

# Henry Clay Frick vs. The Homestead Strikers

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## Act 1: The Steel Factory

### Scene 1: Steel Factory Background

*FRICK is a “robber baron.” Enter LABORERS 1, 2, and 3 in the background containing the steel factory.*

**LABORER 1** Man, I hate this steel factory. I hate our boss, Henry Frick, even more.  
**LABORER 2** Yeah! We have low wages, long hours, and horrible working conditions. How am I supposed to refine steel with these tools?  
**LABORER 1** He makes us work 12 to 12! OMG when can we get rid of him?  
**LABORER 3** I can't believe he evicted old Granny Barbara from her company house too!  
**LABORER 2** Yeah, and our families have been suffering without food for several days.  
**LABORER 1** Shush! He's coming!  
**LABORER 3** Who? Oh, Frick.  
*FRICK enters the factory.*

**FRICK** Hello my filthy laborers.  
**LABORERS** Hello, Mr. Frick. *(annoyed expression)*  
**FRICK** DID I HEAR YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT ME? BE CAREFUL OR I WILL FIRE YOU! NOW GET BACK TO WORK!  
**LABORERS** Okay Mr. Frick.

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## Act 2: Pinkertons vs Laborers

### Scene 1: Night Background

*Enter LABORERS 1, 2, and 3 in the background containing the night background.*

**LABORER 1**

Hey, I'm tired of this. Let's call a strike!

**LABORER 2**

Why not? We have nothing to lose! I'm sick of this too!

**LABORER 3**

I want to see the end of him!

*LABORERS stop working and put down their shovels. Enter FRICK.*

**FRICK**

Hey! *(towards LABORERS)* What are you doing? I am giving you to the count of 5 to get back to work! 5... 4... 3... 2... 1! FINE. I'M CALLING THE PINKERTONS. *(dials the PINKERTONS)* HELLO, I NEED THE DELUXE PINKERTON PACKAGE.

**THE PINKERTONS**

At your service sir, I'll get you three hundred of my men.

*THE PINKERTONS enter the factory.*

STEP AWAY FROM MR. FRICK AT ONCE!

*A fight breaks out between the Pinkertons and the Laborers. Laborers crumple up their "laborer" signs and throw them at Frick one by one. Pinkerton steps in the way and deflects paper balls. Pinkerton throws one paper ball back which hits Laborer 3. Laborer 3 dies.*

**LABORER 1**

Frick! How could you?

*THE PINKERTONS hand the 'L' sign to either one of the living laborers.*

**THE PINKERTONS**

*(holding up an L)* Take this L, laborers.

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## Act 3: Frick's Downfall

### Scene 1: Steel Factory Background

*Enter LABORERS 1 and 2 in the background containing the steel factory.*

**LABORER 2** Man, what a devastating strike. I am so sad.

**LABORER 1** Yeah, let's go get ice cream.

### Scene 2: Ice Cream Shop Background

*Enter LABORERS 1 and 2 and BERKMAN in the background containing the ice cream shop.*

**BERKMAN** Hey, what can I get for you guys?

**LABORER 2** How about ice cream for laborers who just lost a friend during a strike?

**BERKMAN** What strike??

**LABORER 1** We plotted a strike against our harsh and unfair boss, Mr. Frick.

**LABORER 2** We lost good people during the strike.

**BERKMAN** That's horrible! Let me take care of this.

*The LABORERS leave the ice cream shop with BERKMAN.*

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### Scene 3: Frick's Office Background

*Enter LABORERS 1 and 2, BERKMAN, the SHERIFF, and FRICK in the background containing the office. BERKMAN walks up to FRICK.*

FRICK                   Frick, what's all the talk that I'm hearing about?  
                          About the strike?  
BERKMAN            Yeah, I heard that you brought Pinkerton to the strike and killed the laborers.  
FRICK                I did what had to be done to get my workers in line!  
BERKMAN            Well, this is what has to be done to bring justice.  
                          *BERKMAN shoots FRICK on his shoulder with his first shot and neck with his second shot before he gets brought down by the SHERIFF. FRICK falls to the ground.*  
  
SHERIFF             Mr. Frick! Are you alright? I'm sorry I wasn't able to stop the shot in time!  
                          I'll take care of him right now!  
                          *The SHERIFF aims his firearm at BERKMAN.*  
  
FRICK                *(coughing)* Please don't kill this man. I understand where he is coming from,  
                          and he doesn't deserve to die. I should also be able to survive these wounds.  
SHERIFF             Then I will take this man to prison!

### Scene 4: Prison Background

*Enter BERKMAN and the SHERIFF in the background containing the prison. BERKMAN is serving his time for attempted murder.*

                          You're going away for a long, long time.  
BERKMAN            Those laborers are going to die if they keep working for Frick!  
SHERIFF             Why should I care? Frick pays well... to me! *(laughs and walks away)*

### Scene 5: Money Background

*Enter FRICK in the background containing the money.*

FRICK                I may be handicapped for the time being, but nothing matters as long as I have  
                          my money and my laborers to keep working for me! *(basking in pile of money)*