

Adventure Cabaret

Manikins

[2:10]

Screen: [beautiful clouds]

Stage hands place a table center stage, with a chair behind it. They also place two manikins on the table, in joyful poses.

A male actor enters, and sits in the chair looking at the manikins. He leans forward and picks one of them up, looks at it closely for a moment, then puts it back. He picks up the second manikin, puts it in an awkward, ugly pose, then laughs.

Then he cocks one index finger, and knocks one of the manikins over. He laughs again, this time more strongly. He picks up the first manikin again.

Actor: You know what I could do to you? I could rip your little head off right now.

He grabs the manikin's head.

Actor: You couldn't do a goddam thing about it.

He tosses the manikin down roughly, and picks up the other manikin.

Actor: And you? I could so easily just rip off your arms and legs, and you couldn't do a thing to stop me.

He pushes both manikins off the table, and they tumble to the floor. On the screen behind him appear two very large manikins, floating in the clouds. The actor moves around to the front of the table, and stands over the manikins strewn helpless on the floor. On the screen, word balloons appear next to the heads of the large manikins. During the dialogue of the large manikins, the actor continues to threaten and abuse the small manikins, saying he could burn them alive, etc.

Large manikin 1: Ugh.

Large manikin 2: What a jerk.

Large manikin 1: I do wonder what is wrong with him.

Large manikin 2: Perhaps something in his early toilet training.

Large manikin 1: Cruelty is inherently pathetic.

Large manikin 2: Sickening.

Large manikin 1: I feel sorry for him.

The large manikins begin to fade away, and then only the clouds are seen again. The actor suddenly stops, as though he senses something. He turns suddenly toward the screen, but sees only the clouds.

Pause.

He gently picks each manikin up, puts it in a nice pose, and places it back on the table. He turns to leave, looking back at the manikins.

Actor: I'm so sorry, you guys. *(He is fighting back tears.)* I really don't know what's wrong with me. I love you guys so much. I'll see you tomorrow, ok?

Exits.