

MONKEY BUSINESS

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EXT. HARTLEPOOL COASTLINE - NIGHT

Huge foaming waves crash against the sea wall. Sheets of rain pelt against the ocean. The beam from the lighthouse illuminates a fishing boat approaching the shore.

EXT. FISHING BOAT DECK - NIGHT

The fishing boat is a small vessel with a covered helm. The boat is coated in blue paint which has begun to peel off due to wear and tear.

The fishermen lean against the bow of the boat pulling up a tangle of fishing nets.

EDWARD SWINDLE (55), a gruff fisherman, grips the boat's wheel trying to maintain a steady course.

EDWARD  
Keep pulling.

The crew pull the net back, a few small fish jump across the deck. They keep pulling but the net doesn't move. Edward leaves the helm and grabs the end of the net.

EDWARD (CONT'D)  
On the count of three.

He tightens his grip on the net.

EDWARD (CONT'D)  
Three.

He braces himself placing his feet firmly on the deck.

EDWARD (CONT'D)  
Two.

He takes a deep breath and exhales.

EDWARD (CONT'D)  
One.

Edward and the crew pull the remaining net onto the boat. They fall onto the deck.

FISHERMAN ONE  
Ed, the boat. It's heading towards those rocks.

Edward darts up as the boat sails steadfast towards the rocks. He reaches the helm and grabs hold of the wheel.

EDWARD

Hold on!

He swiftly turns the boat away from the rocks missing by a couple of inches. Everyone breathes a heavy sigh of relief.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL HEADLAND - NIGHT

The beam from the lighthouse illuminates the beach which is covered in debris. ERNEST JACKSON (34), a steadfast naval admiral, stomps down his officer's boots onto the soft sand beneath him.

He struts along the beach clasping his hands behind his back. He gazes along the coastline pausing as he notices a boat approaching the shore.

Ernest flicks his coat to reveal a flintlock pistol, he firmly grips the handle. He pulls the pistol from its holster as the boat approaches the shore.

He aims the gun at the boat.

ERNEST

Who goes there?

Edward and the crew disembark from the ship holding their hands up high. They smile as Ernest lowers his pistol shaking his head in disapproval.

EXT. FRENCH SHIP DECK - MORNING

*French speak English with a French accent.*

The horizon is clear and there is not a cloud in the sky. The French flag waves in the wind as the ship sails across the ocean.

EUGENE MOLYNEUX (9), an unkempt powder monkey, slams his mop onto the deck. *A powder monkey is a young boy who loads the canons with gun powder.*

LOUIS LAVIGNE (24), first mate who is a stickler for the rules, spits on the floor in front of Eugene.

LOUIS

Looks like you missed a bit.

Eugene looks up at Louis who is looking around at the crew.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Poor incompetent Eugene.

Eugene leans his mop against the side of the boat and stares at Louis.

EUGENE

If I am as incompetent as you say,  
could you tell me what abstruse  
means?

Louis is flustered, he looks around. The eyes of the French crew are on him.

LOUIS

Well...it's very simple actually.  
It...erm...means

EUGENE

Louis, it is fine if you do not  
know.

BARNABE (unknown age) ,a monkey in a small 19th century French naval uniform, jauntily walks onto the deck.

LOUIS

Oh look, there is your pet monkey.  
Can you make it dance, I'd sure  
love to see it.

Eugene shakes his head and goes below deck.

AUGUSTE BRUNEAU (29), a pompous French naval captain, steps on deck and heads towards the conflict.

AUGUSTE

Louis!

LOUIS

Yes Captain!

AUGUSTE

I have charted a course for shore,  
can you alert the men.

Louis turns to the crew who are stood behind him.

LOUIS

I think they heard loud and clear.

Eugene enters from below deck, he starts to play his accordion. He walks over to Barnabe who started to dance. They clap in tune to the music.

Auguste leans over to Louis whilst the crew is distracted.

AUGUSTE

If you continue to single out Eugene, we are going to have a problem...understood.

LOUIS

Understood Captain.

The sky turns from clear to cloudy.

INT. HARTLEPOOL CHURCH - MORNING

The light beams through the stain glass windows. FATHER ROBERTS (55), an ageing clergyman, who stands behind an intricately carved bible stand. Father Roberts raises both his hands to the sky.

FATHER ROBERTS

It's impossible to please God without faith because the one who draws near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards people who try to find him.

Father Roberts continues on with sermon.

ELOISE BENNETT (9), a boisterous young girl, flicks at the pages of "Scientific Revelations by Joseph Cook" which is hidden by the Bible.

ALBERT BENNETT (39), the town mayor, glares at his daughter and reaches across to snatch the book from her hands.

IDA BENNETT (30), a motherly homemaker, uses her fan to slap Albert on the wrist.

IDA

Albert...not in the Lord's house.

Father Roberts clears his throat and stares at the Bennett family.

FATHER ROBERTS

Amen! Well, that concludes our sermon today. I believe that Mayor Bennett has a few words for our congregation.

Albert struggles as he makes his way along the pew. He adjusts his jacket as he makes way down the aisle. Father Roberts gestures for him to stand behind the bible stand.

ALBERT  
Good morning everyone.

The congregation watches Albert's every move. Eloise giggles.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
We have received word that there is  
a small hairy creature attacking  
people in the surrounding area.

People in the congregation gasp. He pulls a piece of paper  
from his pocket.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
The creature is four feet tall, is  
covered in thick black hair with  
glowing red eyes.

Eloise darts up.

ELOISE  
Are you sure it's not you Father?

Ida forces a smile as she drags her daughter back into her  
seat.

ALBERT  
Thank you for that Eloise!

BARMY BERT (65), an old drunkard, sways as he stands up. He  
burps.

BARMY BERT  
That sounds like a spy...a French  
spy.

Ernest stands up clutching his bicorne under his arm.

ERNEST  
Phish Posh Bert! A French spy could  
never pull off such a sophisticated  
plan. Sounds like hogs-wash from  
Darlington to me.

The church erupts in laughter.

ALBERT  
There are over 300 reports from  
around the country of this  
creature.

ERNEST

A well travelled man such as myself  
shan't believe such a lie. Albert,  
why scare the towns people so?

Albert sighs.

ALBERT

All I ask that if you notice  
anything suspicious then please  
raise concern. Thank you.

The congregation exits the Church.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL CHURCH - MORNING

The sun blinds everyone as they exit the Church. Ida Bennett  
shakes Father Roberts hand. Eloise attempts to sneak away but  
is pulled back by her Mother.

IDA

Where do you think you're going  
young lady?

Eloise grins cheekily grasping the book close to her chest.

IDA (CONT'D)

What have I told you about this  
book?

Ida kneels down to Eloise's level. She grabs a hold of her  
hand.

IDA (CONT'D)

Next time, keep the book at home.

Eloise smiles at her Mother.

ELOISE

I promise.

Albert storms over to Eloise and drags her away from her  
Mother.

ALBERT

Eloise, you need to learn your  
place. If I've told you once never  
to disrespect me so in public.

ELOISE

I was only trying to lighten the  
mood Father.

Albert shakes his head in disgust.

ERNEST

Albert, may I have a moment of your time?

Eloise watches as her Father walks over towards Ernest.

INT. BENNETT HOME, ELOISE'S ROOM - EVENING

Eloise's room is small, the main feature is a huge circular glass window in which a window seat sits below it. There are bookshelves and a chest of drawers against the wall. Her bed is perfectly made.

Eloise sits on the edge of her bed, she holds the book close to her chest then places it on her lap and opens it. She flicks through the pages taking time to study each image.

IDA BENNETT peeks her head around the door watching Eloise as she begins to fall asleep.

EXT. FRENCH SHIP DECK - NIGHT

A storm is brewing, the sky is full of grey and black clouds. The boat is rocking heavily as waves crash onto the deck. Auguste stumbles onto the deck.

He looks at the clouds swirling in the sky above the ship.

INT. FRENCH SHIP BELOW DECK - NIGHT

Below deck is small and cramped. Each crew member has their own section with a hammock and small treasures and mementos from their travels as well as home.

In Eugene's section, there is a shelf above his hammock that has books such as: *Gulliver's Travels*, *Don Quixote*, *Robinson Crusoe*, *The Fugitive* and *Emma*. *All of these books are in English.*

Eugene lies in his hammock. He reaches up to his shelf and pulls down *Gulliver's Travels*. Barnabe crawls down the length of the hammock and rests against Eugene's head.

*Eugene can read in English.*



EUGENE

(Whispering to Barnabe)  
My father had a small estate in  
Nottinghamshire; I was the third of  
five sons.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL HEADLAND - AFTERNOON

The beach is full of children. Their school books are thrown against the sea wall. BRAM JACKSON (9), a charming young boy, leads a charge of children against the ocean.

BRAM

Last one in owes me a savoury  
pattie.

Eloise sits on a wet slimy rock. Her book is placed neatly at the side of her on a blanket. She inspects the wildlife in the rock pool. She reaches down to pick up a tiny crab. She cradles it in her hands stroking its shell.

ELOISE

Hello little fellow. Let's see what  
you are.

A hand swipes the book from the blanket. She turns to grab the book and it's not there. She looks over her shoulder and no one is there. SIMON JACKSON (13), a inexperienced teenager, screams. Eloise jumps dropping the crab into the rock pool.

SIMON

Hmmmm.

Simon flicks through the book, he pretends to adjust his glasses and places his hand on his hip. Bram stops mid step.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Brachyura...the common crab what an  
interesting specimen.

Eloise darts up. The other children jump into the ocean leaving Bram behind.

CHILD ONE

I think you owe us all a savoury  
pattie Bram.

Bram waves them off.

ELOISE

Simon give it back.

He lifts the book up as she tries to jump and reach it. Bram charges over to Simon.

BRAM

Simon stop or I'll tell Father.

Eloise's foot slips, she begins to fall but is caught by Bram. Simon giggles as she smiles at Bram. She pauses for a moment and punches Simon in the gut. He drops the book, Bram manages to catch it before it lands in the rock pool. Simon grabs his stomach.

BRAM (CONT'D)

You got what you deserve Simon.

Simon glares at Eloise.

SIMON

No wonder people call you a freak.

ELOISE

Act-

BRAM

If anyone is a freak it's you  
Simon. You look like you've got a  
caterpillar on your top lip.

Simon covers his mouth as Eloise and Bram laugh. The sky becomes clouded and turns grey. Ida approaches the sea wall, she leans against it.

IDA

Children, tea is ready.

Eloise and Bram skip towards the ramp as Simon slowly follows behind clutching his stomach. It begins to spit with rain.

EXT. FRENCH SHIP DECK - EVENING

The waves crash over the top of the ship pushing the crew across the deck. A huge gust of wind breaks the ship mast clean off. It crashes into the ocean.

LOUIS

Captain, I think we need to abandon  
ship.

Eugene grabs hold of Barnabe. Auguste wipes the water from his face only to be covered in more water.

AUGUSTE

Crew listen up. We must abandon  
ship everyone into the life vessel.

The crew push across the deck fighting to get in the lifeboat. Barnabe jumps from Eugene onto what remains of the mast. Louis places his hand out to Eugene who climbs into the boat.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

Is everyone aboard?

The crew lower the boat into the water.

EUGENE

Barnabe! We left Barnabe.

LOUIS

I am not risking my life for a  
monkey.

A huge wave crashes over the boat tipping it over. Eugene darts up.

EUGENE

Barnabe!

Eugene dives into the water and swims towards the wreck.

AUGUSTE

Eugene! Get back here.

Auguste stands up and removes his coat. He stands against the edge of the boat. Louis places his arm out to stop him.

LOUIS

There is nothing we can do now  
Captain. We must escape now to save  
our own lives.

Auguste stares hopelessly into the distance.

EXT. BACK ALLEYS OF HARTLEPOOL HEADLAND - EVENING

The rain has become significantly harder. The rain water runs through the cobbled path like a small river. ANNE MARKS (23) ,an elegant young woman, huddles under her umbrella. ELIAS MORRIS (25) ,a rugged labourer, holds his hand around Anne's waist. Elias leans for a kiss but Anne pulls away.

ANNE

Elias...we shouldn't.

ELIAS

But there is no one around. Who is going to hang around in weather like this?

Anne smiles as Elias brings Anne's lips close to his. As they get closer, the rubbish in the back alley starts to rustle. Anne pulls away.

ANNE

What was that?

ELIAS

I'm sure it's nothing.

He attempts to kiss her but is left hanging.

ANNE

Mayor Bennett, did say to be report any strange sightings?

ELIAS

I'm sure it's just a rat.

The rustling stops, the begins again but louder.

ANNE

Elias, I'm getting scared now...it could be that thing.

ELIAS

I'll check it out.

Elias moves over towards the rubbish, he kicks it with his foot and a few pieces of mouldy food fall onto the floor. Anne looks around and looks at the street lamp. Elias points at the rubbish.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

See nothing now come here you big baby.

A huge shadowy creature crawls along the wall. Elias screams and runs away leaving Anne to follow behind.

A small scrappy dog trots over towards the rubbish and eats the mouldy food.

INT. BENNETT HOME, DINING ROOM - EVENING

There is a huge mahogany table with eight chairs around it. In the middle of the table there are several china serving dishes with roast beef, potatoes and other trimmings.

Eloise pushes the food around her plate. Bram and Simon shovel their food into their mouths as if they haven't been fed for weeks. Ida watches them confused.

Albert and Ernest enter the room, taking off their wet coats placing them on the coat stand.

ALBERT

By, it's wild out there.

Albert takes a his seat, Simon and Bram pick up their forks and start to eat. Albert clears his throat.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Let us pray. Bless us, O God. Bless our food and our drink. Since you redeemed us so dearly and delivered us from evil, as you gave us a share in this food so may you give us a share in eternal life.

ALL

Amen!

Ernest pats Simon on the head.

SIMON

There'll definitely be some treasure on the beach tomorrow.

ERNEST

It means that if any French ships are out there then they've been sent our way.

Albert drinks from his tankard, he places his hand atop of Ida's. The table falls silent as everyone eats their food.

ELOISE

I don't even get why we're at war with France.

Albert drops his fork against his plate.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

If you ask me, war of any form is futile.

She chews on a piece of potato.

SIMON

No one asked you though did they?

ERNEST

War is essential to stop maniacs  
like Napoleon becoming ruler.

SIMON

We fight to protect the honour of  
the King.

Ernest smiles at Simon, Bram shovels food into his mouth.

ELOISE

But we have the strongest trade  
routes so doesn't that make us the  
strongest power.

Albert shakes his head.

ALBERT

Eloise I have told you about this.

ELOISE

I only wanted to know Uncle Ern's  
opinion.

ALBERT

There is a time and a place for  
this talk. And this is not the time  
nor the place.

ERNEST

It's nice that she shows interest,  
Albert.

She smiles at Ernest.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

I wish my boys showed more  
interest.

He looks at Bram who is staring at the piece of beef in the  
centre of the table. Eloise pushes her chair out from the  
table and she grabs her book then storms out of the room. The  
front door can be heard slamming.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

Go after her please Simon. It's  
dangerous for a young girl like  
herself to be alone at night.

Simon smiles and leaves the room.

There are multiple frantic knocks at the door.

IDA

Excuse me.

Ida gets up from the table and leaves the room.

INT. BENNETT HOME HALLWAY - EVENING

Ida opens the door, Anne and Elias almost fall on top of her.

ELIAS

Is Mayor Bennett home?

Albert instantaneously enters the room.

ALBERT

I heard my name.

ANNE

We saw that...that

ALBERT

That?

ELIAS

That creature, the one who has  
killed over 300.

ALBERT

Did you get a good look at it?

ELIAS

Yeah...no because we were running  
away from it.

ALBERT

Did it have claws? Fur as black as  
a raven's feather? Glowing eyes?

The couple stare at each other.

ANNE

I guess you could say that.

ELIAS

But we didn't get a clear look at  
it.

Albert grabs his coat from the coat stand.

ALBERT

Hurry we must find this creature  
and claim victory over it.

Albert pushes past Anne and Elias. He storms into the street.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL HEADLAND - NIGHT

The beach is full of debris and personal belongings from the French shipwreck. The sky is clear. The full moon glistens against the ocean. Eloise walks down the ramp onto the beach. She notices a red leather bound notebook, and picks it up.

ELOISE

Journal de bord. Nous sommes partis  
avec succès de la France.

She pauses as a few pieces of wood move. She screams.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Who goes there?

Barnabe pushes through the wood and screeches. Eloise approaches the small monkey in a French uniform.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Hello, do you require some  
assistance?

She holds out her hand, Barnabe grabs her finger.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

What is your name?

Barnabe hoots. Eloise examines his features. She plops down on the sand and opens her book. Simon approaches the sea wall.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

I knew you looked familiar.  
Cebinae...a monkey.

SIMON

The creature, it's here.

Eloise gestures for the monkey to follow her. Albert puffs as he reaches the sea wall. Anne and Elias follow Albert. Ernest saunters behind him. Crowds rush towards the beach. Elias dashes to the sea wall.

ELIAS

That's it. That's the creature.

The crowd gasps.



BARMY BERT

That thing...he's wearing a French uniform.

TOWNSPERSON ONE

It's a French spy!

TOWNSPERSON TWO

It's going to cast a wicked spell on her!

ALBERT

Eloise, step away from that...that thing.

The Townspeople rush down onto the beach. Eloise looks at Ernest and Albert who lead the crowd.

ELOISE

Father, there is nothing to worry about it's not going to harm me. It's just an animal. A monkey

ALBERT

A moon-key? No that is man eating creature disguised who appears to be French.

TOWN'S PERSON ONE

I thought a monkey was one of those half fish half human creatures.

Ernest shakes his head in dismay.

TOWN'S PERSON TWO

She's already under its spell! Keep away everyone!

The crowd takes a collective step back leaving Albert and Ernest standing in front of Eloise.

ERNEST

Eloise, please hand that thing over. It's for your own safety.

ELOISE

Uncle Ern, I promise there is nothing to worry about.

Whilst Eloise is distracted, Simon dashes across the sand launching himself at Barnabe.

ERNEST

Simon! Get away from that thing!

SIMON

Father, I will save the day.

Eloise grabs Barnabe before Simon can grab him. She runs towards the horseshoe arch.

ERNEST

Simon! Stop her!

Simon dusts himself off and dashes toward the arch. He is followed by Ernest and Albert.

EXT. HORSESHOE ARCH STAIRS - NIGHT

Eloise rushes through the arch.

ELOISE

Don't worry, I'll protect you.

Simon corners her on one side of the stairs, she tries to push past him but fails. She turns around to try and run up the other set of stairs but is stopped by Ernest. She tries to run back onto the beach but fails.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Uncle Ernest listen to me it's not a French spy...please.

Ernest takes the monkey from her arms.

ERNEST

I hereby place this French spy under arrest.

Eloise begins to cry.

ELOISE

It-it's not a spy...

Albert saunters down the stairs. He rips the book from her hands.

ALBERT

I have not heard of a moon key but I have heard of a French spy. Take it to the cells.

Eloise screams as Barnabe is taken away.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

The cell is small and cramped. There are bars lining a semi-circular grate window letting moonlight stream in. There is a bed with a hay mattress covered in burlap against the wall. There is a small cracked chamber pot underneath it.

Barnabe is placed in the cell. Guards try to cuff him but his wrists and ankles are too small for the cuffs. The guards leave the cell as Barnabe climbs up the wall to sit near the bars watching the moonlight.

INT. BENNETT HOME, PARLOUR - NIGHT

A huge roaring fire is the centrepiece of the room. Two parlour sofas face each other with a leather armchair in between the two. The walls are lined with bookshelves.

Eloise sits in front of the fire wrapped in a blanket. She sniffs as tears fall down her cheek. Albert barges into the room with Eloise's book in hand.

ALBERT

I do not know what you think you are playing at young lady. Communicating with that thing who could very well be a French spy. My daughter a collaborator. I cannot even look at you, you disappoint me so.

She turns to face him.

ELOISE

I am sorry for disappointing you but...I am not sorry for knowing the truth.

ALBERT

Don't back chat me. I've had enough of your backchat for a lifetime tonight.

Albert walks over to the fire. He holds the book up.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

I need to do this for your own good.

EXT. BENNETT HOME - NIGHT

Bram watches Albert scream at Eloise through the window.

INT. BENNETT HOME PARLOUR - NIGHT

Albert throws the book into the fire. Eloise lets out a visceral scream.

ELOISE  
Dad, No! Please!

ALBERT  
If this will make you see sense  
then it had to be done.

She stands up and goes toe to toe with Albert.

ELOISE  
I'll prove you wrong. You'll see  
that I am right and you are wrong.

She walks out of the room.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
You'll see.

Albert watches the book catch fire then leaves the room.

EXT. BENNETT HOME - NIGHT

Bram watches the book begin to combust. He creeps along the window to the front door and sneaks into the house.

INT. BENNETT HOME PARLOUR - NIGHT

Bram sneaks into the parlour. He grabs the fire poker and slowly edges the book towards the fire place. He stomps on it extinguishing the fire. All that remains is the book's cover. He wraps it in his coat and sneaks off into the night.

INT. JOSEPH COOK'S LAB - NIGHT

JOSEPH COOK (35), a scientist who dresses in finery, writes a letter. It reads "There is a French spy being held captive. You must act with haste for they may be sent to the gallows."

EXT. SEA - MORNING

The crew are tired and ragged. Auguste leans against the side of the boat, his arm dragging through the water. Louis and another crew member row the boat.

AUGUSTE

We need to go back for Eugene.

LOUIS

Captain, it is of no use to us to go back for him. The poor boy will have drowned by now.

Auguste sighs.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Don't worry Captain. We will be ashore soon.

Auguste's arms drags out of the boat as the boat rows into the distance.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL HEADLAND - MORNING

Eugene lies lifeless on the beach. He coughs and splutters as he sits up looking at his surroundings.

EUGENE

Barnabe.

He sits up noticing that some of his books have made it ashore. He picks them up, almost dropping them. He attempts to walk up the beach but struggles.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - MORNING

The interrogation room is small and damp. The stone walls are wet and slimy. In the centre of the room is a wooden table which many inmates have carved into. On each side of the table are two milk maid stools.

Ernest sits across from Barnabe. Barnabe strokes his fur.

ERNEST

You have two options: speak and save your life or don't speak and face certain death.

Barnabe looks at him blankly.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

What is your mission?

Barnabe chirps. Ernest slams his hand on the desk.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

What is your mission damn it?

Barnabe screeches.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
I see the game you are playing.

Ernest clears his throat.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Why did Napoleon send you here?

Barnabe scratches his head.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
If you don't answer in ten seconds,  
there will be consequences.

Barnabe jumps up from across the table and aims to land on Ernest's shoulder.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Ahhh! He's trying to possess me.

He throws Barnabe to the ground. He dusts off himself.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
I see you have sealed your fate,  
you are to be hung in the town  
square.

INT. BENNETT HOME, ELOISE'S ROOM - MORNING

Eloise sits on her window bench and watches the waves roll into the shore. She sighs heavily. There is a knock at her door.

BRAM (O.S.)  
May I enter?

She turns to face the door.

ELOISE  
Go away Bram.

BRAM (O.S.)  
I promise you'll like what I've  
got.

She stands up and moves closer to the door.

ELOISE  
I'm not interested...beside I am  
not to leave my room so I can't see  
you.

BRAM (O.S.)  
Your Mam said I could visit, she  
said you needed some cheering up.

She pauses for a moment.

ELOISE  
Enter.

She takes a seat at the window. Bram enters the room with a huge grin on his face holding a parcel wrapped messily in brown paper.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
What are you smiling for?

He hands her the parcel.

BRAM  
I can't wait any longer. Open it.

She opens the parcel as Bram jumps up and down in excitement. It's the cover of Joseph Cook's book albeit a little charred and burnt.

ELOISE  
Wait...how did you get this?

BRAM  
I saw Uncle Albert burning it and I  
knew how much it meant to you so I  
saved what I could.

She places it at her side and swings her arms around Bram.

ELOISE  
Thanks Bram. I appreciate that you  
saved what you could.

She releases him from the hug.

BRAM  
Well...what now?

Eloise smiles deviously.

ELOISE  
Hmm, I was thinking about a plan of  
how we could prove that monkey's  
innocence.

Bram takes a seat in the window.

BRAM

Firstly, what is a moon key?

ELOISE

It's pronounced Monkey Bram.

She laughs.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

If I had my book I could show you a drawing of one. A monkey is an animal that comes from South America or the Caribbean. It eats fruit, insects and leaves. And most importantly it doesn't speak...it does this.

She makes a noise like a monkey noise making Bram laugh.

BRAM

Are you positive it's not a French spy? I remember that time when you swore you found a mermaid and it was just a fish.

She shakes her head.

ELOISE

I'm positive Bram, we need to save that monkey and prove its not a threat.

BRAM

But how?

She paces up and down the room. She stops mid step stroking her chin. She takes the book from Bram's hands.

ELOISE

We go to Joseph Cook. He wrote the book so he can identify that it's not a spy but a monkey.

BRAM

Not to be so negative but how do we do that?

She smiles at him.

MONTAGE OF BRAM AND ELOISE DEVISING A PLAN

Eloise dashes around her room picking up a quill and ink and roll of paper.



She darts towards a wicker basket that contains several scrolls of paper. She picks up a scroll tied with a red piece of string.

She rolls the paper out on the floor, she hands the quill to Bram.

She unties the red string and rolls out the scroll. It is the map used at the town hall meeting. They look at the map, Eloise points north to Edinburgh.

She rips off a piece of paper and tries to draw a monkey from memory. She darts up and heads towards her wardrobe.

She pulls out some brown material and her needle. She begins to sew.

Bram draws a map on the paper of the jail.

Eloise is finished her sewing project. It's a dummy monkey.

END OF MONTAGE.

ELOISE

I think we're ready.

Eloise peers her head around the door. She turns around to face Bram and gestures to him to follow her.

The pair creep out of the room.

INT. BENNETT HOME STAIRCASE - NIGHT

A rug runs down the middle of the stairs held in by metal bars. There are pieces of art lining the wall.

They creep down the stairs, Eloise in front and Bram behind. Eloise steps on a creaky stair. She holds her hand out for Bram to stop.

ALBERT (O.S.)

Hmmph.

They pause for a few seconds. Then continue down the stairs.

EXT. BENNETT HOME - NIGHT

The pair quietly celebrate, jumping and hugging each other.

INT. JAIL - NIGHT

The jail is dark and dingy, there are a few cells with sleeping prisoners in. On the wall, there are a few hooks with prison cell keys on them.

Bram walks into the jail. PRISON OFFICER JONES (27), a lackadaisical prison guard, sits on a stool reading. He looks at Bram.

PRISON OFFICER JONES  
Bram what are you doing here,  
shouldn't you at home?

Bram shuffles in his stance.

BRAM  
Well...erm actually my Dad sent me  
over here to pick something up.

Prison Officer Jones strokes his chin.

PRISON OFFICER JONES  
And it couldn't wait till morning.

BRAM  
NO...no ahem he needs it now. It's  
something to do with the creature.

Prison Officer Jones furls his brow.

PRISON OFFICER JONES  
Follow me.

Prison Officer Jones walks away from the cell towards the small office. Bram looks behind him gesturing to Eloise. Eloise sneaks into the prison.

She moves over to the stool and stands on it, almost toppling over. Bram stands in the doorway watching Jones.

PRISON OFFICER JONES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
What exactly is it that your  
looking for Bram?

BRAM  
It's erm a letter.

Bram gestures to Eloise to hurry up. Eloise steps down from the stool and walks over to the cell. She places the key in the lock and slowly opens the door.

BRAM (CONT'D)  
Have you found it?

PRISON OFFICER JONES (O.S.)  
No, not yet.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

Eloise enters the cell and pulls the dummy from her bag. She holds some nuts in her hands.

ELOISE  
Here monkey, monkey.

Barnabe scampers over to her. She holds him close to her chest. She places the dummy on the bed and leaves the cell.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

Eloise locks the cell and places the keys back on the hook. Barnabe oo's.

PRISON OFFICER JONES (O.S.)  
What was that?

Bram glances at Eloise who is leaving the jail.

BRAM  
It was me, I ate a lot of beans earlier...sorry. I think I'll just come back for the letter. Surely, it's not that important.

PRISON OFFICER JONES (O.S.)  
If you say so.

BRAM  
Thanks Jones. See you later.

Bram struts out of the jail. Prison officer Jones takes a seat back on his stool and picks up his book.

EXT. PRISON ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Eloise giggles as she holds Barnabe close to her chest. She holds her hand out to Bram who shakes it.

ELOISE  
Good show Bram. Good show.

Bram smiles.

BRAM  
So...what now.

Eloise's face drops.

ELOISE  
Edinburgh. Joseph Cook lives in  
Edinburgh.

Eloise's face drops.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
But how do we get there?

Bram pauses.

BRAM  
I know! My Dad's horse Mabel.

Eloise pats Bram on the shoulder as Barnabe jumps onto her shoulder.

INT. STABLES - NIGHT

The stables are homed in a large wooden barn. There are eight enclosures, four on each side of the barn. Each enclosure has the name of the horse on a metal plaque: Diamond, Mabel, Flying bolt, Needles, Sea bird, Sunday Silence, The Duke and Midnight.

The stable floor is covered in a thick layer of hay. Mice scurry across the floor hiding in the piles of hay.

The children struggle to open the huge barn doors. They push them hard and manage to open them enough to squeeze through. Eloise wipes her hands on her dress.

ELOISE  
Golly! I've never been here before.  
This place is amazing...These  
creatures are magnificent.

Eloise steps up to Sea bird's enclosure and pets him on the head. Barnabe hoots scaring the horse.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
Are you jealous little monkey?

She holds out her arm and he jumps onto it. She strokes his head.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
You don't have to worry, I'll do  
anything and everything in my power  
to protect you. No one is going to  
do anything bad to you.

Barnabe nuzzles into her chest.

Bram grabs Mabel's saddle from the wall. He struggles to walk as he walks over to her enclosure. Mabel is a light brown coloured horse with long shiny hair. Bram enters her enclosure closely followed by Eloise and Barnabe.

Bram drops the saddle and pets Mabel.

BRAM

Hello girl, how are you? I'm going to put your saddle on.

Bram reaches over to place the saddle on Mabel. Eloise watches as Bram places his head against the horse.

ELOISE

It's a magnificent creature Bram.

BRAM

I know...it's just this is my Dad's favourite horse. He named it after my Mam.

Eloise pauses.

ELOISE

Bram, you do actually know how to ride a horse don't you?

Bram clears his throat.

BRAM

Funny you should say that...Mabel is my Dad's pride and joy. He's never let Simon or I ride her before.

ELOISE

Are you sure we should take her?

BRAM

Sure...How hard could it be?

Bram kneels on the ground, Eloise steps on his knee launching herself onto Mabel. She leans over to pull Bram up.

ELOISE

How do we make her go?

She waves the reins, nothing happens.

BRAM  
I've seen my dad do this.

He taps his heel on Mabel, she canters out of the stable.

ELOISE  
Aaaahhh!

BRAM  
Northwards, we go.

INT. ELOISE'S ROOM - MORNING

Albert creeps into Eloise's room, he sits on the edge of her bed.

ALBERT  
Eloise, my dear. I'm sorry for  
burning your book.

He sighs.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
I just wish you would listen and  
heed my warnings. All I wish is you  
would use your intelligence for  
things more suited to you.

He places his hand on the bed.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
You are my only child and I can't  
have you protecting that thing.  
Your actions do not reflect well on  
me.

He turns to look at Eloise.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Did you hear me my child?

He pauses.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Eloise! I am talking to you.

He lifts up the covers to reveal pillows in the shape of a  
body and doll for the head.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Ida!

Albert stands up and clenches his fists.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Ida! Come here!

Ida dashes into the room.

IDA  
What dearest?

ALBERT  
She's not here. We must go to  
Ernest's at once.

EXT. ERNEST'S HOUSE - MORNING

Albert thumps on Ernest's front door, Ida stands behind him.  
Simon opens the door rubbing his eyes.

SIMON  
Morning Uncle Albert and Aunty Ida.  
Why you're here early!

ALBERT  
Yes, yes.

Albert pushes past Simon.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Now where is your father?

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE HALLWAY - MORNING

Simon falls to the floor, as Ernest enters the room.

ERNEST  
What is all this commotion?

Ida kneels to help Simon up.

ALBERT  
Eloise is missing.

ERNEST  
She's missing?

ALBERT  
How many times do I need to say it  
man she is missing!

ERNEST  
You don't think this has anything  
to do with that French spy...do  
you?

IDA  
Ern...where is Bram?

They all look at Simon.

SIMON  
He's still asleep, he is not a  
morning person like I am.

Ernest pounds up the stairs.

INT. BRAM'S ROOM - MORNING

Ernest flings open the door and storms over to Bram's bed. He lifts up the covers to reveal pillows in the shape of a body with a note on top of them.

The note reads "Hello Dad, I have to gone to help Eloise prove the innocence of the creature. She told me it's not a French spy so don't worry. It's not going to hurt us. I will be back soon enough. Yours sincerely, Bram."

Ernest crumples the note in his hand. He exits the room.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE HALLWAY - MORNING

Ernest walks down the stairs, pushing his hair back in anger. Simon looks at his Dad worried.

SIMON  
What is it Father?

IDA  
He's gone with her hasn't he.

Ernest nods.

ALBERT  
She's brainwashed him just like  
that thing brainwashed her.

ERNEST  
It doesn't matter if she was  
thinking straight or not. A warrant  
needs to be put out for their  
arrests.

There is a pause, Simon inhales.

SIMON  
What about the creature? Is it  
still in jail?



Ernest pats Simon's shoulder.

ERNEST

Good thinking son. We must go there  
post haste.

INT. JAIL - MORNING

Albert and Ernest enter the jail. Prison officer Jones is asleep on the stool leaning against the wall.

ERNEST

Jones...Jones.

Ernest claps his hands. Jones snorts and yawns.

ALBERT

Where is the spy?

PRISON OFFICER JONES

In the cell, where else would it  
be?

ERNEST

Keys.

Jones hands him the cell keys. Ernest opens the cell.

INT. JAIL CELL - MORNING

He walks over to the bed and picks up what looks like the monkey. He lifts it up to inspect it. It's clearly been made by a child. He picks it up and turns to Albert.

Albert enters the cell, he looks at the ground noticing a small bow from Eloise's dress. He picks it up.

ALBERT

I think Eloise may have had  
something to do with this.

Ernest hands Albert the dummy monkey. He places both hands on it shaking it violently.

INT. JAIL - MORNING

He exits the cell. Father Roberts enters the room.

FATHER ROBERTS

Good morning gentleman, how are  
this fine morning?

Father Roberts removes his hat and watches Ernest shaking the dummy monkey.

FATHER ROBERTS (CONT'D)

I guess I am not need to pray over  
the creature before it hangs.

Ernest throws down the dummy to the ground.

ERNEST

Jones, how did you let the spy  
escape?

ALBERT

You had one job Jones.

PRISON OFFICER JONES

I did all the checks, it never  
moved.

FATHER ROBERTS

But this is not just any creature  
we are dealing with Jones.

ALBERT

This creature has the power to  
become the next big serial killer.

ERNEST

And Jones you've just let it  
escape. From what I've heard from  
the other town's it's only a matter  
of time before it takes it's next  
victim.

PRISON OFFICER JONES

I am truly sorry sir.

Ernest shakes his head, he takes a deep breath.

ERNEST

Did you notice any unusual activity  
last night?

Jones ponders for a moment.

PRISON OFFICER JONES

Now that you mention it, Bram did  
come by last night looking for a  
letter that you required.

ERNEST

For me? I did not send him for  
anything of the sort.

PRISON OFFICER JONES  
I couldn't find it so he said he  
would just come back this morning  
for it.

Albert pauses.

ALBERT  
What's the next step Ernest?

ERNEST  
I hate to do this to our children  
but I think we need to get the  
military involved.

ALBERT  
Do we need to act so rashly?

ERNEST  
They are in the clutches of a  
French spy! He could be doing  
anything to them!

Albert nods in agreement.

INT. JAIL OFFICE - MIDDAY

The room is small and cramped. There are no windows only  
stonewalls. There is a desk in the centre of the room with a  
chair on either side. A drawn picture of the king sits behind  
the desk.

ALBERT  
How much longer?

Albert paces the width of the small room. Ernest stares at  
the clock on the wall that reads 3:25pm. FIELD MARSHALL  
GEORGE WATSON (37), a confident pompous man, storms into the  
room.

GEORGE  
Ernest, you incompetent fool.

He storms over to the desk, Albert stops in his tracks.

GEORGE (CONT'D)  
How could you let such a thing  
happen?

ERNEST  
I can only apologise sir. We tried  
our best but...

Albert turns to face George.

ALBERT

But it was my daughter's fault.  
This whole mess is because of her.

George laughs.

GEORGE

Don't sell me a dog! A girl could  
never pull off such a well executed  
plan.

ERNEST

We think she was aided by my son  
Bram.

GEORGE

Children pulled this off.

ALBERT

Yes sir.

George pauses.

ERNEST

They broke into the jail and stole  
the creature who we believe to be a  
French spy.

GEORGE

Why would your daughter and your  
son want to break a French spy out  
of jail?

Albert awkwardly smiles.

ALBERT

Well...that's it you see. Eloise  
thinks it's a monkey and not a  
French spy.

GEORGE

A monkey? Good heavens, your  
daughter should be locked up in a  
lunatic asylum for such hogswash.

Albert pauses.

ALBERT

I have no reason to argue with you,  
it would knock some sense into her.

Ernest shuffles in his seat and clears his throat.

ERNEST

Field Marshall Watson, we called for your help. How can we rectify this situation?

GEORGE

We shall get posters printed. Any suspicious activity is to be reported directly to me.

Albert and Ernest nod in agreement.

Ernest and George move things on the desk to make a clear space. George reaches into this pocket and pulls out a small map and places it on the table.

Albert stares in the distance, slowly shaking his head and sighing.

INT. PRINTING PRESS - LATE AFTERNOON

There is a iron manual printing press behind the counter. The walls are full of tiny drawers containing letter and number tiles.

Simon enters the printing press.

SIMON

Hello, I am here to collect some posters for my Father.

AMBROSE SMITH (46), printing press store owner, walks from behind the press. He wipes his hands clean on a rag.

AMBROSE

I hope your father appreciates this. I cancelled my other orders for this.

He places several huge crates filled with wanted posters on the table.

SIMON

My Father is very grateful you could fulfil his wishes at such short notice. Thank you.

EXT. PRINTING PRESS - LATE AFTERNOON

Simon exits the shop, struggling to carry the crates. He drops a crate and kneels down to pick it up. He pauses for a moment noticing a horse track in the mud.

SIMON

Mabel?

He picks up the box and heads off towards the jail.

INT. JAIL OFFICE - EVENING

Simon enters the room, placing the crates on the desk. The room is full of men in military uniforms.

GEORGE

Men, take these posters and distribute them to towns within the vicinity.

The men nod.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

And keep a look out for two children and a French spy.

The men leave the room.

EXT. SEA - EVENING

The French Crew are crowded into a small life raft. Auguste has perked up for the sake of his crew, his posture is more confident. Auguste looks towards the horizon. Louis rests his head on his fist.

LOUIS

Captain, I think we may be lost.

AUGUSTE

No man! We are on the right track.

The boat sails in open waters.

EXT. SEA - HOURS LATER

Louis lies on the bottom of the life raft staring at the stars. Auguste stares towards the horizon.

LOUIS

Captain, how do you know where to go? It feels like we had been bound to this vessel for eternity.

AUGUSTE

I am just sailing on instinct.

Louis shakes his head, covering his eyes with his forearm.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)  
Land ho! Land ho!

Auguste dances, rocking the boat heavily. Louis pushes himself up in the boat.

LOUIS  
What?

AUGUSTE  
We're near land, keep rowing. Keep rowing.

Louis shakes his head and sighs.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)  
Ah ha!

The boat rows towards shore.

EXT. COASTAL TOWN BEACH - NIGHT

The boat lands ashore. Auguste steps foot onto land followed by Louis. Louis gets onto all fours and kisses the sand. Auguste places his hands on his hips.

AUGUSTE  
We must investigate where we have landed.

LOUIS  
Captain, I do not think that is a good idea.

AUGUSTE  
Do you have any other ideas?

LOUIS  
No...but there is a risk of being captured. We are French.

Auguste laughs as he removes his jacket and hat. He places them in the boat.

AUGUSTE  
Don't worry man, I'll be careful.

Louis shakes his head as Auguste saunters up the beach.

EXT. COASTAL TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT

The town is silent. Shutters are closed on windows. There is not a soul around apart from a stray cat wandering the street.

Auguste creeps through the shadows, constantly watching over his shoulders.

An oil lit street lamp flickers in the darkness. On the lamp post is a poster that reads "Wanted! French Spy! Creature is four foot, covered in black hair and has glowing red eyes. Please contact local police if you have any information."

Auguste pulls down the poster only taking the part that reads "Wanted! French Spy!".

AUGUSTE  
French spi!

He studies the poster.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)  
What is a spi?

He places the poster back in his pocket and heads back towards the beach.

EXT. COASTAL TOWN BEACH - NIGHT

Auguste dashes back to the boat.

LOUIS  
Captain...be careful.

Auguste takes the poster from his pocket and hands it to Louis as he catches his breath.

AUGUSTE  
What is a spi?

Louis looks confused.

LOUIS  
What?

AUGUSTE  
A spee! They're looking for a  
French spee!

Louis studies the poster.



LOUIS

A French  
spi...spee...spy...espionner.

AUGUSTE

Eugene! He's alive! Alive I say!

LOUIS

Captain, how do you know it's him.

AUGUSTE

I am the Captain and I say no man  
left behind! We must go back for  
him.

LOUIS

But how can we know exactly where  
he is?

Auguste pauses for a moment.

AUGUSTE

I do not know.

Louis shakes his head. Auguste's eyes light up.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

The French are aiding the Scottish  
in a rebellion against the English.  
They can help us.

Louis shakes his head.

LOUIS

How do we get there?

Auguste pauses for a moment.

AUGUSTE

That's for me to figure out not you  
Louis.

Auguste pats Louis on the shoulder.

INT. HARTLEPOOL CAVE - MORNING

Eugene sits in the centre of the small cave, watching the  
waves roll in and out.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL BEACH - MORNING

Simon walks up and down the beach. His hands are clasped behind his back as he breathes heavily.

Simon pauses as there is a cough in the distance. Simon struts over to the cave.

INT. HARTLEPOOL CAVE - MORNING

Eugene dashes behind a rock, cowering in fear.

Simon enters the cave, slowly and carefully.

SIMON  
Who goes there?

There is no response, Simon wanders around the cave. He does not get close to the rock where Eugene is hiding.

Behind the rock, Eugene holds his breath.

SIMON (CONT'D)  
I said...Who goes there?

Again there is no response. He stops close to the rock.

ERNEST (O.S.)  
Simon! Get over here!

SIMON  
Sorry Father.

He leaves the cave and Eugene lets out a huge sigh of relief.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

The forest is vast and full of luscious green trees. There is a small beaten path in the middle of a row of trees.

Eloise, Bram and Barnabe canter through the forest on Mabel. Bram yawns as Eloise rubs her eyes. Barnabe is in Eloise's canvas bag sleeping, his head is peeking out.

ELOISE  
I think we're lost.

Bram stretches and yawns.

BRAM  
What gave you that impression?

ELOISE

We've been riding all night and we are yet to make it to Edinburgh.

Bram pauses.

BRAM

Do you actually know where Edinburgh is?

Eloise pauses.

ELOISE

It's north. As long as we have the sea to our right we are headed in the right direction.

BRAM

But we haven't seen the sea for hours.

Bram pauses.

BRAM (CONT'D)

Eloise, I thought you knew where we were going all this time.

Bram sighs.

ELOISE

How should I know where we should head...I've never left Hartlepool before. If you have any ideas why don't you take over?

Bram looks away from her. Barnabe yawns and wakes up.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Maybe we should stop for a moment and regroup.

Mabel stops. Bram and Eloise step down from the horse. There is a huge bush of berries, Barnabe's eyes widen as he scampers over to the bush. He picks berries off the bush shovelling them into his mouth.

Bram's stomach rumbles.

BRAM

I am hungry too. I can't remember when I ate last.

Eloise picks a berry up and sniffs it.

ELOISE

I don't think it's wise that we eat these.

BRAM

But I'm so hungry Eloise.

As rustling in the distance startles Mabel . Mabel bucks up and darts off.

ELOISE

Bram, it was your job to tie her up. She's your horse.

Bram stomps his foot.

BRAM

You were the one who was in charge and the one who was riding her. If my Dad wasn't going to kill me before he definitely will now.

The bushes continue to rustle, BEATRICE JAMES (58), a decrepit old lady, emerges from the bushes. Barnabe screeches and jumps onto Eloise's head.

BEATRICE

Are you lost?

BRAM

Yes Ma'am. We're on our way to Edinburgh to prov-

Eloise hits Bram in the stomach.

ELOISE

We're going to see our Grandfather in Edinburgh. We lost our parents and we have no idea if we're going in the right direction.

BEATRICE

I know the way and I'd be happy to point you in the right direction.

Bram's stomach rumbles.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Are you hungry? You could come back to my cottage for some sustenance before you continue on your journey.

BRAM

We'd love too, I'm starving.

ELOISE

We must really continue on, it's a matter of urgency that we get to our Grandfather.

Barnabe watches Beatrice.

BEATRICE

I can't in good conscience let you continue on without a full stomach.

Beatrice walks towards the children.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Come back with me...I'll even put some food together for your monkey.

Eloise's eyes widen.

ELOISE

You know this creature is a monkey!

BEATRICE

Why yes child isn't it obvious. Now follow me.

Eloise, Bram and Barnabe follow behind Beatrice.

EXT. BEATRICE'S COTTAGE - MORNING

Beatrice's cottage is a traditional stone cottage with a thatched roof. The cottage is surrounded by a field of wild flowers.

Eloise stands in awe of the cottage as Bram and Beatrice enter.

Eloise holds out her arm and Barnabe jumps down onto it. She strokes his cheek.

ELOISE

See, she knows what you are. The people of Hartlepool mustn't be educated enough to know what you are.

Eloise smiles at Barnabe.

BEATRICE

Little girl, are you coming in?

Eloise dashes up behind Beatrice.

ELOISE  
Coming, I was just admiring your  
beautiful garden.

BEATRICE  
Thank you darling.

INT. BEATRICE'S COTTAGE - MORNING

The cottage is tiny and cozy. The focal point is a huge cast iron pot with what appears to be a vegetable soup in it. The walls are painted in a white wash. Against the wall there is a lower table (an altar) with animal bones, crystals and incense burning.

There is a book open on the alter, it has picture of a monkey depicted as a God with text that reads "A monkey paw grants its owner three wishes."

Eloise enters the cottage.

BRAM  
It smells delicious in here.

Bram pauses for a moment, smelling the air.

BRAM (CONT'D)  
Excuse our rudeness, we don't  
actually know your name.

Beatrice, who is stirring the pot of soup, turns to look at Bram.

BEATRICE  
My name is Beatrice. Beatrice  
James.

BRAM  
Nice to meet you Beatrice. I'm Bram  
and this is Eloise.

Eloise slowly walks around the room, stopping as she gets close to the altar.

ELOISE  
So are you going to give us the  
directions to Edinburgh.

BEATRICE  
Yes but, why don't have something  
to eat first. Take a seat.

Eloise looks at the book, her eyes widen in fear. She takes a seat at the table, her eyes firmly focused on Beatrice. Beatrice places a bowl of soup in front of Bram and Eloise. She places a bowl of berries on the table for Barnabe.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Enjoy my dears.

Bram can't get the soup into his mouth fast enough whilst Eloise plays with her food. Barnabe jumps on the table and eats the berries.

ELOISE

Beatrice, I hope you don't mind me asking this but how do you know what a monkey is?

Beatrice laughs.

BEATRICE

I used to be part of a travelling show and a monkey performer was our most successful act.

Eloise smiles at Beatrice.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

While you're eating, I'll just go and retrieve the map from upstairs for you.

BRAM

Thank you Beatrice.

Beatrice goes up the staircase, Eloise watches her smiling. Her face drops as she leaves the room, she leans closer to Bram.

ELOISE

I don't trust this old lady, something seems fishy about her.

Bram continues to eat. Eloise looks at Barnabe who is enjoying the berries.

BRAM

She's a sweet old lady she won't do us any harm.

Beatrice descends down the stairs with one hand behind her back and a closed up monkey paw in the other.

ELOISE

I knew I was right about you.

BEATRICE

I missed out on my chance at three wishes before and I will not miss out again.

She throws the closed monkey paw on the table.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

Don't worry children it's not you I want. I want that monkey's paw. In fact, let's strike a deal.

She smiles menacingly. Bram jumps up from the table.

BRAM

No one is taking the monkey...not even a sweet old lady like you.

Beatrice grins as she edges closer to the table. Eloise edges closer to Barnabe who is oblivious to the situation.

BEATRICE

You give me that monkey and I'll let you have a wish each. I only desire one wish...eternal youth.

BRAM

Wishes!

BEATRICE

Anything your heart desires can come true. Just hand him over.

Eloise picks up Barnabe.

BEATRICE (CONT'D)

All you have to do is hand that monkey over.

Bram scratches his chin.

BRAM

Well, it would be nice to have unlimited cake.

ELOISE

Bram!

While the kids are distracted, Beatrice takes her hand from behind her back to reveal a knife. She lunges at Barnabe, Eloise pulls him away at the last second. Eloise nods at Bram.



BRAM

Hey Beatrice over here.

Beatrice turns to look at Bram whilst Eloise and Barnabe escape.

BEATRICE

Wait!

Beatrice turns to see Eloise dashing out of the door. Bram jumps over the table knocking the soup all over the floor.

BRAM

Sorry for the mess Beatrice. I'm sure you'll understand.

He dashes out of the door. Beatrice storms out after him.

EXT. BEATRICE'S COTTAGE - MORNING

Bram locks the door behind him.

BEATRICE (O.S.)

Curse you! You blasted children.

Eloise and Barnabe run into the forest. Bram catches up to them. He stops placing his hands on his thighs, struggling to catch his breath.

BRAM

I'm...sorry.

Eloise stops and looks at Bram. She places her hand on his shoulder.

ELOISE

You weren't to know she wasn't what she seemed.

Bram drops to the ground.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Besides, it will take a lot more than that to stop us. I'd give my life for this monkey.

Bram stands up, dusting off his hands.

BRAM

We must continue onwards then.

Barnabe jumps onto his shoulder, Bram smiles at him. They walk into the forest.

INT. HARTLEPOOL CAVE - AFTERNOON

Eugene sits in the cave, his stomach rumbles. He stands up and stretches and moves towards the edge of the cave. He looks to see if the coast is clear and exits the cave.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL BEACH - AFTERNOON

Eugene walks along the beach, constantly checking over his shoulder. He looks at the sky stretching wide. There is audible chatter in the distance.

Eugene follows the sound of the chatter.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL TOWN SQUARE - AFTERNOON

Albert and Ernest stand in the middle of the town square. There is a huge crowd surrounding them, Simon and Ida stand at the forefront of the crowd. Eugene stands at the back of the crowd.

TOWNSPERSON ONE

Why are we here?

TOWNSPERSON TWO

I thought we captured that...thing.

Field Marshall George Watson pushes his way through the crowd. Albert and Ernest bow their heads to George. There is chattering in the crowd.

GEORGE

Silence!

The crowd falls silent.

TOWNSPERSON ONE

Who is this man?

Albert steps forward. Eugene pushes his way further through the crowd. Simon notices the crowd moving, he stands up on his tip toes trying to see what the commotion is.

ALBERT

This is Field Marshall George Watson. He's come to help out with the current situation that has arisen.

TOWNSPERSON TWO

What situation?

Ernest takes a deep breath.

ERNEST

The French spy has escaped. We believe that Bram and Eloise are to blame for this.

TOWNSPERSON ONE

Your children...Bram and Eloise?

Townsperson One shakes their heads.

GEORGE

It is now imperative that if you have any information of the whereabouts of these...criminals please come forward.

Eugene pushes himself back through the crowd, running back towards the beach. Simon slowly raises his hand.

SIMON

I may know which direction they were headed. I saw Mabel's hoof print in the mud outside of the printers.

Ernest shakes his fist in the air.

GEORGE

Excellent! Our first lead. I'll rally the men.

ALBERT

How do we know where they are headed?

ERNEST

By my calculations not too far. Mabel is not a horse built for long distances.

GEORGE

Well chaps there is no time like the present. Let's make haste.

Ida looks at Albert worried.

EXT. SEA - AFTERNOON

The French crew are crowded in the small life boat. Auguste stands heroically at the bow of the boat staring into the distance. Louis sits watching him furling his brow.

FRENCH CREW ONE

We must be close to land now.

LOUIS

England is only a small island how  
can we have been sailing for hours  
and not yet reached Scotland.

AUGUSTE

Don't give up hope men, land is  
bound to come into view soon.

Louis shakes his head in disgust.

FRENCH CREW ONE

I bet you 20 francs we don't find  
land by nightfall.

Louis places his hand out. French Crew One grabs it.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - NIGHT

A small battalion of troops gather in the town square. Some  
on foot and some on horseback. George paces in front of the  
troops closely followed by Ernest and Albert.

GEORGE

Men, there must be no hesitation  
when confronted with the spy and  
children.

George stops and faces the battalion.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Act with haste, we must capture  
this spy. God save the King!

ALBERT

God save the King!

ERNEST

God save the King!

BATTALION

God save the King!

The battalion begins their journey. Ernest starts to walk  
away.

ALBERT

Ernest.

Ernest turns to look at Albert.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Do you think we're doing the right thing?

ERNEST

Why yes! You want Eloise to come save safe.

ALBERT

Yes I do but...

ERNEST

No buts about it Albert. You want her home, this is the only way.

Ernest follows the battalion, he turns to look at Albert. Albert shuffles behind Ernest.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Bram sits on a tree stump. Eloise stands with her arm pointing out looking into the distance.

BRAM

We are definitely lost Eloise.

Eloise drops to the ground.

ELOISE

I think... I think you're right.

She begins to sob. Bram crouches down next to Eloise wrapping his arms around her.

BRAM

Everything will be alright.

Eloise wipes her eyes and nose.

In the distance, jaunty music can be heard.

BRAM (CONT'D)

What's that?

ELOISE

What's what?

BRAM

That music...listen.

Barnabe starts to do a jaunty little dance.

ELOISE  
Look at the monkey, he's dancing.

Bram stands in a power pose.

BRAM  
We must be close to civilisation,  
onwards.

Bram points towards the horizon, Eloise picks up Barnabe who is tilting his head from side to side.

EXT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - NIGHT

Bram runs towards the pub.

BRAM  
Civilisation at last!

ELOISE  
Bram wait for me!

They enter the pub.

INT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - NIGHT

The Harlequin Arms is a cozy country pub. There are taxidermy animals' head hug on the wall alongside traditional farming equipment. There are several wooden tables and wooden chairs around the room. In the centre of the table, there is a small tin with spoons in. There are several casks behind the bar with tankards hanging above them.

A huge roaring fireplace lights up the dark room. There is a band sat near the fireplace. A pianist on a old wooden piano, a lute player and a violinist.

Bram barges into the pub closely followed by Eloise and Barnabe. The eyes of the bar patrons focus on the children. The children take a seat. Eloise's eyes nervously dart around the room as Bram sits tall in his chair.

RUSSEL BISHOP (41), an expert publican, approaches the table.

BRAM  
Is there any food available in this  
fine establishment?

RUSSEL  
Yes.

BRAM

What sort of food?

Russel turns and points to a pot of stew.

BRAM (CONT'D)

Two portions please.

Russel holds his hand out.

RUSSEL

Payment upfront.

Bram leans over to Eloise.

BRAM

You have money...right?

Bram reaches into his pockets, he pulls out an empty paper bag. Eloise roots around in her bag and pulls out nothing.

ELOISE

I don't have any money...I thought you did.

RUSSEL

No money. No food.

Russel walks towards the caskets as the band begins to play. Barnabe jumps onto the table and does a little jig. Russel storms over to the table.

Eloise tries to grab Barnabe, who dances out of her grasp.

Barnabe continues to dance. The eyes of the bar patrons watch Barnabe in wonder. Russel claps to the rhythm. Bram nudges Eloise, he picks up a small tin and empties the spoons onto the table.

Bram walks around the bar collecting money from the bar patrons as Barnabe dances. As the music swells, Russel joins in dancing inviting everyone to dance. Bram places the tin on the table and grabs Eloise's hands and swings her around and around.

The music stops and the pub erupts in applause.

RUSSEL (CONT'D)

That creature of yours is an excellent dancer.

Eloise looks confused. Barnabe jumps on Eloise's shoulder.

ELOISE  
This is a monkey.

Russel crouches down to Eloise's level, he holds his finger out which Barnabe grabs.

RUSSEL  
I've been to Africa and saw this creature in the wild. It's amazing to get so up close to it.

Bram clears his throat.

BRAM  
As much as we love to talk about the monkey, we'd like two bowls of stew.

He hands Russel two coins from the tin.

RUSSEL  
Coming up.

INT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - AN HOUR LATER

Two empty bowls sit in front of Bram and Eloise. They both yawn and rub their eyes. Russel comes over to collect their bowls.

RUSSEL  
Say have you children got anywhere safe to stay tonight?

BRAM  
No.

RUSSEL  
We have a spare room that you could sleep in tonight.

ELOISE  
That would be perfect but only if it's no trouble.

RUSSEL  
It's not trouble at all.

Bram reaches into the tin and attempts to pull out some money but is stopped by Russel.



RUSSEL (CONT'D)

Don't worry about the money. That little fellow has made me enough money tonight.

Russel smiles at Barnabe who is sound asleep on the table. Eloise picks up Barnabe as they make their way over to the staircase.

RUSSEL (CONT'D)

First door on your left. Good night!

ELOISE

Good night!

BRAM

Good night!

INT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is small and poky. The room contains only a bed and small dresser. The moonlight shines into the room through a small window.

Bram launches himself on the bed and falls asleep instantaneously.

Eloise pulls open the dresser drawer and places her bag into it. She lifts Barnabe into the drawer placing him on her bag. She sits down next to the drawer, stroking him.

ELOISE

You truly are one fascinating creature monkey.

She stretches and yawns as she shuffles over to the bed. She rests her head on the pillow slowly drifting off to sleep.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Ernest kneels down on the mud, the rain pelts off his coat. In the mud are horse tracks.

ERNEST

That's her tracks, they've come through this part of the forest.

GEORGE

Are you certain those are Mabel's tracks?

ERNEST

I forged those horse shoes myself, I am certain those are hers.

There is a rustling in the bushes, Albert jumps and lets out a little scream in fear.

GEORGE  
Who goes there?

Beatrice pushes her way through the bushes.

ERNEST  
Albert no need to worry it's just  
an old lady.

Beatrice walks up to George and stands toe to toe with him.

BEATRICE  
You don't happen to be looking for  
two young children and a strange  
looking creature do you?

GEORGE  
Why yes we do. Do you have any  
information for us?

She folds her arms.

BEATRICE  
They locked me in my home.

ERNEST  
I can only apologise for the  
actions of our children, we think  
they're under the spell of the  
French spy they're harbouring.

Beatrice pauses for a moment.

BEATRICE  
Hmmm, so that's what that creature  
was. I've never such a fearsome  
creature before.

ALBERT  
Madame you wouldn't happen to have  
any idea of where they are headed.

She strokes her chin.

BEATRICE  
Ah yes, the little girl mentioned  
something about Edinburgh.

GEORGE  
Ah ha!

She points off into the distance straight ahead.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Thanks for your help Madame. The  
Crown appreciates it greatly.

The men start off the in the direction of the children.

BEATRICE

One last thing, keep your wits  
about you that spy is extremely  
crafty.

GEORGE

Thank you Madame.

The men set off in the direction of the children. Beatrice  
smiles evilly rubbing her hands together.

INT. HARTLEPOOL CAVE - MORNING

Eugene sits on his book in the cave. He's drawing on the sand  
with a piece of driftwood. He starts off drawing squiggles in  
the sand that eventually grows into a monkey.

Eugene drops his stick and stares at the drawing. He places  
his hand next to it.

EUGENE

Barnabe.

He smiles at the drawing.

EUGENE (CONT'D)

I'm going to find you if it's the  
last thing I do.

Eugene moves to the edge of the cave and looks both ways  
before exiting the cave.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL BEACH - MORNING

The sunrise glistens off the sea illuminating the beach in an  
orange hue. Eugene creeps across the sand pausing for a  
moment to admire the beauty of the sunrise.

Eugene walks along the beach, checking his surroundings.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL TOWN SQUARE - MORNING

Eugene walks across the empty town square. His feet shuffle across the cobblestones. He looks around, his head flitting between the different directions he could go.

Simon is in the near distance. He is sticking up the wanted posters around the town.

Eugene starts off in the direction of the high street.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL HIGH STREET - MORNING

Hartlepool high street is small it contains only a few stores: a general merchants, a greengrocers, a butchers and a bakers.

MILTON WESTON (28) a stressed man with shoulders close to his ears places a wooden table in front of his store (Greengrocers).

Eugene takes a deep breath as he walks towards the High Street. His feet seem to drag across the path as he rubs his thumb across his fingers.

Milton enters his store and exits the store with wooden crates full of produce. He struggles to balance the crates he almost falls over but stops himself.

Eugene's eyes look towards Milton, they make eye contact. Eugene drops his head.

Milton shakes his head, he picks up a crate of apples. He tips them on the table, a few fall on the table whilst the rest fall on the floor.

Eugene looks at Milton who is scrambling to catch all the apples. He rushes over to Milton and helps him capture his apples. The pair pick up the apples dusting them off putting them back on table.

MILTON

Thank you son. You really helped me there.

Eugene smiles and begins to walk away. Milton grabs Eugene on the wrist, he pauses in fear. He hands him an apple.

MILTON (CONT'D)

Thank you!

Eugene smiles at Milton as he walks back towards the town square.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL TOWN SQUARE - MORNING

Simon sits on a bench in the town square, he has a stack of posters and a bucket of glue with a brush in it next to him.

Eugene walks past a poster on the lamp post, he pauses for a moment.

EUGENE  
Wanted! French spy...French spy!

He pauses for a moment.

EUGENE (CONT'D)  
They think Barnabe is a French spy!

Simon looks up at Eugene, he inspects him as he walks away toward the beach.

INT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS BEDROOM - MORNING

Eloise wakes up stretching her arms wide. She looks over at Bram who is sleeping mouth wide open. She gets out of the bed and moves over to the window. She looks out to see Russel talking to Albert, Ernest and George.

She jumps on the bed and shakes Bram awake.

ELOISE  
Bram! We need to leave now!

Bram yawns. Eloise picks up Barnabe from the drawer. Barnabe's eyes dart around the room.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
They're here! They've found us  
Bram!

Bram scrambles over to the window. He notices Ernest talking to Russel.

EXT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - MORNING

George, Albert and Ernest stand looking at Russel.

RUSSEL  
No, there is no spy here but your  
children most definitely are.

Albert furls his brow.

ALBERT

You say there is no spy with them.

Russel shakes his head.

RUSSEL

No just a monkey.

ERNEST

A monkey?

RUSSEL

You know, small creature. Hairy  
with a tail.

ALBERT

That creature! It's a French spy!

Russel shakes his head in disbelief. He points up to the window in which Eloise and Bram are looking out of the window. They duck down.

INT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS BEDROOM - MORNING

Eloise paces up and down the length of the room. Bram slides down the wall, placing his head in his hands.

BRAM

It's over Eloise...they've got us  
surrounded.

Bram looks up, peeking through the window looking at his Dad. Eloise continues to pace. Eloise stops, she notices a long coat.

ELOISE

I've got it.

BRAM

We turn ourselves over.

She turns to look at Bram. She pulls down the coat.

ELOISE

This is how we escape.

Bram stands up.

BRAM

This doesn't seem like a wise idea  
Eloise. We've got no chance.

ELOISE

Don't give up that easily Bram. If  
you don't do it for me do it for  
the monkey.

Barnabe strokes his tail.

BRAM

Fine.

EXT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - MORNING

George stands toe to toe with Russel.

GEORGE

I said step aside man.

ERNEST

We won't harm them those are our  
children who have just been caught  
up in this entire mess.

The Harlequin Arms door opens. The children and Barnabe are  
inside a long coat and a hat. Ernest looks at the coat. The  
children struggle to keep up straight.

INT. INSIDE THE COAT - MORNING

Eloise sits atop of Bram's shoulders. Barnabe sits in  
Eloise's bag.

ELOISE

Bram keep going.

Bram struggles to walk.

BRAM

You say that but this is really  
difficult.

EXT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - MORNING

The children keep walking.

RUSSEL

Looks like someone has had too much  
to drink.

George pushes Russel.

GEORGE

If you do not let us in, I will  
have no choice but to place you  
under arrest.

Russel folds his arms.

RUSSEL

You are not entering my  
establishment.

Barnabe screeches under the coat.

INT. INSIDE THE COAT - MORNING

Eloise's eyes widen as fear sets in.

EXT. THE HARLEQUIN ARMS - MORNING

The children fall to the ground.

GEORGE

The children are here!

Eloise stands up, she grabs Bram's hand and places Barnabe  
into her canvas bag. They run as fast as they can into the  
forest.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

After those children.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

The children keep running as they are followed by a battalion  
of men and their fathers.

They jump over tree stumps, push through bushes and dodge  
branches.

Eloise holds her bag close to her chest, keeping Barnabe  
safe.

The battalion close in on the children as they reach a fork  
in the road.

BRAM

Which way Eloise?

Eloise stops and Bram grabs her hand. He pulls them to the  
right down a dark and eerie section of the forest.



ERNEST

They went to the left, follow them.

The kids run through the overgrown bushes and branches. Almost tripping over stumps. There is a huge bush in the distance, Bram drags Eloise toward it. They hide behind it.

The children puff and pant heavily behind the bush. The battalion close in on them. Bram places his hand over Eloise's mouth.

Ernest moves closer to the bush.

GEORGE

Where did they go? There is nowhere for them to hide.

ERNEST

They must have kept running.

Albert puffs and pants as he catches up with the battalion.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

Albert, you really need to get into better physical shape.

Albert struggles to get words out, it just comes out as strained sounds.

GEORGE

Well onwards we go.

Barnabe moves around in Eloise's bag, pushing her against the bush. Her eyes widen.

ERNEST

What was that?

He turns around to look at the bush. As he does that a crow flies from the tree above them.

GEORGE

There is your answer. Now we must continue on if we are to catch them.

The battalion continues onwards. Bram removes his hand from Eloise's and his mouth. He sighs heavily.

BRAM

You just froze.

Eloise attempts to speak but freezes again.

BRAM (CONT'D)

Eloise, this whole plan wasn't a good idea and now you're doing this...we should turn ourselves in.

Eloise turns to look at Bram.

ELOISE

We can't stop now. We must be near Edinburgh.

BRAM

How do you know that? We've been travelling for days and we still don't know where we are.

ELOISE

I'm sure we're close. I can feel it.

Barnabe screeches.

BRAM

This is a lot of effort for a monkey. This could have serious repercussions for us Eloise, have you even thought about that?

ELOISE

Why don't you just go home then!

Bram stands up.

BRAM

Maybe I will.

The pair fall silent. Eloise stands up.

ELOISE

I'm going to save this monkey Bram whether you follow me or not.

Bram slowly stands up.

BRAM

I can't let you go on your own...

Eloise smiles at Bram but he doesn't smile back at her.

EXT. BERWICK UPON TWEED BEACH - AFTERNOON

Auguste steps off the boat and looks around.

AUGUSTE

This must be Scotland.

He sniffs up.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

Yes, definitely smells different  
than rotten old England.

Auguste points to the town and sets off. Louis closely follows behind him.

EXT. BERWICK UPON TWEED TOWN - AFTERNOON

Berwick is a market town: there are lots of stalls and vendors. The townspeople bustle through the market.

Auguste pushes the crowd not even trying to blend in whilst Louis follows behind him covering his face.

At the end of the market stalls, there is sign that read "The Sheep Head Inn" with a painting of a sheep on the sign. Auguste points at it and drags Louis through the crowd toward it.

EXT. THE SHEEP HEAD INN - AFTERNOON

The pub is small and dark even though it is the middle of the day. The tables are made out of casks which are surrounded by milk maid stools. There are two huge casks against the wall, the bar is made out of a plank of wood. The bar patrons drink out of tankards.

All eyes immediately turn to Auguste and Louis as they enter the pub. The bar patrons' eyes follow them as they make their way to the bar.

ELLIOT BERTRAND (33), a stoic barman, stands polishing tankards behind the bar.

Auguste approaches the bar and leans against it.

*Auguste and Louis attempt to speak English but it is broken English.*

AUGUSTE

Twoh of the bestest drinks, sil  
vous plait!

Auguste slams his hands over his mouth in shock. If the bar patrons' eyes were not on him before they are now.

LOUIS

Do not excuse him.

Elliot pulls two pints and places them on the bar. Auguste places a collection of coins on the bar and walks over to the only available seat in the bar.

Louis sits on the edge of his seat whilst Auguste leans back enjoying his beer. *Louis leans over to Auguste whispering French.*

LOUIS (CONT'D)

This is not good, Captain.

Auguste waves him off whilst he drinks out of his tankard. Someone burps from across the pub. Auguste hits Louis on the arm and nods. Auguste pauses for a moment and lets out a huge burp. Auguste gestures to Louis to do the same. Louis lets out a tiny burp. He drinks some beer.

Auguste turns to the people behind him. *He speaks in English.*

AUGUSTE

Better in that out I say!

He chuckles slamming his hand down on the table obnoxiously. The bar falls silent after a few moments the chatter starts up again. Louis is bent over, holding his stomach.

LOUIS

I...do...not...feel...so...well.

There is a pause, Louis lets out a huge stinky fart. Bar patrons cover their mouth and noses, coughing at the smell.

BAR PATRON ONE

Has someone eaten rotten eggs?

BAR PATRON TWO

Who did that? That's disgusting!

Elliot raises his head, noticing a mass of people waving the air.

BAR PATRON ONE

They say whoever smelt it...did indeed dealt it.

Louis sinks down in his chair. Bar Patron One points at Louis.

BAR PATRON ONE (CONT'D)

It was him! That scruffy beggar!

Auguste stands up and jumps in front of Louis. He waves his arms.

AUGUSTE  
It was him. It was you.

BAR PATRON ONE  
What did you just say?

He points at Louis but looks at Bar patron one.

AUGUSTE  
You did it.

He nods as Louis who is covering his face. Elliot looks over to notice the tension rising.

ELLIOT  
Enough! You two...

He points at Louis and Auguste.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)  
Get over here now!

He points for them to go into the back room.

BAR PATRON ONE  
Good riddance!

ELLIOT  
Don't you start!

Bar Patron One raises his hands as he sits down. Louis and Auguste make their way to the back room.

INT. THE SHEEP HEAD INN STORE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Elliot enters the room, closing the door firmly behind him.

ELLIOT  
You are French aren't you?

Auguste and Louis look nervously at each other.

AUGUSTE  
We are not French.

*Elliot can speak French.*

ELLIOT  
I'm with the underground French resistance. I want to help you.

LOUIS

Why are you with the resistance?

Elliot walks over to the wall, removing a sheet of burlap covering a board. The board has several newspaper clippings, letters and notes pertaining to the English supporters of the French.

ELLIOT

My parents are French but moved to England. They despise the way the English have treated them.

He points at the board.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

I may be English but I bleed French.

AUGUSTE

Could you help us locate a French spy?

LOUIS

Captain here thinks our powder monkey Eugene has been captured by the people of a town called Hartle something.

Elliot pauses for a moment.

ELLIOT

Hartle...Hartle...Hartlepool.

Auguste smiles and nods.

AUGUSTE

That is where Eugene is being held. How do we get there?

ELLIOT

It's a very simple jaunt down the coast.

LOUIS

Nothing is ever simple when Auguste is our captain.

Auguste slaps Louis on the back of the head. Elliot opens a drawer and pulls out a map, he draws the route on the map.

ELLIOT

It's very simple. Should take about a day. Now you need to leave before suspicions are raised.

Elliot ushers them out of the room but pauses. Auguste shoves the map into his pocket.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Before I forget, I have heard there is a contact who is useful in Hartlepool. Just head for The Pot House.

INT. THE SHEEP HEAD INN - AFTERNOON

Auguste and Louis walk ahead of Elliot.

ELLIOT

Now get out, you hear me! And never come back!

Auguste and Louis raise their hands in defeat. Auguste turns back to look at Elliot and winks at him.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF EDINBURGH - EVENING

George, Ernest and Albert stand in a triangle formation looking towards the city.

GEORGE

They have to be here, there is no other option.

ERNEST

Then we must begin our search.

ALBERT

Onwards we go.

The men and the battalion head towards the city.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL SEA FRONT - EVENING

The sun begins to set as Eugene walks along the sea front. The huge row of four storey terrace houses slightly covers the sun.

EUGENE

Barnabe, where are they hiding you?

A townspeople passes him.

HARTLEPUDLIAN

Evening.

EUGENE

Good evening, fine sir.

The Hartlepudlian does a double take as he continues to walk.

Eugene sits down on the curb. He pauses for a moment. In the distance, music plays. Eugene stands up and dashes toward the music.

EXT. THE POT HOUSE - EVENING

Eugene stares through the window, watching the band play music. The band is surrounded by the pub patrons. He steps away from the window and moves towards the doorway.

He stands in the door way clenching his fist and releasing them. He enters the pub.

INT. THE POT HOUSE - EVENING

The pub is small with long bench seats wrapping around the room. The pub is full of people tapping along to the music.

The band sits in the middle of the room: an violinist and a wooden box tapper. There is an accordion but no player.

Eugene pushes his way through the bar towards the band. His face drops as he notices Barnabe is not there. He can't help but tap his foot to the music.

FRANK BELL (26) and WALTER BELL (28), musician brothers, stop playing music.

FRANK

Well that's all for tonight folks.

WALTER

Our brother Joe has taken ill so we can't play anymore music without an accordion.

Eugene looks at the accordion sitting near the band.

FRANK

As much as we would love to play more we can't without him.



Eugene walks over to the accordion, he leans down to pick it up.

WALTER

Hey! Stop touching that it's not yours.

Eugene begins to play, he nods to over to Walter and Frank who play along with him.

The pub comes alive as the music swells. As the song ends the pub erupts in laughter and cheer.

EXT. THE POT HOUSE - EVENING

Simon looks into the window, watching Eugene smile as he plays the accordion. He walks toward the entrance.

FRANK

You've got some serious talent.

Eugene smiles. He starts to play again. Simon enters the pub taking a seat in the crowd.

INT. THE POT HOUSE - HOURS LATER

The band start to pack up their things. Eugene shakes people's hands. Simon stands up and heads toward Eugene.

SIMON

May I ask you something?

EUGENE

Why sure?

SIMON

Are you from Darlington?

Eugene's eyes widen. He pauses then dashes out of the pub.

SIMON (CONT'D)

I didn't mean to offend.

The band glare at him.

WALTER

How insulting!

EXT. FOREST - EVENING

Eloise continues to walk through the forest followed by Bram.

ELOISE

I wonder what it is like being a monkey?

BRAM

Easy it seems, he doesn't have to walk for miles on end.

Eloise laughs but Bram doesn't. She turns to look at him.

BRAM (CONT'D)

What if this treacherous journey is for nothing and we can't save the monkey?

She stops dead in her tracks causing Bram to bump into her.

ELOISE

What's really the matter Bram? Something seems like it's eating away at you.

BRAM

Nothing is. I'm just concerned about the fate of this monkey.

ELOISE

I haven't thought about it.

She pauses.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

I just know I want to do right by it.

They continue walking, Bram mopes behind her.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF EDINBURGH - EVENING

Eloise stands admiring the city. Bram stands beside her.

ELOISE

Maybe we should wait until morning before going any further.

BRAM

Sounds like a good idea, who knows what we will run into.

Eloise sets herself down near the huge oak tree. Bram sits down besides her.

ELOISE

I should have said this earlier but thanks for coming with me Bram. I know this isn't your battle to fight but I'm glad you're the one fighting with me.

Eloise turns to look at Bram who is asleep, she turns away and he smiles.

Barnabe crawls onto Eloise's chest. The pair fall asleep.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF EDINBURGH - MORNING

Eloise stretches as she wakes up. She turns to Bram and shakes him awake.

ELOISE

Ready for the next leg of the adventure.

BRAM

As I'll ever be.

They set off towards the city.

EXT. EDINBURGH - MORNING

Eloise looks like a deer in headlights as her eyes dart around. Barnabe clings on her close to her chest. Bram grabs her hand.

BRAM

Eloise...Where does Joseph Cook live?

ELOISE

Er...I...I don't know. All I know is that he lives in Edinburgh.

BRAM

Do you know for sure?

ELOISE

He wouldn't lie. And it was in his book.

Bram's stomach rumbles.

BRAM

Why don't we get some food first, I sure am hungry?

Eloise nods.

ELOISE  
How can we afford it?

Bram pulls out coins from his pockets.

BRAM  
With this! Money left over from the  
monkey's debut performance.

Eloise laughs.

ELOISE  
Hey there's a market let's try  
there. They're bound to have food.

They walk towards the market.

EXT. EDINBURGH MARKET - MORNING

The market is bustling with many wooden stalls of craft goods, fashion accessories, potions and elixirs and food.

Bram beelines towards a vendor selling penny pies.

BRAM  
Two pies please.

The vendor hands Bram two pies. Bram hands one to Eloise. She breaks off a piece of the pie and hands it Barnabe. Barnabe sniffs the pie and drops it to the ground.

ELOISE  
I don't think he likes it. Let's  
find him something to eat once  
we've finished.

The pair lean against a wall eating their pies. Barnabe jumps down from Eloise and sits the wall. He sniffs up and screeches. He jumps off the wall and through the crowd of people into the distance.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
Monkey!

She drops her pie and dashes off after Barnabe. Bram forces his pie down and follows her.

BRAM  
Eloise!

Eloise pushes through the crowd of people. She searches high and low, Barnabe cannot be found.

ELOISE

Excuse me can you help me?

People ignore Eloise and Bram and continue on with their day.

BRAM

Sir can you-

ELOISE

Madame please.

Eloise breaks down in tears as everyone around her continues on around her oblivious to what is happening. Eloise runs more frantically around the market she bumps into Dorothea Cook.

Dorothea Cook (28), a woman scientist, looks down at Eloise. Eloise wipes the tears from her eyes.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Excuse me, you haven't seen my pet?

DOROTHEA

No sorry.

Eloise pushes past Dorothea. Dorothea watches her then raises her arm.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

Little girl, wait! I'll help you.

Eloise pauses turning to look at Dorothea. Dorothea catches up to her.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

Can you tell me what it looks like?

BRAM

Well...

Barnabe lets out a huge screech.

ELOISE

That's him.

Dorothea looks confused as the children dart off in the direction of the screech.

NORMAN SMITH (49), a fruit stall vendor, tries to grab an apple from Barnabe's paws.

NORMAN  
Hey you devil give that back!

Barnabe tugs on the apple pulling closer towards him.

ELOISE  
Monkey!

Barnabe lets go of the apple. It flies up into the air and crashes on the pile of apples knocking them all over the floor.

POLICEMAN INGRAM (38), a composed policeman, darts over to the scene of the crime.

POLICEMAN INGRAM  
What is going on here then?

NORMAN  
This thing is wreaking havoc on my stall.

Eloise runs up and swings her arms around Barnabe.

ELOISE  
There you are you silly thing.

Dorothea stands behind Eloise.

NORMAN  
Officer I'd like this thing arrested.

ELOISE  
No!

POLICEMAN INGRAM  
There is nothing you can do this thing is disrupting the peace.

ELOISE  
Please sir, I am protecting this creature with my life.

Policeman Ingram attempts to handcuff Barnabe.

POLICEMAN INGRAM  
I'm arresting this...this.

DOROTHEA  
Wait!

The men stare at Dorothea.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

I'll pay for the damage in return  
for the safe return of that monkey.

Eloise looks at Bram.

ELOISE

She knows what it is.

NORMAN

I see no problem with this  
solution.

Dorothea hands the Fruit Stall Vendor money.

DOROTHEA

Here is a bit extra for the  
inconvenience.

Eloise looks at Ingram, she holds out her arms. Ingram hands  
the monkey back to Eloise.

POLICEMAN INGRAM

If this creature causes any more  
trouble, I will have no hesitation  
but to arrest it.

ELOISE

Thank you officer.

Dorothea, Barnabe and the children walk away from the scene  
of the crime.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Thank your help miss.

DOROTHEA

You are very much welcome. May I  
ask why you are visiting the city?

BRAM

It's a long story.

ELOISE

This monkey is being tried as a  
French spy and I'm here to prove  
its innocence.

BRAM

We're here looking for Joseph Cook,  
we're hoping that he can help.

Dorothea smiles.

ELOISE

Oh we didn't get your name. I'm  
Eloise and that is Bram.

DOROTHEA

My name is Dorothea. Dorothea Cook.

ELOISE

Cook as in Joseph Cook.

Dorothea nods her head.

DOROTHEA

I'm his sister.

BRAM

Could you take us to him?

She looks around nervously.

DOROTHEA

Why yes...follow me.

Eloise leans in close to Bram.

EXT. BERWICK UPON TWEED BEACH - MIDDAY

The French crew push the boat off shore. Auguste rolls out the map. There is a circle marking Hartlepool on the map. Auguste bends down to show Louis the map. Louis nudges the crew member and they begin rowing out to sea.

EXT. EDINBURGH STREET - MIDDAY

Joseph stands in the street with a letter in his hand. He opens the letter. It reads "French spy captured. Great reward for his safe escape. Hartlepool location." Joseph smiles as he places the letter in his pocket. He rubs his hands as he walks away.

EXT. EDINBURGH MARKET - MIDDAY

Ernest and Albert wander around the market whilst George talks to people on the street. The Fruit Stall Vendor stands puffing and panting as he stacks the fruit.

ERNEST

He looks like he may have an idea.

They approach Norman.



NORMAN  
What do you want?

He pauses.

NORMAN (CONT'D)  
Sorry...it's been a day.

ALBERT  
It looks like it.

ERNEST  
Do you mind if we enquire about  
what happened?

NORMAN  
A creature stole and destroyed some  
of my fruit.

ALBERT  
Does this creature happen to have a  
long tail and is covered in black  
hair?

NORMAN  
Yes, they said it was a monkey.

ERNEST  
Sir that is where you are wrong. It  
is a French spy.

The Fruit Stall Vendor's face drops.

NORMAN  
I had no idea.

George and Policeman Ingram approach the men.

GEORGE  
I have a lead.

ERNEST  
So do we.

NORMAN  
Afternoon officer, these men  
enquired about the incident  
earlier.

POLICEMAN INGRAM  
Ah yes, that strange creature.

GEORGE

Do you have any leads on the whereabouts of this creature?

POLICEMAN INGRAM

It was last seen with a woman and two small children.

ERNEST

Eloise and Bram!

POLICEMAN INGRAM

Are those your children?

ALBERT

Yes...my daughter was the one who released it.

ERNEST

It's imperative that we get the spy and our children back.

GEORGE

We best start off our search.

ERNEST

Thank you for your help sir.

He opens his hand out to Norman, they shake hands. George, Ernest, Albert and Policeman Ingram set off in search of the children and monkey.

INT. COOK'S LAB - AFTERNOON

The lab is housed in a huge warehouse. The lab has many scientific artefacts, lab equipment (test tubes, bunsen burners and many different chemicals) and stacks upon stacks of books.

There are jars filled with animals as well as a small menagerie of living animals.

Eloise gasps as she enters the lab. Dorothea places her bag on the table. Eloise walks over the stack of books picking up them flicking through and studying them at the same time. Bram leans against a brown crate. As he leans back it roars and shakes. Bram screams and jumps. Eloise bursts out laughing.

DOROTHEA

Don't worry dear. That's Joseph's pet lion.

She goes over to the crate and pats the box.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

Shh...

Barnabe scampers across the floor and jumps on Bram. Bram picks him up. Eloise walks over to Bram.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

May I ask why you want to see Joseph?

Eloise clears her throat.

ELOISE

It's a long story. This monkey is going to be hung in our town. I tried my best to prove it was a monkey but no one would listen. So we broke it free and brought it here to see if Joseph could help us prove its innocence.

Dorothea nods her head.

DOROTHEA

May I see the monkey?

Barnabe jumps from Bram to Dorothea.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

What a fascinating creature! I've always wanted to see one in person.

BRAM

We've learnt it loves fruit.

Dorothea reaches into her bag and pulls out an apple. She hands it to Barnabe who grabs it with both hands and nibbles at it.

ELOISE

I thought you would have seen one especially with your brother being Joseph.

Joseph barges into the lab. His eyes immediately land on Barnabe, his eyes light up. Eloise runs over to him.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Mr Cook! I'm a big fan. I love your book. You're the reason that I want to become a scientist.

Joseph pushes past Eloise. He picks up Barnabe.

JOSEPH  
What a fascinating creature.

DOROTHEA  
Joseph!

JOSEPH  
Sorry, I'm just so intrigued by  
this creature.

Joseph turns to Eloise. Joseph holds out his hand, Eloise  
shakes it.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
Hello my dear it is lovely to meet  
you.

Eloise smiles but there is a worried look on her face.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
Where did you find this creature?

BRAM  
It washed up on the shore of our  
town.

JOSEPH  
What town is that?

ELOISE  
Hartlepool.

Joseph's eyes widen.

JOSEPH  
Dorothea, why don't you show the  
children around the lab?

DOROTHEA  
I think Eloise is more interested  
in speaking to you than seeing the  
lab.

ELOISE  
I'm just happy to be in the  
presence of greatness.

JOSEPH  
Eloise, may I take a look at the  
monkey whilst you tour the lab?

She smiles and nods at Joseph. Dorothea leads Bram and Eloise to the opposite side of the lab. Barnabe sits on Joseph's arm.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
Now I've got you.

Bram leans over to Eloise.

BRAM  
That man gives me a weird feeling.

She playfully punches Bram.

ELOISE  
Maybe it's because he's smarter  
than you.

Dorothea points to a huge painting of a man and woman smitten in love.

DOROTHEA  
That there is our parents.  
Unfortunately they died a few years  
back. One minute they were in  
excellent health...the next minute  
they were dead.

Dorothea smiles at the painting.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
It was almost if there was foul  
play at hand.

Eloise studies Dorothea's face.

There is a crash at the other side of the lab followed by a loud screech from Barnabe. Eloise, Bram and Dorothea dash over to the other side of the lab to see Barnabe caged. Joseph is laughing manically.

JOSEPH  
I've got him now.

ELOISE  
Let him go!

JOSEPH  
Why should I? This little creature  
is my ticket to Napoleon.

ELOISE  
Napoleon?

Eloise tries to snatch the cage from Joseph's hand but is tripped by him.

DOROTHEA

And why would you want to meet Napoleon? I think all your failed experiments must have had an effect on your sense of judgement.

JOSEPH

To secure my lifestyle. I can't afford to keep living on the pittance your research brings in.

Eloise looks at Dorothea.

ELOISE

Your research?

Dorothea smiles.

DOROTHEA

I'm the brains behind Joseph Cook.

JOSEPH

Shh...There's no time for sentimentality now.

ELOISE

Give me my monkey back.

JOSEPH

It's my monkey now.

BRAM

She said give her, her monkey back.

Bram lunges at Joseph. Bram grabs the back of his wig revealing a shiny bald head.

Joseph drops the cage and covers his head in shame. Eloise grabs the cage in mid air, she looks at Dorothea who gestures for her to run out of the lab. Eloise fumbles with the cage, Barnabe escapes.

JOSEPH

Give my wig back, you little brat!

Bram smells the wig.

BRAM

This stinky old thing. I'm sure I can give this back in good conscience.

He runs around the lab, Joseph follows behind him. Eloise stands at the door. Whilst everyone is distracted Dorothea flicks through Joseph's book ripping out the page about monkeys. She folds it and places it in her boot.

ELOISE

Don't worry I've got you now.

She struggles to open the huge doors. The light blinds her as she opens them, she uses her arm to cover her eyes.

ALBERT

Now we've got him!

ELOISE

Father...is that you?

She removes her arm from her eyes to reveal Albert, Ernest, George and Policeman Ingram. Joseph seizes the moment and takes Barnabe from Eloise.

ALBERT

You are in a whole world a trouble young lady.

Ernest enters the lab.

ERNEST

Bram, are you in here?

Bram creeps into view of Ernest. Joseph steals back his wig.

BRAM

Here I am.

ERNEST

You must be the infamous Joseph Cook.

Joseph reaches out his hand but is declined by Ernest.

JOSEPH

Pleasure to meet you.

ERNEST

I can say otherwise.

DOROTHEA

Before you punish these children, please know that they meant no harm in this. They just wanted to protect the life of this innocent monkey.

ALBERT  
I see you have also been placed  
under its wicked spell.

Joseph's eyes widen.

JOSEPH  
Placed under its wicked spell. She  
is the one that put a spell on it.

The men gasps as Eloise raises her eyebrows in disgust.  
Barnabe's eyes widen as he bites Joseph who lets out a  
scream.

ALBERT  
That creature just bit him!

ELOISE  
Barnabe! No!

Policeman Ingram picks up the cage from the ground and places  
Barnabe in it.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
He never once bit Bram or I. Did he  
Bram?

Bram drops his head to avoid eye contact with Eloise.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
Bram?

BRAM  
Sorry Eloise, I don't want to get  
in anymore trouble than I already  
am.

Joseph shakes his arm as he walks over to the table in the  
centre of the room which has several notebooks with "Dorothea  
Cook" written on them. He picks one up.

JOSEPH  
My sister is a wicked creature,  
she's been attempting to curse  
creatures. Right here in this very  
lab.

Joseph opens the notebook and skims his finger across the  
page.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
The monkey has human like qualities  
and features. Now why in God's name  
would anyone write this unless...



DOROTHEA  
You are one who has ulterior  
motives.

Joseph dramatically covers his ears.

JOSEPH  
Cover thy ears! She may try to  
curse us too.

The men cover their ears.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)  
I say arrest this woman for her  
wicked ways. If that creature is to  
hang so should she.

Policeman Ingram cuffs Dorothea and walks her out of the lab.  
She passes by Eloise.

DOROTHEA  
Eloise, don't give up!

Albert covers his daughter's ears.

ALBERT  
Once we get back to Hartlepool, we  
must get you checked over by a  
doctor.

JOSEPH  
If you would like me to testify in  
court. I would be more than happy  
to do so.

George gestures for Joseph to follow. Ernest walks with Bram  
out of the lab.

BRAM  
I didn't mean for it to get this  
out of hand Dad. I promise I only  
wanted to help Eloise.

ERNEST  
We'll talk about this when we get  
home. I haven't the words at the  
moment, I'm too disappointed in  
you.

Bram hangs his head in shame as he exits the lab with Ernest.

EXT. COOK'S LAB - MORNING

Joseph stands outside the lab, watching Dorothea, Barnabe and the kids getting placed into separate carriages.

Ernest approaches Joseph.

ERNEST

If it isn't any trouble to you Mr Cook, any evidence that you think may be appropriate, it would be greatly appreciated?

Joseph smiles.

JOSEPH

Why yes! Anything for King and country. I'll bring it with me.

ERNEST

Are you sure we can't interest you in accompanying us on the journey?

JOSEPH

I'll make my own arrangements, I shan't be too far behind.

Ernest raises his hand as he enters the carriage and rides into the distance.

Joseph walks jauntily into the lab.

INT. COOK'S LAB - MORNING

Joseph struts over to a huge chest of wooden drawers. He crouches down. He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a small key for the small lock on the drawer.

He places the key into the lock opening to drawer to reveal that it is stuffed with envelopes tied with a ribbon. He takes out the envelopes and places them on the top of the chest of drawers.

He unties the ribbon and flicks through the envelopes, he comes across an envelope with a red dot on the corner. He pulls out the envelope from the stack placing the rest of the stack back down.

He pulls out the letter, it reads "Dear Joseph, Thank you for your work in helping the French. Please keep relaying any information you deem important." He rips the "Dear Joseph" from the top of the letter and places it in his pocket.

He smiles as he leaves the lab.

INT. CARRIAGE - AFTERNOON

Eloise sits across from Albert. She is looking at the floor avoiding eye contact with him. There is a pause.

ELOISE  
Where is the monkey?

ALBERT  
That is information you do not need  
to know.

Eloise lifts her head up and glares at Albert.

ELOISE  
I said where is the monkey?

ALBERT  
You must have hit your head because  
I have told you it is none of your  
business.

Eloise stands up, she struggles to stand as the carriage bounces along the dirt road. She sticks her head out of the window. She looks behind the carriage and notices Barnabe in a cage hanging off the side of a horse.

She pulls her head back into the carriage, takes a breath and goes to open the door. As she does Albert grabs her hand.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
Not on my watch young lady. Now sit  
back down.

ELOISE  
No! I will not sit down.

ALBERT  
Then you give me no choice.

He reaches under his seat whilst still grabbing her wrist and pulls out a rope. He ties Eloise up and sits her directly in front of him.

ALBERT (CONT'D)  
You are not going anywhere.

She smirks.

ELOISE  
That's what you think.

Albert looks away from her in disgust.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE, HARTLEPOOL - NIGHT

The carriages approach the town square. Ida stands at the front of the crowd of towns people, nervously inspecting each carriage as they ride past.

The carriages stop and the doors swing open in unison. Albert steps out of the carriage, he turns and lifts down Eloise who is tied up.

Eloise looks up to see Ida. She shuffles over to her.

ELOISE

Mother!

IDA

Eloise!

Ida wraps her arms around Eloise.

IDA (CONT'D)

Albert, why is she tied up?

ALBERT

It's for her own safety as well as our own.

Ida pauses.

IDA

I was so worried about you! I'm glad that you're home and safe.

ELOISE

It's not me you need to be worried about it is Father. He's the delusional one.

ALBERT

That's enough!

He rips Eloise from Ida's arms.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Ida, my dear. Our daughter is ill with a sickness of the mind. Keep away, I fear it may be contagious.

Ida gasps and watches Eloise's face drop as she is ripped away from her.

Ernest walks over the horse that Barnabe has been caged to. He picks up the cage and raises it up high. The crowd cheers.

ERNEST

We have captured the creature! All  
is well!

Eloise screams as she is dragged away.

INT. BENNETT HOME ELOISE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Eloise sits in her bed. She stares at the ceiling. Albert swings open the door.

ALBERT

I will not come closer as I fear  
you may act rashly.

Eloise pushes herself up the bed.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

That creature that we  
apprehended...what is it?

There is a pause.

ELOISE

A monkey.

Albert turns away from Eloise.

ALBERT

It's as I suspected. You have been  
too close to that creature for too  
long. Your mind is melting away.

ELOISE

What are you talking about a monkey  
has no magical powers...it's an  
animal.

ALBERT

I am placing you under quarantine  
whilst I send for Dr. Quack.

He exits the room. Eloise lays back down and stares at the ceiling.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Bram sits directly across from Ernest. In front of Bram is a huge plate of bread, cheese and ham. He eats getting crumbs everywhere. Ernest studies him.

Simon stands in the doorway, leaning against the door frame watching the back of Bram's head.

ERNEST

Bram, I have always told you to stand up for a lady's honour but this is too far.

He sighs.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

You fool, you played into Eloise's sick delusion.

BRAM

But Father it isn't a delusion.

ERNEST

It's a spy dammit! Has that thing gotten to you too? Maybe I better call for Dr. Quack too.

Ernest pushes his hair back in anger.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

What hurts me the most is that you not only stole Mabel but you then proceeded to lose her. How many times have I told you that you have to tie your horse down!

Bram hangs his head.

BRAM

I'm sorry Father.

ERNEST

You have tainted our family name Bram. Your actions have repercussions.

Bram hangs his head and pushes his plate away from him.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

Well...What do you have to say for yourself?

Simon walks further into the room. There is a pause.

SIMON

I can only imagine how disappointed  
Mother would be.

Ernest glares at Simon. Bram stands up, pushes past Simon stifling tears as he exits the room.

ERNEST

And how would you know your  
Mother's feelings? Both my sons  
have proven to be disappointments.

SIMON

But Father I was only trying to  
help.

Ernest turns away from Simon.

ERNEST

Get out of my sight.

INT. JAIL CELL ONE - NIGHT

Dorothea sits on the edge of the bed. She stares at the moonlight through the grates of the cell window. She reaches down to her boot, pulling out a piece of paper.

She opens the piece of paper revealing a page about monkeys. She reads it and places it back in her boot. She lays down on the bed watching the moonlight.

INT. JAIL CELL TWO - NIGHT

Barnabe sits near the window. He screeches.

PRISON OFFICER JONES (O.S.)

Be quiet in there!

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - MORNING

The townspeople gather around Ernest and Albert. There is chatter in the crowd as the excitement builds. Eugene is in the crowd so is Simon who is staring into the distance.

ERNEST

Silence! We have an announcement.

ALBERT

It is our greatest pleasure to tell you that we have recaptured the creature. It safely under twenty four hour watch in a cell.

ERNEST

We have also managed to capture its creator Dorothea Cook.

The crowd cheers.

ERNEST (CONT'D)

Her brother the illusive Joseph Cook will be joining shortly to testify against her.

ALBERT

The pair will hang tomorrow morning.

Eugene's eyes widen.

EUGENE

Barnabe!

TOWNSPERSON

What about your children? I heard they were the ones who broke it free!

Albert clears his throat.

ALBERT

I will be seeking medical treatment for my daughter and Ernest is punishing his son for aiding my daughter.

TOWN'S PERSON

Does she still think it's a moon-key?

ALBERT

Yes, that's why we are getting her the best treatment we can.

ERNEST

So, be sure to be here tomorrow morning to see the spy hang!

The crowd cheers. Simon walks past Eugene not even realising who it is.



INT. BENNETT HOME, ELOISE'S ROOM - MIDDAY

Eloise sits on her bed. There is a knock on the door. Albert enters the room followed by Dr. Quack.

DR. QUACK (62), a wacky doctor, walks over to Eloise.

DR. QUACK  
Hello there my child. I hear that  
you are unwell.

ELOISE  
I'm actually quite well.

Dr. Quack turns to look at Albert who is covering his mouth.

DR. QUACK  
I have been told by your Father  
that you believe that the spy they  
captured is a monkey.

Eloise points at Albert.

ELOISE  
He's the one who has got it all  
wrong. That creature is most  
definitely a monkey, Dorothea even  
proved it.

DR. QUACK  
Dorothea?

ALBERT  
The woman who made that creature a  
tool for evil.

DR. QUACK  
Ah I see. So Eloise can you tell me  
why you believe that the spy is a  
monkey?

She pushes herself up the bed.

ELOISE  
Firstly it doesn't speak English or  
French.

Dr. Quack nods, stroking his chin.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
It has a long tail and only eats  
fruit and nuts.

ALBERT

I think we've heard enough.

DR. QUACK

Thank you Eloise. I am going to speak to your Father alone now.

Dr. Quack and Albert leave the room, leaving the door open a crack. Eloise gets out of bed and sneaks over to the door.

ALBERT (O.S.)

How bad is it?

DR. QUACK (O.S.)

Your daughter is seriously ill Mr Bennett. My recommendation is that she is institutionalised.

Eloise gasps, she covers her mouth to muffle the sound.

DR. QUACK (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I'm sorry but there nothing else I can do. I know she will get the best care at an institution.

Albert pauses for a second.

ALBERT (O.S.)

I may need to think this over, it's a big decision to make.

DR. QUACK (O.S.)

You must make a decision fast. Her condition could worsen at any time.

ALBERT (O.S.)

Thank you Doctor Quack. Let me show you out.

Eloise sobs silently as she slides down the wall, covering her mouth.

EXT. HARTLEPOOL BEACH - EVENING

The French crew land ashore. They hide their boat in a mountain of seaweed. They creep up shore trying to avoid being detected.

EXT. THE POT HOUSE - EVENING

Auguste adjusts his jacket.

HARTLEPUDLIAN

Evening!

Auguste tips his head to the man.

LOUIS

What if that man set us up?

AUGUSTE

All we can do is trust Louis.

INT. THE POT HOUSE - EVENING

Auguste, Louis and the French crew enter the bar. Auguste gestures for Louis and the crew to take a seat whilst he heads to the bar.

Joseph stands at the opposite end of the bar.

MICHAEL (22), a bartender, walks over to Auguste.

MICHAEL

What can I get you?

Auguste pauses for a moment.

AUGUSTE

Seven pints of your fin-finest ale  
please bar keep.

Michael looks confused as he pulls pints. Joseph looks up at Auguste. Michael places the tankards on the bar.

MICHAEL

A shilling.

Auguste reaches into his pocket, rummaging around for a shilling.

JOSEPH

Here you are.

Joseph hands Michael a shilling.

AUGUSTE

Thank you...would you like to join  
us?

Joseph nods as he follows Auguste over to the table where the French crew are sat. Auguste and Joseph take a seat. There is a pause.

*Joseph speaks in French.*

JOSEPH  
You are French, aren't you?

AUGUSTE  
Pfft...no.

LOUIS  
How did you guess?

Auguste hits Louis.

JOSEPH  
You're here for the liberate the  
French spy so...let me help.

LOUIS  
How do we know we can trust you?

There is a pause. Joseph pulls out the envelope which he picked up in the lab and places it front of Auguste. Auguste picks it up and attempts to read it. He leans over to Louis.

AUGUSTE  
I don't know what this says, can  
you translate?

Louis shakes his head. Auguste clears his throat.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)  
And what exactly does this say?

Joseph snatches the letter from Auguste's hand.

JOSEPH  
Thank you for your work in helping  
the French. Please keep relaying  
any information you deem important.

Auguste looks at Louis whose brows are furled.

LOUIS  
That doesn't prove that we can  
trust you...anyone could have  
written that.

There is a pause.

JOSEPH  
My sister is imprisoned too. That's  
why I'm here.

AUGUSTE  
To save her?

Joseph laughs.

JOSEPH

God no! I want to liberate the spy  
and you have my word that I will do  
that.

Auguste reaches out his hand.

AUGUSTE

If you say you will help then you  
sir have a deal.

They shake hands, Louis watches.

INT. BENNETT HOME, ELOISE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Eloise sits on her window seat looking out at the moon  
glistens against the sea. Her bedroom door is open a crack  
and a guard can be seen posted outside her room.

INT. BENNETT HOME ELOISE'S ROOM - AN HOUR LATER

Eloise creeps over to the wardrobe. She slowly and carefully  
opens the door. She pulls out her dress and boots. She  
changes behind the wardrobe door. She grabs her canvas bag  
from the door knob and carefully closes the door.

She creeps across the room to her bedroom door. She pauses  
for a moment listening to the guard snoring and slowly pushes  
open the door.

INT. BENNETT HOME STAIRCASE - NIGHT

Eloise slowly closes the door behind her, being careful to  
keep the door open a crack. She sneaks past the guard who is  
sleeping outside her room and down the staircase.

She slowly steps down the stairs, careful to avoid creaky  
stairs.

INT. BENNETT HOME HALLWAY - NIGHT

Eloise lands at the bottom of the stairs. Muffled talking  
comes from the living room, the door to the room is closed.  
She creeps over to the door and rests her head against it.

INT. BENNETT HOME LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ida sits in the arm chair whilst Albert paces up and down the room.

IDA

Al...I do not think it's a good idea to send her away...it's going to do more harm than good.

ALBERT

I'm only following Doctor Quack's advice. He is never wrong about matters such as this.

IDA

I just can't in good conscience do that to my only child. I know what she did was wrong but to punish her this way seems a little extreme.

Albert slumps down on the chair.

ALBERT

But don't you just want what's best for our daughter even if means sending her away?

He pauses.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

Please agree with me on this dear.

Ida begins to sob.

INT. BENNETT HOME HALLWAY - NIGHT

Eloise has tears in her eyes. She creeps away from the door and exits the house.

EXT. BENNETT HOME - NIGHT

Eloise runs into the night. Tears stream down her cheeks. She sniffs and wipes her eyes.

EXT. BEHIND ERNEST'S HOME - NIGHT

Eloise pushes her way through bushes to Bram's garden. She stands looking up at two identical trellises each side of the house. She points her finger out in front of her.

ELOISE

Eney, meeney, miney, mo. Catch a...  
monkey by the toe. If he screams  
let him go. Eney, meeney, miney,  
mo.

She lands on the trellis on the left. She rolls up her sleeves and begins to climb the trellis. She carefully climbs as the trellis is not entirely stable. She lands at the window and carefully taps on the window.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Bram...it's me.

She pauses.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

Bram open up.

There is movement from inside the room, a shadowy figure moves over to the window and opens it.

SIMON

Eloise...is that you?

Eloise falls back, Simon grabs her and pulls into his room.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE, SIMON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Eloise falls on top of Simon. She stands up and dusts herself off.

ELOISE

I thought this was Bram's room.

SIMON

No, it's mine.

He pauses.

SIMON (CONT'D)

What are you doing here? I thought  
you were bound to your room.

ELOISE

I can't just give up that easily. I  
went all that way. No monkey is  
dying on my watch.

She pauses.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

I know you are going to give me up  
to Uncle Ernest. Please don't.

Simon's bedroom door moves then stops.

SIMON

I won't give you up.

Bram enters the room.

BRAM

What is this? A secret meeting that  
I'm not invited too?

Eloise dashes over to the door and carefully closes the door.

SIMON

Be quiet! You don't want to wake up  
Father.

ELOISE

I'm breaking out that monkey if  
it's the last thing I do. Are you  
in our out?

Bram pauses for a moment.

BRAM

I'm in.

Bram looks at Simon with puppy dog eyes.

BRAM (CONT'D)

Please Simon, we could use the man  
power.

SIMON

Fine but if we get caught I am not  
taking the blame.

BRAM

So what's the plan?

The group fall silent.

SIMON

This maybe a stretch but I think  
there is a real French person  
living in Hartlepool.

Eloise's eyes widen.



ELOISE  
That's our ticket to saving the  
monkey! Where do we find him?

EXT. OUTSIDE EUGENE'S CAVE - NIGHT

Simon points to the cave.

BRAM  
In here?

ELOISE  
That poor boy has been living in  
here all this time?

They all enter the cave.

INT. EUGENE'S CAVE - NIGHT

Eloise leads the boys into the cave.

ELOISE  
Hello!

Eugene scurries behind the rocks.

BRAM  
We mean no harm. We want to help  
you.

Eugene steps out from behind the rock.

ELOISE  
We want to help you.

She reaches out her hand for Eugene to shake. Simon leans  
against the cave wall with a pensive look on his face.

EUGENE  
Do you know where Barnabe is being  
held?

BRAM  
Wow...his English is impressive.

SIMON  
Barnabe?

EUGENE  
He's my pet monkey.

ELOISE  
He's your pet monkey!

EUGENE  
Yes, I think he is one that the fat  
man said is the spy.

Eloise and Bram giggle. Simon remains in a pensive state.

BRAM  
Fat man!

ELOISE  
The fat man is my father. We want  
to break out the monkey. Will you  
help us?

EUGENE  
He said it was a creature capable  
of killing hundreds but it is not  
true. It's not true!

Eugene stands confidently.

EUGENE (CONT'D)  
If I can have Barnabe back...I'll  
do anything!

Muffled voices can be heard from outside the cave. Eloise  
holds her hand out for everyone to stop talking.

JOSEPH (O.S.)  
Let me take the lead and we will  
have this spy in no time.

AUGUSTE (O.S.)  
What exactly do you want us to do?

JOSEPH (O.S.)  
Just blend into the crowd. I'll  
take the lead since these  
townspeople trust me.

Footsteps can be heard as Auguste and Joseph crunch their way  
up the beach.

ELOISE  
Seems like we're aren't the only  
ones vying for the monkey.

BRAM  
That was Joseph but who was the  
other man.

EUGENE  
My captain. Auguste.

Eloise pauses for a moment.

ELOISE  
Do you all trust me?

Bram and Eugene nod.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
Then this is how we save that  
monkey!

Eloise ushers for the boys to huddle in. Simon is the last to huddle in.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE, SIMON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Simon sits up in his bed. He pauses for a moment before getting out of bed and leaving the room.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE, ERNEST'S ROOM - NIGHT

Simon stands in the doorway of Ernest room.

SIMON  
Father, may I speak with you?

Ernest grumbles.

ERNEST  
Can it not wait until morning? I  
have an important day tomorrow.

Simon turns to exit the room, he pauses and clenches his fists.

SIMON  
No it can't.

Simon steps closer to his Father's bed.

SIMON (CONT'D)  
Eloise is planning to break the  
creature out again and...and Bram  
is going to help her.

Ernest sits up.

ERNEST  
And how you come across such  
information?

SIMON  
Eloise broke into my room thinking  
it was Bram's.

INT. ERNEST'S HOUSE, ERNEST'S ROOM - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Ernest strokes his chin.

ERNEST  
Ah, I see.

He pats Simon on the head.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Great work son.

Simon smiles.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Now go and get some rest. It's a  
big day tomorrow.

Simon leaves the room. Ernest stands up.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Eloise, what have you done?

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - MORNING

The townspeople are gathered around the gallows in the town square. Eloise stands with Ida and Albert. Bram and Simon stand with Ernest. Eugene is in the crowd. The French crew are dotted throughout the crowd whilst Joseph stands near the front.

ALBERT  
I hope seeing this will end your  
delusions.

Eloise turns to look at Albert.

ELOISE  
Nothing will. I know that it is a  
monkey. You will see it is you who  
is in the wrong.

Prison Officer Jones leads Dorothea and Barnabe to the gallows. Albert and Ernest step away from their children.

ERNEST

Thank you for coming to see this  
thing be hanged.

The crowd cheers.

ALBERT

Justice will finally be served  
today. Jones place them in the  
noose.

Father Roberts makes his way onto the gallows. The crowd  
falls silent as Barnabe and Dorothea are placed into the  
noose. Father Roberts opens his Bible.

FATHER ROBERTS

THIS Divine Sentence in the Lips of  
the King, seems to be of the same  
Nature with that Law which was  
Established presently after the  
flood, Whoso sheddeth mans blood,  
by man shall his blood be shed.

A tear falls down Dorothea's cheek.

FATHER ROBERTS (CONT'D)

Since the Nature of man hath been  
corrupted by the Apostasy, persons  
have been capable of all that is  
bad. Not only have they been filled  
with Hatred and Enmity to the  
blessed God, which hath broken out  
& shewn it self in their words and  
Actions and is Horrible to be  
thought upon, But they have been  
Exceeding Injurious to one another.

Father Roberts gestures to Ernest as he closes his Bible.

ERNEST

Albert would you like to do the  
honours?

Albert walks over to the lever that releases the floor from  
beneath them.

ALBERT

It would be my greatest honour.

CROWD

Three!

Eloise looks at Bram and Simon who nod at her.

CROWD (CONT'D)

Two!

Eugene pushes his way to the front of the crowd.

CROWD (CONT'D)

One!

ELOISE

Wait! I have something to say.

The crowd groans.

ALBERT

Nothing you say can change their  
fate, Eloise. Now stand back with  
your mother.

Eloise stands her ground and points to Eugene who steps  
forward.

ELOISE

This is a French boy!

She points to Barnabe.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

And that is a monkey.

ALBERT

Eloise! Stop this at once.

ELOISE

I am going to say something and ask  
Eugene here to repeat it. The  
people of Hartlepool are  
incompetent.

The townspeople gasps as she points to Eugene. *Eugene speaks  
in French.*

EUGENE

The people of Hartlepool are  
incompetent.

She points at Barnabe who screeches.

ELOISE

Are you that blind that you cannot  
see that this boy is French and  
that creature is a monkey.

The crowd laugh.

ALBERT  
Just as delusional as ever. This  
proves nothing.

ELOISE  
I will not let that monkey die.

She launches herself onto the gallows and tries to free  
Barnabe.

ALBERT  
After her!

Eloise struggles as she is captured by the military. She  
passes Bram. He face drops as she passes by Simon who stands  
smugly at his Father's side.

ERNEST  
You think we didn't know you'd try  
the same stunt again.

Eloise tries to squirm free.

ERNEST (CONT'D)  
Thanks to *my* son the day is saved.

ELOISE  
Simon, how could you?

SIMON  
I'm sorry Eloise but this is the  
right thing to do.

Simon looks at Bram who won't make eye contact with him.

DOROTHEA  
Eloise! In my boot, there is a  
piece of paper. It will help you.

Eloise tries to get free but is pulled back by the military.  
Joseph steps forward.

JOSEPH  
I can only apologise, my sister has  
spread her witchcraft to this  
innocent child.

ELOISE  
Joesph Cook you liar! You are the  
one helping the French.

ALBERT  
Stop it Eloise!

Bram steps forward.

BRAM  
It is true we heard him last night.

ERNEST  
Bram!

BRAM  
Father it is true.

ERNEST  
Enough of this!

Auguste pushes his way through the crowd, he nudges Eugene and stops.

AUGUSTE  
Eugene, we found you!

EUGENE  
Captain!

Eugene swings his arms around Auguste.

ALBERT  
Eugene! Captain! What on earth is going on here?

LOUIS  
Give us back our powder monkey!

Eugene attempts to walk onto the gallows but is stopped by the military.

ELOISE  
Father, those are the French. That creature is that boy's pet.

Joseph moves towards the front of the crowd. He rolls up his sleeve and places his arm in the air.

JOSEPH  
Answer me this, would a pet bite my arm like this?

He shows his arm to the crowd, who gasp and look away in disgust. He gestures for the French crew to escape whilst the crowd is distracted. Eugene opens his mouth wide as if he is about to scream, Auguste covers his mouth. The French crew escape through the crowd.

CROWD  
Hang the beast! Hang the beast!



Ernest nods at Prison Officer Jones to pull the lever.  
Eloise screams.

DISSOLVE  
TO:BLACK

EXT. HARTLEPOOL TOWN SQUARE - MIDDAY

The town square is bustling with people. There are tables upon tables filled with food. People are drinking and enjoying the victory. Banners hang reading "The creature is dead!".

Ernest and Albert walk around the crowd shaking people's hands. Eloise sits at a table holding her head in her hands. Bram takes a seat next to her.

BRAM  
We did our best Eloise.

Eloise nods, Bram pats her on the shoulder as he gets up.

ELOISE  
Bram...I should have said this  
earlier but thank you.

Bram smiles as he makes his way over Ernest who scowls at him. Eloise watches as a crowd of people gather around Joseph Cook.

JOSEPH  
I've always had a feeling that  
there was something wrong with my  
sister.

Albert comes up to Joseph.

ALBERT  
So what is next for you Mr Cook?

Joseph notices Eloise watching him, he clears his throat.

JOSEPH  
I'll be getting back to my  
research, now that I'm not having  
to keep an eye on my sister.

The crowd laughs, Eloise scoffs. Eloise gets up from the table. Albert makes a B line for her and grabs her wrist.

ALBERT  
And where do you think you're  
going?

ELOISE  
Anywhere but here.

Eloise breaks her wrist free.

ELOISE (CONT'D)  
I can't sit here and celebrate the  
death of that innocent creature.

She turns to storm away from her Father, but he grabs her  
shoulder. Ida watches Albert and Eloise.

ALBERT  
It's best you hear this now then,  
starting next week you will be  
attending boarding school.

ELOISE  
I do not care...I'd go anywhere to  
get away from you.

She storms away towards the sea wall pushing her way through  
the crowd.

ALBERT  
Eloise, I'm not finished talking to  
you! Eloise!

Eloise continues to ignore him.

EXT. HEADLAND SEA WALL - MIDDAY

Eloise sits on a bench watching the waves roll into shore.  
She takes a deep breath and sighs heavily. Ida comes from  
behind her and places her hand on the back of the bench.

IDA  
May I take a seat?

Eloise nods as Ida takes a seat. The pair sit in silence for  
a moment.

ELOISE  
Mother, I'm sorry.

IDA  
I'm just glad that you are home  
safe. Please do not ever run away  
again.

She places her hand atop of Eloise's.

ELOISE

It seems you will always know where  
I am now that I am to attend  
boarding school.

IDA

I'm not happy that this is what has  
happen but I am happy that you're  
going to see what a wide world we  
live in.

Eloise turns to look at her Mother.

ELOISE

What do you mean?

Ida smiles.

IDA

The school specialises in teaching  
about the natural world but don't  
tell your Father that.

Eloise smiles as she rests her head on her Mother's shoulder.

IDA (CONT'D)

One more thing.

Ida shuffles around with her skirt, she pulls out a neatly  
wrapped brown package. She hands it to Eloise. Eloise takes  
her time opening the parcel. She opens it. It is a leather  
bound notebook with a lead pencil.

IDA (CONT'D)

I want you to know I believed you.  
Just because your Father doesn't  
support you doesn't mean I don't.

ELOISE

Thanks Mother.

Ida places her hand atop of Eloise's.

ELOISE (CONT'D)

One day, I'll prove him wrong. Just  
wait and see.

The pair watch the waves roll in against the shore.

EXT. FRENCH SHIP - A FEW WEEKS LATER

Eugene swabs the deck of the ship. He looks solemn and moves  
the mop slowly. Auguste barges his way onto the deck.

AUGUSTE

Eugene can I have a moment of your  
time?

Eugene nods as he places the mop into the bucket. He hangs  
his head as he walks over towards Auguste.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

We know things haven't been the  
same without Barnabe.

Eugene looks up at Auguste with tears in his eyes.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

Louis, we're ready.

Louis comes onto the deck carrying a cage cover in a white  
sheet. It squawks. Louis lifts up the sheet to reveal a red  
parrot.

AUGUSTE (CONT'D)

We know nothing could replace him.

Eugene's eyes widen, he smiles as he opens the cage. The  
parrot flies onto his shoulder.

LOUIS

We were thinking this could be our  
ships mascot just like Barnabe was.

Eugene strokes the parrot.

EUGENE

I'll call him Barnabas.

Auguste pats Eugene on the head ruffling his hair.