

SCENE 7

(THE GROTTO.)

*(GOMEZ and MAL are puffing on cigars.
MAL is seated on an old oaken chair.)*

MAL

Interesting chair. Antique?

GOMEZ

Fifteenth century. "The Heretic's chair." Once owned by Tomas de Torquemada, Grand Inquisitor of Madrid.

MAL

You collect this stuff?

GOMEZ

A man must have his hobbies. Some play cards, some play golf. Me, I collect "instruments of persuasion." "Why," you ask.

(then)

Go on, ask. Ask!

MAL

Why?

GOMEZ

It's fun! The history of the world told in agony and dismemberment. Get up, I show you.

(Mal gets out of the chair)

You sit, they ask you a question. They don't like the answer...

*(GOMEZ pulls a lever. A giant spike
shoots up.)*

Ooooooooooooooooooh! That'll make you believe, eh?

(a laugh, then retracts the lever)

Sit down. Let me ask you a question.

MAL

Some other time.

GOMEZ

Okey-dokey.

(then)

So how about these crazy kids, eh?

MAL

What about 'em?

GOMEZ

They seem very fond of each other, no?

MAL

I guess. But it's not like they're getting married.

GOMEZ

Married? Of course not. They're so young. Of course, they marry young these days, do they not?

MAL

I dunno what they do.

GOMEZ

Then speak about you. The Beineke Saga. Your lives, your hopes, your dreams.

(pointedly)

Your son.

MAL

Lucas? He's a little soft like his mother. But when he gets out of college, I'll toughen him up. Teach him the business. Make him a man.

GOMEZ

May I say something? You and I - I feel we understand each other. Do you feel this?

MAL

No.

(then)

SCENE 3

(GUEST BEDROOM)

16B ALL IS BLACK INSIDE MY FACE

ALICE

"I feel so dark, I feel so dead.
All is black inside my face."

MAL

Boy, they really got to you. That doesn't even rhyme.

ALICE

(dark)
You got a problem with that?

MAL

I did not raise my son to be kidnapped by a bunch of
creepedout left-wing Spanish weirdos.

ALICE

You didn't raise him, Mal. I did. You were at the office,
remember?

MAL

I was at the office for you. For him. I had plans for the
boy!

ALICE

Oh Mal, he's in love. Let him follow his heart.

MAL

Follow his heart? That's crazy!

ALICE

What's wrong with crazy? Crazy is underrated.

MAL

Lemme get this straight - your son, *your only son*, wants to
marry someone who is named for a *day of the week* and runs
around Central Park with a crossbow - and you're OK with
all that?

ALICE

If it makes him happy, yes.

MAL

Well, you better come to your senses or I'm gonna have to take steps.

ALICE

Good idea. Why don't you start by taking steps outside.

MAL

What?

ALICE

You want to act like a tool, go sleep in the shed.

(MAL picks up the blanket. There's a huge SPIDER on his back. ALICE screams.)

(ALICE screams)

Mal!

MAL

What?

ALICE

Oh... nothing.

(MAL turns to leave and ALICE gets on the bed and laughs.)

#16C INTO THE MOON AND ME