

# DOCTOR FRANK'N STYNE

*A Parody of the Frankenstein Myth*

By  
Larry Hillhouse

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### **STORY OF THE PLAY**

Franklin Kenneth Styne, or F.K. as he's called, inherits an old castle from a distant relative. Upon arriving, he finds that he also inherited the Styne Castle staff, consisting of Egor, a hunchback experimenter who converses with a portrait, and Hilda, the no-nonsense housekeeper. An inept local constable and his beautiful niece drop by to welcome the young Styne, and to check him out. F.K., who has a penchant for poetry, soon finds himself entwined in the centuries-old mysteries of Styne Castle!

This show is perfect for Halloween or any time you want to provide a rollicking, rocking show!

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(\*Flexible cast, approx. 4 m, 4 w, 3 flexible)*

**FRANKLIN KENNETH STYNE:** (or F.K.): An aspiring poet who inherits Styne Castle.

**EAGER (Egor):** Hunchback servant of the castle.

**PORTRAIT FACE:** She's a talking portrait on castle wall.

**HILDA:** Castle cook and housekeeper.

**CONSTABLE FITZHOUGH:** Local police officer, somewhat inept.

**LADY GWENDOLYN GRISBAUM:** Beautiful niece of Constable.

**CREATURE:** *(Male)* Creation of F.K.

**HOODED FIGURE:** *(Female)* Mysterious castle guard.

**GHOSTS #1, #2, #3:** *(Flexible)* May add additional.

### **CASTING NOTES**

*Traditionally the role of the Constable would be cast as a man, but since this is a parody, don't hesitate to cast a woman, if desired. Just change all associated pronouns and reference from uncle to aunt.*

### **SETTINGS**

Styne Castle great room.

Styne Castle laboratory.

Also, a maze could be depicted by using the theatre aisles, with the Constable entering and exiting the maze through various doors.

### **SCENE SYNOPSIS**

**Scene 1:** Franklin Kenneth Styne arrives at castle.

**Scene 2:** Constable, Lady Gwendolyn visit; Eager shows F.K. the lab.

**Scene 3:** Constable works on maze, F.K. plans.

**Scene 4:** Gwen invites F.K. for dinner.

**Scene 5:** F.K. goes to dinner, Eager goes "shopping."

**Scene 6:** F.K., Eager come up from lab, exhausted.

**Scene 7:** Their first try. F.K. lectures, Eager laments, Hilda dusts.

**Scene 8:** Gwen visits, second lab try, F.K. and Eager bashed by the Creature. Hooded Figure speaks.

**Scene 9:** Gwen, Hilda comes to aid of F.K., Eager. Everyone celebrates.

**Scene 1**

*(AT RISE: EAGER is pacing back and forth in the great room of the castle. The face in the PORTRAIT on the wall is watching him pace.)*

EAGER: Oh, happy day! Happy day!

PORTRAIT: Whatever are you so excited about?

EAGER: He's coming! He's probably going to arrive any minute!

PORTRAIT: Who?

EAGER: The new master, that's who. Lord Styne. The Castle Styne is going to have a new master!

PORTRAIT: *(Glumly.)* How extraordinary.

EAGER: It really is. There was talk of closing the castle permanently. They couldn't locate an heir.

PORTRAIT: And you would have been out of a job.

EAGER: And you would have been out of a ... whatever.

PORTRAIT: I've been out of a ... hark! I hear a noise!

*(EAGER rushes to the door and peeks out.)*

EAGER: Here comes a carriage! It's him, I know it's him!

*(EAGER runs helter-skelter straightening and moving things all around. The PORTRAIT face watches him disgustedly. Finally there is a KNOCK on the door. Eager stops, and calmly opens the door.)*

EAGER: You rang, sir?

F.K.: Well ... actually I knocked.

EAGER: Who may I say is calling?

F.K.: I was told that you would be expecting me. I'm Franklin Kenneth Styne.

EAGER: Lord Styne. Please come in. Yes, we were expecting you. Let me fetch your bags.

F.K.: Thank you. And your name is ...?

EAGER: Egor, at your service.

F.K.: Eager. That's a nice name for a servant.

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EAGER: I'm EGOR.

F.K.: Yes, Eager, I can see that the name fits.

*(EAGER looks perplexed, then goes over and pulls a BELL chord. Almost immediately HILDA appears.)*

HILDA: You knocked?

EAGER: Well, actually I rang. Let me introduce you to our new master. Lord Franklin Kenneth Styne. Or would you prefer to be called Doctor Styne?

F.K.: Doctor??

EAGER: You ARE a doctor, aren't you? You HAVE to be a doctor. Otherwise, you would not have fulfilled the will's requirements. It stated quite clearly that the castle could only be passed along to an heir who was a ... DOCTOR.

F.K.: Well, yes, I am a doctor. I was just surprised that you knew. I don't think of myself as a doctor.

EAGER: *(Excitedly.)* What kind of doctor are you? Brain surgeon, perhaps?

HILDA: *(Sarcastically.)* THAT would be useful around here.

EAGER: No, no, perhaps you specialize in ... deformities?

F.K.: I'm afraid not. I'm not exactly a doctor like you think ....

HILDA and EAGER: *(Together.)* NOT a doctor??

F.K.: Technically I AM a doctor.

*(HILDA and EAGER breathe a sign of relief.)*

F.K.: That is, I'm not a MEDICAL doctor.

HILDA: *(Suspiciously.)* Oh?

F.K.: I have a doctorate in literature.

EAGER: Literature?

F.K.: Specializing in poetry, as a matter of fact.

HILDA: *(Dreamily.)* Poetry!

EAGER: *(Disdainfully.)* POETRY?

F.K.: Although I have yet to have any of my work actually published, I am working on a volume of poems that I have high hopes ...

EAGER: *(Disbelief.)* Poetry??

F.K.: So you don't really have to call me "Doctor."

## **End of Freeview**

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