

against one of the railings. Then he leaps to the lower level of the stage, with great agility. Hyde 2 comes close to the gurney and lifts the sheet covering the cadaver. He gazes on the body for a moment.) "The remains, belonging to a deceased female in a recent police case, had been procured by the hospital for dissection by the noted surgeon Sir Danvers Carew." (Lights up on Sir Danvers, as he storms in on the lower level. He raises his monocle to look around as if the cadaver has already been taken. Hyde 2 lets the sheet drop and picks up the covered cadaver with one arm. He slings the burlap sack onto the gurney in its place.) "The thieves, for it is assumed the strength of at least two men was required, entered through a window in the lecture theater where the dissection was to occur this morning." (Hyde 2 climbs to the upper level, moving quickly, the cadaver over his shoulder. He snatches up the cane and disappears into the dark. Sir Danvers turns to the gurney and hurries to it. He lifts the opening of the burlap sack to see what is inside.) "In its place was discovered the body of a pig, freshly slaughtered, and wearing a monocle on one eye." (Sir Danvers jumps away from the sack, repulsed and furious.) "The police are questioning members of the hospital faculty, as well as students, staff and purveyors of the pork trade." (An orderly enters and pushes off the gurney. Light change. Jekyll — who has remained onstage this whole time — his back to the audience, facing upstage — now turns to the audience, his eyes closed. Jekyll is breathing heavily, as if in the middle of a dream. Sir Danvers comes downstage and stands very near Jekyll, facing out. Light change.)

## Scene 6

*College of London hospital meeting room. Sir Danvers barks out his letter, which he holds in his hand.*

SIR DANVERS CAREW. Letter from Sir Danvers Carew to the Board of Governors, College of London Hospital. "Sir: I have the duty to issue a complaint in the matter of Dr. Henry Jekyll." (As Sir Danvers continues — Jekyll returns to life. Utterson and Dr. Lanyon enter the scene.) "To wit, Dr. Jekyll has, on numerous occa-

sions, exhibited chronic manifestations of disrespect and insubordination. In addition, for years now, his sole work has consisted of the costly importation of roots and powders for distillation into suspect tinctures made at ruinous expense to the laboratory."

JEKYLL. That's not true. The experiments take place in my laboratory, at my expense. And if the tinctures appear suspect to you, Doctor, it's because they're foreign.

SIR DANVERS CAREW. You see, he admits it! The man spent fully two years abroad in every cesspool he could find, every jig-jig voodoo —

DR. LANYON. (Overlaps below.) Dr. Carew —

UTTERSON. (Overlaps above.) Sir Danvers —

SIR DANVERS CAREW. Gentlemen, I have had enough of his fairy tales and opium dens! Utterson, you represent Jekyll, I assume you're here to give him advice and protect his interests.

UTTERSON. To the best of my waning abilities, yes.

SIR DANVERS CAREW. Then advise him this: The Board of Governors meets in a week's time. Jekyll may do one of two things before then: Make a public apology for his outburst yesterday morning — and by public I mean in person, before the college and a letter in *The Times* — or prepare to face my full wrath! Good afternoon! (Sir Danvers Carew exits.)

DR. LANYON. I'm sorry, Henry. I'd hoped a less formal meeting might —

JEKYLL. It was a waste of time. We are sworn against each other. UTTERSON. How do you see the board going?

DR. LANYON. I'll take soundings. Henry has right on his side.

Sir Danvers has power. (Dr. Lanyon exits.)

JEKYLL. "Sir Danvers." The fool! If he can't cut into it, he can't fathom it. He rails against voodoo and "savages," then stands before a hundred students and gives credence to all manner of superstitious — Utterson, I have seen in jungle clearings and island shores levels of understanding advanced beyond anything contemplated in a college lecture hall! I met a diviner in Suriname once who could calm his nerves by closing his eyes and humming a bird's song. A priest in a South Seas hut who, with one draw on a pipe of yellow smoke, left this reality for another plane, serene and at peace. There is a distinction between the brain and the mind! UTTERSON. Yes, but how do you get to the mind without going through the brain?

Begin

JEKYLL. You find an open door. One no one knows about. And once you've crossed its threshold, you will find not one mind but two. Two streams within the consciousness, one on the surface, the other subterranean. Utterson, think on how your flesh warms when a woman enters the room. Think on your fear when a hansom cab comes barreling 'round a corner, and you dash for safety faster than you thought possible. Our minds are fueled by blood and bile and secretions triggered by all manner of stimuli. Coursing through our veins is the river of our old ways, before man created morality, in the time when human hunted for food, killed for dominance, and copulated for pleasure. Morality harnessed our bestial instincts, but it did not kill them. If it had, there'd be no empire. They're all still deep inside us. We see hints, though, in the madman's eyes, the killer's glint, the rage of a drunken father who beats his child. If we could find the chemical balance that would isolate these rages, these horrors, wouldn't we pursue their cure?

End

UTTERSON. You're talking good and evil.

JEKYLL. I'm talking the nature of man.

UTTERSON. So you mix your powders, concoct your potions, banish ill-temper, anger, perversity ... what do you put in its place?

JEKYLL. Serenity.

UTTERSON. Well, there'd be no work for me, that's certain.

JEKYLL. You don't know what peace of mind means until you've been tortured by its opposite.

UTTERSON. But if you can trade mad rage for an angelic temperament, surely the reverse can happen.

JEKYLL. What sort of man would want the beast when all he sought was peace of mind?

UTTERSON. Even a beast must be fed. *(Beat.)* Does Carew know about Edward Hyde?

JEKYLL. Hyde? Why would he be pertinent?

UTTERSON. We are oft judged by the company we keep. I'd stay clear of Hyde until this business is over.

JEKYLL. That's not possible.

UTTERSON. Why have I not heard of him before this? Is he a friend of some standing?

JEKYLL. I've known him longer than I would admit. But he's only taken up residence this past year.

UTTERSON. Would you like me to have him looked into? There's a firm I use, fellow name of Sanderson —

JEKYLL. I asked you here for advice concerning Carew, not Edward Hyde.

UTTERSON. Very well. I advise you apologize —

JEKYLL. No, never.

UTTERSON. Well, once again, my professional opinion is soundly rejected. My bill will follow. *(Jekyll exits. Utterson remains.)*

## Scene 7

*A London street.*

UTTERSON. That evening, I went to the street where Hyde lived and watched the door. No one went in, no one came out. I was just about to give up my post when a clock tolled midnight, and I sensed something in the alley. *(Lights change. The actor who played Hyde previously appears and tosses the cane to the actor who now comes onstage and becomes Hyde 3. Hyde 3 moves to the door, and takes out a key. Utterson moves to him.)* Mr. Hyde? *(Hyde 3 freezes at the door.)* Mr. Hyde, my name is Utterson, a friend of Dr. Jekyll. *(Hyde 3 does not turn. Utterson comes closer.)* Visiting him as often as I do, I had hoped to make your acquaintance, but we never seem to cross paths. HYDE 3. How did you know to find me here?

UTTERSON. ... Dr. Jekyll told me. *(Hyde whirls around to Utterson.)*

HYDE 3. You lie! He never did!

UTTERSON. *(To audience.)* At that a light was upon us. *(A shaft of light splashes across Hyde 3. He freezes. To audience.)* A hansom cab was passing, its lamps casting their yellow glow across Hyde's face. The man was younger than I, but his desires had ravaged him, crippled him, his features like that of an old and evil child. *(Hyde 3 unfreezes and swings his cane up in the air. Utterson tries to shield his face from the blow he expects. But Hyde 3 quickly swerves back to the door, opens it, and disappears inside. The door closes with a bang. The shaft of light vanishes. Utterson lowers his hand.)* Hyde had disappeared to the other side of the door. And I was once more in the dark. *(Lights change. Utterson exits as a woman — Elizabeth — enters.)*