

ACT TWO

Scene 1

Scotland Yard morgue. Lights up on an inspector.

INSPECTOR. Initial investigation into the death of Sir Danvers Carew, eminent surgeon and lecturer. *(A police doctor enters. A gurney is wheeled in by a morgue assistant. We can discern a body under the sheet. There are many bloodstains seeping through the sheet.)*

POLICE DOCTOR. "The victim died of repeated blows to the head, resulting in cranial swelling, internal ruptures, and massive hemorrhaging. Death would have come within one to two minutes after the first blow, but given the number of blows, it is safe to surmise his assailant continued his assault for at least another minute or more if one estimates an average of twenty blows per minute, or an approximate total of fifty post-mortem blows. Due to the savagery of the attack, the victim's face was bereft of features, hence his identity had to be ascertained by tailor's markings. And a note."
(The police doctor exits. The Inspector holds up a note.)

INSPECTOR. "The contents of which read in its entirety, "Utterson: urgent we talk about our mutual friend. Signed Carew." *(Utterson enters.)*

UTTERSON. And so you called for me.

INSPECTOR. It seemed the better part of wisdom, sir. *(The Inspector picks up the broken lower half of the walking stick, which has been set on the gurney.)* Do you recognize this, Mr. Utterson?

UTTERSON. I recognize its type, inspector. It's a walking stick. Half of one, at any rate.

INSPECTOR. It was found at the scene, broken in two.

UTTERSON. The murder weapon.

INSPECTOR. Why, sir, you could be on the force yourself.

UTTERSON. Where's the rest of it?

INSPECTOR. Missing. We've searched the park, the streets

INSPECTOR
(POLICE DOCTOR)
UTTERSON

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beyond. Nowhere. We assume the cane broke in the course of the attack, and the murderer took the top half with him for some unknown reason. (*Looks at the cane's break.*) Look at the way it snapped. Other half should fit like a puzzle piece. (*Holds up the note.*) The note to you. "Utterson: urgent we talk about our mutual friend." Who is this mutual friend?

UTTERSON. I didn't write the note, Inspector. Sir Danvers did. He knew to whom he was referring. It would be improper for me to speculate.

INSPECTOR. Quite so, sir. When did you see Sir Danvers last?

UTTERSON. Last week, a meeting at London Hospital.

INSPECTOR. What was the meeting about?

UTTERSON. A faculty member.

INSPECTOR. Who? (*Lights change.*)

END

Scene 2

Jekyll's house. Jekyll enters to meet Utterson and the Inspector.

JEKYLL. I am shocked. I was not an admirer of Sir Danvers, that's no secret, but the manner of his death ... I'm sorry, I'm still shaking.

INSPECTOR. You look like you haven't had much sleep, Doctor.

JEKYLL. I never sleep more than a few hours a night.

UTTERSON. Jekyll. The inspector found a note on Carew's body. Something he'd written to me. (*The Inspector offers the note to Jekyll. Jekyll hesitates to take it.*)

INSPECTOR. Go ahead, sir, blood's all dried by now. (*Jekyll reads. When he's done, he hands it back.*)

JEKYLL. Am I the "friend"?

INSPECTOR. Seems a fair assumption.

JEKYLL. I hated Carew.

UTTERSON. Henry —

JEKYLL. He was a fraud and a sadist, a corrupt and evil man who disgraced the medical profession.

INSPECTOR. Where were you last night, coming on to eleven o'clock?