

# The Haunted Baronet

(a supernatural mystery; approximate running time: 45 minutes)

**CHARACTERS:** (3 men; 3 women)

## THE LIVING

SIR BALE MARDYKES, a middle-aged baronet

MRS. JULAPER, the middle-aged housekeeper of Mardykes Hall

JANET FELTRAM, a young housemaid

DOCTOR JAMES TORVEY, a middle-aged gentleman

TOM MARLIN, an elderly fisherman

## THE DEAD

SIR GUY MARDKYES, Sir Bale's ancestor, age 60 when he died

MARY FELTRAM, Janet Feltram's mother, age 23 when she died

Note: The play can be performed with a cast of six with doubling:

Sir Guy Mardykes/Tom Marlin

**TIME:** 1850

**PLACE:** England. The countryside surrounding the small town of Golden Friars in Northumberland. A single unit set simultaneously depicts the luxurious but careworn parlor of Mardykes Hall, and Snakes Island, a mossy fog-rimmed islet with a lone oaken stump in its center.

**SYNOPSIS:** An avaricious baronet, Sir Bale Mardykes, blames his timid young housemaid, Janet, for stealing bank notes which he himself mislaid. Despite a raging storm, she flees the house in despair and drowns in the lake. Janet's corpse is carried to Sir Bale's home, and after several hours, she is miraculously restored, but utterly transformed. Her mishap has caused her gentle soul to be taken over by Sir Bale's former lover who cleverly lures him into gambling away his fortune and his estate.

# Green Tea

(a supernatural mystery; approximate running time: 55 minutes)

**CHARACTERS:** (4 men; 3 women)

**THE LIVING**

JUSTICE ELIJAH HARBOTTLE, age 60

GERTRUDE HARBOTTLE, his beautiful wife, age 35

DOCTOR MARTIN HESSELIUS, age 70

DORA TRIMMER, a housekeeper

THOMAS CARWELL, a servant

**THE DEAD**

LEWIS PYNEWECK, age 40 when he died

CHIEF JUSTICE TWO FOLD, ancient when he died

MATILDA DUNNIGAN, a juror

JOSEPH JARLCOT, a juror

JANE SULLIVAN, a juror

DINGLY CHUFF, a juror

OFFICER OF THE COURT

FERA ONE, a hideous monkeyish creature of slight stature

FERA TWO, another such creature with a deep raspy voice

Note: The play can be performed with a cast of seven with doubling:

Dora Trimmer/Matilda Dunnigan; Gertrude Harbottle/Jane Sullivan;

Thomas Carwell/Officer of the Court; Doctor Hesselius/Chief Justice

Fera One/Dingly Chuff; Fera Two/Joseph Jarlcot;

**TIME:** 1880

**PLACE:** London, England. The study of Justice Elijah Harbottle. There are several well stocked bookcases, a sofa, desk, chairs, and an oriental rug.

**SYNOPSIS:** Justice Elijah Harbottle, who was ruthless in his sentencing of petty criminals, is tracked and tormented by two monkeyish creatures called Fera who are visible only to him. They are the result of his over imbibing a special green tea which his young wife persistently serves in the hopes that he will meet his demise. The judge, in his agony, has visions of confronting the ghosts of the thieves and beggars he has executed, causing him to plead for mercy while reassessing his own humanity.

# Schalken the Painter

(a supernatural mystery; approximate running time: 50 minutes)

**CHARACTERS:** (5 men; 2 women)

## THE LIVING

GODFREY SCHALKEN, an art student, age 22

MASTER GERARD DOUW, a Dutch master painter, age 50

ROSE VELDERKAUST, his niece age 19

WILLIAM HORTON, an art student

JASON WELLER, an art student

NICHOLAS SPAIGHT, an art student

## THE DEAD

FRAU VANDERHEUSEN, a grotesque elderly Dutch woman

DIETER VANDERHEUSEN, her son, equally grotesque, age 35

Note: The role of Dieter Vanderheusen can be played by one of the art students, thereby reducing the cast to seven

**TIME:** 1820

**PLACE:** London, England. An artist's studio with several easels and stools for the students, and a chair for the model. There must also be a functional door and several oil lamps.

**SYNOPSIS:** A struggling art student, Godfrey Schalken, is painfully aware of his mediocre talent and feels unworthy of the affections of his beloved Rose. Godfrey is visited by a grotesque Dutch woman and her son who agree to bestow him with exceptional talent if he agrees to paint portraits. Godfrey readily accepts, but soon realizes he has made a pact with the devil for his posers are soon destined for violent and untimely deaths. Godfrey also realizes he can never complete the portrait of his beloved Rose without risking her life, so paints himself and thereby ends his misery.

# Ultor De Lacy

(a supernatural mystery; approximate running time: 45 minutes)

**CHARACTERS:** (3 men; 3 women)

UNA ARDAGH, a pale beauty, age 17

ALICE ARDAGH, her sister, age 19

COLONEL ROBERT ARDAGH, their father, age 50

MAURA MULL RYAN, a middle-aged housekeeper

TOBY CROOKE, a hunchbacked peddler

DOCTOR MARTIN HESSELIUS, age 72

CAPTAIN ULTOR DE LACY, age 33

Note: The roles of Toby Crooke and Doctor Martin Hesselius are intended to be played by the same actor.

**TIME:** 1750

**PLACE:** Ireland. The Glen of Capperullen, near the point where the counties of Limerick, Claire, and Tipperary converge. The garden of the Ardagh estate, a sumptuously furnished parlor, and Una Ardagh's bedroom with an accessible door and window.

**SYNOPSIS:** Lovely young Una Ardagh is intrigued by Captain Ultor De Lacy who has charmed his way into her family home, and begins to court her affections. The housekeeper recognizes that the dashing Ultor is actually a ravenous vampire determined to seduce, marry, and sustain himself on Una's blood. The renowned Doctor Hesselius, disguised as a hunchbacked peddler, attempts to warn Una's father who refuses to believe in such superstitions, and unwittingly thwarts the Doctor's attempts to save his daughter before she succumbs.