

MEREDITH: NNNOOOOOOOOOO!!!

SHELLEY: (*Covering herself.*) Mother!

MEREDITH: Abomination! Get away from him! (*To Bat Boy.*) Get away from her!

SHELLEY: I love him, Mother!

MEREDITH: (*Grabbing Shelley and pulling her away.*) This is an abomination!

BAT BOY: (*Still shaking.*) We're in love.

MEREDITH: That's not possible! I won't hear it!

SHELLEY: And I won't hear you call Edgar an abomination!

MEREDITH: You don't understand!

SHELLEY: You don't love him! You can't love him! If you loved him you wouldn't want to keep us from each other!

MEREDITH: Please sweetheart, don't speak of it. I can't stand it.

SHELLEY: He's not a freak, Mother. He's a decent, loving, passionate boy and I love him and I want to be with him for the rest of my life!

MEREDITH: Stop! You must understand how hideous that sounds!

BAT BOY: Mrs. Parker! What do you hate me so?

MEREDITH: I don't hate you. Oh, dear Edgar.

BAT BOY: It's because of you that I can love Shelley..

MEREDITH: No!

BAT BOY: ... How can you wish to take that from me? (*Moves toward Meredith menacingly.*) Is all that you taught me a lie? Is it only from a distance that I am your dear, sweet Edgar? But when I get too close I'm a *freak!*

MEREDITH: No!

BAT BOY (*Moves close.*) *A menace!*

MEREDITH: No!

BAT BOY: (*Closer, losing it.*) *An abomination!*

MEREDITH: (*Cowering.*) No!

BAT BOY: You'll not keep us apart! I'll do what I must!  
(*Bat Boy lunges, bringing Meredith to the ground.*)

SHELLEY: Edgar, no!

BAT BOY: (*Bares his fangs.*) I'll do what I must.

MEREDITH: Edgar! I'm your *mother!* I'm your mother. (*Bat Boy recoils. A long beat, then Meredith sobs.*) I'm so sorry. I didn't see this. I'm so sorry. My own dear Edgar.

BAT BOY: No.

MEREDITH: Oh, my Edgar. (*Bat Boy and Shelley regard each other, shamed. The sound of approaching hounds.*)

BAT BOY: (*Running off.*) *Nooooooo!*

MEREDITH: (*To Shelley*) Honey, please, come to me. Come here, sweetheart...