

ACT ONE

Scene 6

#5b - Inside The Main Hall

Later the same night. Eerie MUSIC underscores.

SOUND: *A clock strikes midnight.*

The castle's Gothic-style Grand Hall. There is a huge fireplace as well as a life-sized portrait of Victor von Frankenstein hanging above the fireplace. There is also a book-filled bookcase. A fire burns in the fireplace while the vast room is illuminated by lighted candles in sconces.

FREDERICK is discovered standing near the bookcase, leafing through a handful of books.

FRAU BLUCHER enters.

FRAU BLUCHER

May I escort you to your bed chamber, Herr Doktor? Everyone else has long since retired.

FREDERICK

No, I believe I will remain down here and read for a little while longer.

FRAU BLUCHER

As you wish, Dr. Fronkonschwein.

FREDERICK

That's Fronken-Steen!

FRAU BLUCHER & FREDERICK

- Steen!

FREDERICK

Will you please try and get it right, once and for all.

FRAU BLUCHER

Steen, yes. I vill never forget.

(pause)

Steen?

Steen.

FREDERICK

Steen... Your grandfather, Victor, also often liked to stay up late reading.

FREDERICK

(indicating the portrait above the fireplace)

Is that his portrait?

FRAU BLUCHER

Ja. That is Victor.

FREDERICK

Handsome.

FRAU BLUCHER

Ja, very handsome.

FREDERICK

(indicating the books in his hand)

By the way, these books, they all seem rather general. "Heidi", "Black Beauty", "The Kama Sutra". Where are my Grandfather's medical books, his private library?

FRAU BLUCHER

I don't know what you mean, Herr Doktor.

FREDERICK

Never mind. So, I'll retire on my own then. Good night.

FRAU BLUCHER

Would the Doktor care for a brandy while he is reading?

FREDERICK

No, thank you.

FRAU BLUCHER

Some varm milk? Perhaps?

FREDERICK

No, thank you very much. That's very kind of you.

FRAU BLUCHER

(after a long pause)

Ovaltine?

FREDERICK

Nothing! Thank you.