Dracula. Dracula is now here, in London, at Carfax Abbey.

DR SEWARD

But that's just next door.

MINA

Indeed!

DR SEWARD

Carfax Abbey. Mr Renfield is obsessed with the place.

MINA

I believe that the same vampire - Dracula - attacked Lucy. We must go to Carfax Abbey and destroy him. I will wait for Jonathan.

VAN HELSING and DR SEWARD exit, as JONATHAN enters.

JONATHAN

Darling, I came as soon as I could.

They kiss.

MINA

Come on, there's no time to lose.

JONATHAN

Mina, this is not women's work.

MINA

What do you mean?

JONATHAN

We men are not in so much danger.

MINA

But Lucy was my best friend.

JONATHAN

Yes, but I think it would be safer if you were to stay here.

MINA

Very well.

JONATHAN

Good! Go to bed, Mina. Make sure all the windows and doors are shut and do NOT leave the asylum.

MINA

Yes, darling.

JONATHAN

Good night, Mina.

JONATHAN kisses her.

MINA

You will be careful, won't you?

JONATHAN

Yes, my darling. God willing, we can end his evil existence tonight.

MINA

I am sorry that I showed your journal to the Professor, but -

JONATHAN

Sorry?! Mina, you have saved the day! Dracula has his fifty coffins in Carfax Abbey, I know it, and we shall sterilize every last one of them with garlic and Holy host.

MINA

Go then, darling! Good luck!

JONATHAN

Good bye, my love.

They embrace. JONATHAN exits. Bat noises.

MINA

What is that infernal flapping noise at the window? It's so foggy out there, I can't see a thing.

(yawning)

Oh, I feel so tired. So tired. My arms feel so heavy. So heavy. My legs feel so heavy. So heavy.

MINA lies down. DRACULA enters. They stare at each other.

DRACULA

Do not make a sound!

MINA

Oh God, pity me!

DRACULA

Silence! So you would help these men to hunt me and frustrate me! They dared to play their wits against me! And you, their beloved Mina, you are now flesh of my flesh, blood of my blood, my bountiful wine-press for a while. You shall be my companion and helper. But first you must be punished for what you have done. Mina you have fought against me - now you must do my bidding.

DRACULA uses his sharp nail to open a vein in his neck. As the blood pours out, he forces the helpless MINA to drink.

DRACULA (CONT'D)

Now, drink. Drink deep. Enjoy!

### RENFIELD'S CELL

RENFIELD is back in his cell, badly injured. JONATHAN enters.

RENFIELD

Help! Help me!

JONATHAN

What's wrong? Are you hurt?

RENFIELD

Yes.

JONATHAN

I'll get the doctor!

RENFIELD

NO! It was all a dream.

JONATHAN

A dream?

RENFIELD

In my dream, I saw you three vampire-hunters go to Carfax Abbey. You were looking for for fifty coffins.

JONATHAN

Yes, but we only found fortynine. We sterilised them with garlic and host!

RENFIELD

But there's still one coffin you could not find.

JONATHAN

Yes, but how do you know all this?

RENFIELD

Because He was here!

JONATHAN

Dracula?

RENFIELD

Yes! He came up to the window in the mist. He was laughing, his teeth glinting in the moonlight.

JONATHAN

What did you do? Tell me!

RENFIELD

He raised his hands, and I could see that there were thousands of rats with their eyes blazing red, like His only smaller. He said, 'All these lives will Iz give you, yes, and more, if you fall down and worship me!' Before I knew what I was doing, I was opening the window. Come in, Lord and Master!

JONATHAN

You let Dracula in here! MINA!

JONATHAN runs off to find MINA.

RENFIELD

I tried to stop him. Then I saw His eyes. They burned into me, and my strength became like water. He flung me down on the floor. There was a red cloud before me, and a noise like thunder.

RENFIELD collapses and dies.

JONATHAN (O.S.)

MINA! MINA!

#### MINA'S BEDROOM

MINA is prostrate. JONATHAN enters, frantic.

JONATHAN

In God's name, what does this mean?
What does that blood mean? What has happened? Tell me!

DR SEWARD enters, alarmed by the commotion.

DR SEWARD

Jonathan? What's wrong?

JONATHAN

Dracula's been here. He has gorged himself on my Mina. Do something to save her. It cannot have gone too far yet. I must find him!

MINA

No! Jonathan, you must not leave me. I have suffered enough tonight. Stay with me.

MINA holds JONATHAN close. DR SEWARD pulls out a crucifix.

DR SEWARD

Do not fear. You are safe if this is close to you. I have some Holy host. Here.

DR SEWARD touches Mina's forehead with the host. It makes a very visible scar on her forehead. She screams.

MINA

AH! It burns! I am unclean, unclean!

JONATHAN

No, Mina. I shall not hear such a word from you. May God judge me, if anything ever come between us!

MINA

I must touch you or kiss you no more.

DR SEWARD

She is one of the undead. We have to face that fact.

MINA

I am to suffer the same fate as poor Lucy?

JONATHAN

We have a few days. We must destroy Dracula before the transition is complete.

MINA

Or I shall be damned as a vampire for eternity.

DR SEWARD

You must survive until Dracula is destroyed.

MINA

I will hang on to life with all my strength, for your sake, Jonathan.

DR SEWARD

Get some sleep now.

MINA

Please tell the Professor I want to see him at dawn. I have an idea.

DR SEWARD

Very well.

VAN HELSING

You wanted to see me?

MINA

What time is it?

VAN HELSING

It is just before dawn. Neither day nor night.

MINA

Good! I want you to hypnotize me! I feel a psychic connection with Dracula. Do it before the dawn, and then I shall be able to speak. Quick, the time is getting close.

VAN HELSING stares at her, and with each hand, "makes passes in front of her, from over the top of her head downward."

VAN HELSING

Relax and look into my eyes. Your arms are feeling very heavy..so heavy, as all the tension leaves your body and sets your mind free. Where are you?

MINA

(in a Dracula-like
 voice)

I do not know. It is strange to me!

VAN HELSING

What do you see?

MINA

I can see nothing. It is all dark.

VAN HELSING

What do you hear?

MINA

The lapping of water. It is gurgling by, and little waves

leap. I can hear them on the outside.

JONATHAN

Then you are on a ship?

MINA

Yes.

JONATHAN

What else do you hear?

MINA

The sound of men stamping overhead. There is the creaking of a chain.

JONATHAN

What are you doing?

MINA

I am still. It is like death!
 (waking)

Have I been talking in my sleep?

JONATHAN

You have told us where Dracula is!

MINA

Where?

JONATHAN

On a ship. He is lying in his coffin in the hold of a ship.

DR SEWARD

If he is on a ship, he may be trying to leave the country.

JONATHAN

He is running away from us!

DR SEWARD

Where to?

JONATHAN

Home! To Transylvania! He is trying to get home to his castle.

MINA

Then we must pursue him and destroy him before he gets there.

JONATHAN

If he is travelling by sea, we must travel by rail. It will be quicker.

DR SEWARD

We must split up. If one of our groups is delayed, the others may still be in time.

VAN HELSING

I shall travel with Mina, so I may see into Dracula's mind.

DR SEWARD

Then I shall travel with Jonathan!

JONATHAN

Come then, there's not a moment to lose! Mina, I shall see you in Transylvania, freed from this curse!

JONATHAN and DR SEWARD exit.

VAN HELSING

We shall see them on the road to Castle Dracula in three days' time, if all goes well. Come, we have a train to catch.

MINA and VAN HELSING exit. A train whistle, fading into...

# TRANSYLAVANIA

Wolves howling, wind. VAN HELSING and MINA enter, frozen. VAN HELSING makes a protective circle of host. MINA sits.

VAN HELSING

Night is falling. I shall make a protective circle with this host.

MINA

How far are we from the castle?

VAN HELSING

We are very close now, but we cannot continue until day break.

MINA

I fear I do not have much life left in me. And it is so cold.

VAN HELSING

Hang on to life! One more night. For Dracula will surely be travelling up this road tomorrow.

VAMPIRE LADY enters. She circles, snarls, but cannot attack.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

Come to me, come to me...

VAN HELSING

Fascinating.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

Come to me and feel my kiss.

VAN HELSING is drawn towards her, but MINA holds him back.

MINA

Do not leave the circle! Here you are safe!

VAMPIRE LADY 1

Ahah you & I - we are family now.

VAN HELSING

It is for you that I fear Mina!

MINA

Why fear for me? None safer in all the world from them than I am.

VAN HELSING threatens VAMPIRE LADY 1 with Holy host.

VAN HELSING

You cannot break our Holy circle. And when day breaks, I shall destroy you.

VAMPIRE LADY 1 laughs, bitterly and crawls provocatively into a (fabric) coffin. Wolves' howls.

# TRANSYLAVANIA - DRACULA'S JOURNEY

The sound of horses hooves, thundering. DRACULA is revealed on stage, whipping his horses furiously, his cape billowing behind him.

DRACULA

Faster! Faster! And if you dare to fall, then I will drink

your blood! Ha, they will never catch me! Whoa! I am hungry.

SOUND OF A LITTLE GIRL SAYING HER PRAYERS.

Dracula pounces on her. When he turns to us, he has blood pouring down his face.

### TRANSYLAVANIA - THE NEXT DAY

Bird song. VAN HELSING helps an exhausted MINA to her feet.

VAN HELSING

Wake up, Mina. The time is near now when you shall be free again.

MINA

I cannot go on much longer. That was the darkest night of my life.

VAN HELSING

Yes, but today, Dracula's carriage drives down this road, and I shall end all this. Wait here. I have a small matter to attend to.

VAN HELSING takes a stake, a hammer and a knife from his bag.

MINA

What are you doing?

VAN HELSING

Look away, I must destroy them all.

VAN HELSING hammers the stake into the VAMPIRE WOMAN's heart.

VAMPIRE LADY 1

Aaaaaaaargh!

VAN HELSING drags the body off stage to cut its head off. He re-enters running, excited, pointing.

VAN HELSING

Look! Madam Mina, look! Look!

MINA

What is it? Where?

VAN HELSING

There! A carriage! And it's -

MINA

Carrying a coffin!

VAN HELSING

They are galloping, those horses. They are running from something!

We hear galloping horses.

MINA

Look! There's Jonathan giving chase.

VAN HELSING

Jonathan! JONATHAN!

He waves frantically to attract JONATHAN's attention.

MINA

Jonathan!

VAN HELSING

He has seen us!

MINA

Oh, my brave husband.

VAN HELSING

(shouting to Jonathan)
We shall block the road! Then
you must break open the coffin!

VAN HELSING stands defiantly facing the oncoming charging horses. He holds a large crucifix in front of him. The sound of the galloping climaxes with sudden whinnying.

Blackout. As JONATHAN runs, shouting, through the audience, DRACULA subtly enters into position.

JONATHAN

STOP! Whoa there! Stop in the name of the Lord God and all that is holy! STOP!

Mina screams.

Lights up on stage to reveal DRACULA, snarling viciously.

DRACULA

#### MINA YOU BETRAYED ME !

VAN HELSING

Quick! In the name of god!

VAN HELSING keeps DRACULA at bay with the crucifix, whilst MINA hands JONATHAN the stake and hammer.

DRACULA

Mina ! Mina help me.

JONATHAN

I send you back to Hell!

JONATHAN strikes the blow through DRACULA's heart. DRACULA lets out a scream. VAN HELSING pursues him off stage, to chop his head off.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)

Amen. The Professor has chopped off the vampire's head, and filled his hellish mouth with garlic.

MINA has subtly wiped the scar from her forehead.

MINA

Praise God! I feel strong again.

JONATHAN

My darling, your scar has gone. The curse has passed away! Your forehead is as clear as snow!

MTNA

Come on, we must thank the Professor for freeing us.

They exit, hand in hand.

## RENFIELD'S CELL

NURSE 1 is writing on a clipboard. RENFIELD enters.

NURSE 1

Hello, Mr Renfield. Are you feeling better?

RENFIELD

Yes. Yes, I am.

NURSE 1

Did you enjoy your hypnotherapy session with Dr Seward.

RENFIELD

Yes. Very... liberating.

NURSE 1

Good. It's new here. Quite exciting, really, getting all these fancy new treatments here.

RENFIELD

Yes. Very exciting. And the funny thing is, I can still smell garlic.

NURSE 1

Yes. Yes, I think I can too.

She winks at him and exits. RENFIELD laughs heartily. Crescendo of bat noises. Silence. Blackout.