

KEMP / MONSTER

A beat or two of further silence and then, FREDERICK suddenly sits bolt upright on his operating table and gives out a loud MONSTER-like sound.

FREDERICK

ROWRRR!

FRAU BLUCHER

Oh my God, the Doktor has been turned into the monster!

FREDERICK

No, no... stuffed cabbage, stuffed cabbage.

(patting his chest, miming acute heartburn)

ROWRRR, ROWRR!

KEMP now bursts into the laboratory leading a group of angrily muttering VILLAGERS.

IGOR

Angry villagers!

FRAU BLUCHER

They're in the castle!

INGA

Oh no!

Some of the VILLAGERS corral INGA, IGOR and FRAU BLUCHER

KEMP

Aha, ja, just as we thought! The Monster! Seize him!

MALE VILLAGER #2

Yes, Inspector!

Several VILLAGERS rush to seize the MONSTER but then step away from him.

KEMP

What's wrong? Seize him, I said!

MALE VILLAGER #4

We're too late, sir. He's dead.

KEMP

Dead? Are you sure?

(HE checks the MONSTER's pulse with his false arm)

Ja, you're right. He's gone. Thank God!

VILLAGERS

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FREDERICK

Oh, my God no, I've killed him.

KEMP

But it wasn't only the monster we came here for, Herr Doktor. It was also for you!

#23 - Elizabeth's Shoe

(ZIGGY hands him a woman's shoe)

There! The left shoe of your beloved betrothed, Fraulein Benning! Found only an hour ago in a cave nearby. All that remains of the poor woman after your monster had finished with her!

FREDERICK

No, Elizabeth, I've brought about her death, too.

KEMP

We'll hang him at midnight in the village square! Take him away!

The VILLAGERS start towards FREDERICK, muttering and shouting

IGOR

Wait! You've got the wrong man! It was me! It was me! I'm the one you want. He never wanted to create the creature. It's my fault! I'm the one who should be punished! Dr. Fronkensteen is innocent!

KEMP

Alright, if you say so.

(to the VILLAGERS)

Let the Doctor go! We'll hang Igor instead!

VILLAGERS

Hang Igor! Hang Igor!

IGOR

Whoa, wait, hold it! I was a little hasty... truth be told... I wasn't that involved.

(to FREDERICK)

Sorry, Doc... I tried.

#23a - Hang The Doctor

KEMP

All right, as I was saying, take the Doctor away!

The VILLAGERS grab FREDERICK.

ACT TWO

Scene 8

The Village Square. Moments before midnight. A full moon shines. FREDERICK, with a noose around his neck, stands on the gallows. An EXECUTIONER stands beside him. All VILLAGERS are on hand as well as INGA, IGOR and FRAU BLUCHER.

KEMP

And now, my fellow Transylvanians, for tonight's feature event! The hanging by the neck until dead of Dr. Frederick Fronkensteen.

#24 - Frederick's Soliloquy

THE VILLAGERS applaud and cheer

INGA

No!

KEMP

Do you have any last words before we string you up. Dr. Fronkensteen?

FREDERICK

Just this...

THOUGH MY TIME ON EARTH IS DONE
 THOUGH I FACE THIS ANGRY CROWD
 THOUGH I'M HATED AND DESPISED
 OF ONE THING I CAN SAY I'M PROUD
 THIS IS TRULY MINE
 I'M A MAN WHO HAS NO SHAME
 IN SHOUTING OUT HIS FAMILY NAME
 I AM A FRANKENSTEIN!

KEMP

Very well then, you shall die a Frankenstein.

The VILLAGERS cheer

INGA

No, please, I beg of you, don't do it, please, please...

KEMP

On the count of drei, prepare to say goodbye! Eins... zwei... drei!

FREDERICK is hung, swinging by his neck on the gallows.

INGA

(crying out and then bursting into tears)

No! No!

THE VILLAGERS

Oooooohhhh.

A distraught FRAU BLUCHER and IGOR loudly moan and fall weeping into each other's arms.

Suddenly the MONSTER comes lurching in, causing ALL to scream in fear.

MONSTER

(articulate and clear-voiced)

Cut that man down at once!

IGOR runs up to the platform and, along with the EXECUTIONER, cuts down FREDERICK

VARIOUS VILLAGERS

It's the Monster! He's alive!

MONSTER

(to the crowd as HE makes his way up the gallows stairs to FREDERICK)

Stop! Stand back

KEMP

What are you doing? You're too late! The Doktor is already dead!

MONSTER

(now carrying FREDERICK in his arms)

Not necessarily! Sometimes, perchance, a brushstroke of hope, a wisp of mystic fate, can awaken a sleeping heart.

The MONSTER takes FREDERICK downstage center, where HE kneels over his lifeless body, resting his head in INGA's lap. IGOR and FRAU BLUCHER stand over them.

KEMP

Am I crazy? What's going on here? Less than an hour ago he was a dead monster, a hulking beast, and now he's alive and talking like Noel Coward.

MONSTER

(checking for FREDERICK's pulse)

It's because of him.

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#24a - After The Hanging

(MONSTER)

Half-crazed genius that he is. He not only risked his own life to save mine, but gave me the power of speech and a brilliant mind.

KEMP

Oh yeah? If you're so brilliant what's nine times nine?

MONSTER

Eighty-one.

KEMP

He is brilliant.

(as the MONSTER continues to work frantically to revive FREDERICK)

But this makes no sense! The Doctor's dead. What can the monster do?

INGA

We don't know. But because of the transference everything that was in the doctor's brain is now in the monster's brain.

MONSTER

I'm afraid the Inspector's right, he's dead and there seems to be no... wait, I feel a faint pulse, perhaps I'm not too late after all.

INGA

A faint pulse?

KEMP

Nonsense! His neck is broken!

MONSTER

(rolling FREDERICK over)

Bruised, yes, but not broken. And his spinal cord is still intact!

INGA

Is there a chance?

MONSTER

Yes. One in a million. Still... if the di-methyl-amino-azo-benzine-sulphonic acid in his subcortical brain fluid is in balance, then all I'd really have to do is stimulate his cortex. But how?

(HE thinks for a moment)

Wait! I've got it! Does anybody have a hatpin?

ALL search their heads for a hat pin

INGA

(plucking it from her own hair)

Here!

MONSTER

(to INGA)

Hold him steady! And...

(HE plunges the pin into the back of FREDERICK's neck. There is no response.)

...No... no... no... no...

FREDERICK

(suddenly sitting bolt upright)

YOOOWWW!

(yanking the hat pin out of his neck)

Who the heck stuck me with a hatpin?

MONSTER

He's alive! He's alive! He's alive!

FREDERICK

You saved me. You've brought me back to life! How can I ever thank you?

MONSTER

Nay, I should thank you. For the humanity you've given me, I can live a rich and full life and perhaps do good for all those I've come to know.

FREDERICK

Everyone! Listen to him! Listen to him! I did it! I did it! The transference worked! He's magnificent!!

INGA

You're both alive!

KEMP

But not for long! String them both up! They are both responsible for the death of Elizabeth Benning.

ELIZABETH

(limping in wearing only her right shoe)

Did somebody say my name? Sorry to be late. I've been looking high and low for my left shoe.

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#25

KEMP

(seeing her and throwing out his hands)

Wait!

ELIZABETH

(seeing her shoe in KEMP's hand and taking it)

Oh. Ha, ha!

KEMP

Hold everything! If she's alive, all hangings are off!

THE VILLAGERS

(a large sigh of disappointment)

Awwww.

KEMP

I know, you're disappointed, I'm disappointed, we're all disappointed. Nonetheless, you're free to go, Herr Doktor.

FREDERICK

Thank you.

KEMP

And you, too, Herr Monster.

ELIZABETH

(embracing the MONSTER)

Darling, were those dreadful men going to hurt you?

FREDERICK

(to ELIZABETH)

Darling? You called him "darling"

#25 - Deep Love - Reprise

MONSTER

Frederick, I realize it's a rather shabby thing for a chap to do to his creator, but I'm afraid that I've fallen madly in love with your fiancé.

ELIZABETH

And I with him!