

S BARLEY)

**ACT ONE**

**SCENE 7**

Monty / Lord D'Ysquith

AH, AH, AH, AH,  
AH...

*MONTY is seen in half-light, suggesting mystery.*

#8a - Haunting Terror

**MONTY(Recorded V-O)**

I returned to town late that night, plagued by the haunting terror that I had left a clue and sooner or later someone would come across it. I consoled myself by reading one of Mother's unanswered letters to Lord Asquith, Senior, in which she pleaded with him to take pity on a woman alone with a son to raise. So it was a bit of a shock that not long after I should receive a letter from that very same man.

*(Reading, live voice:)*

"Dear Mr. Navarro... "

*(A spot hits LORD ASQUITH D'YSQUITH, a grief-stricken elderly banker.)*

H, AH, AH, AH,  
H, AH, AH.

**LORD ASQUITH**

"Some time ago you wrote claiming a relationship to the D'Ysquith family and asking us to help you to some situation in which you might earn your living. I must apologize for our unsympathetic attitude on that occasion. Should you still be in need of a post I shall be very glad if you will pay me a call..."

e. HE starts

**LORD ASQUITH & MONTY**

" ... Yours very truly..."

to the frigid

**MONTY**

*(Rather amazed:)*

"Lord Asquith D'Ysquith." Senior.

TI

**SCENE 7A**

*(D'Ysquith Banking House. LORD ASQUITH D'YSQUITH is revealed to be sitting at his ornate desk.)*

**LORD ASQUITH**

Do come in, Mr. Navarro.

*(LORD D'YSQUITH looks at MONTY carefully.)*

You are not like the D'Ysquiths, and yet there is something.

*(MONTY takes a small photograph out of his breast pocket and hands it to LORD D'YSQUITH.)*

MONTY

This is my Mother.

LORD ASQUITH

We were not well acquainted. It is a very sweet face. Have you ever seen the family portraits at Highhurst?

MONTY

*(Lying:)*

Never.

LORD ASQUITH

Your mother is extraordinarily like some of the women. And some of the men, for that matter. Perhaps you are wondering why I suddenly came to write to you.

MONTY

Yes, frankly, I am.

LORD ASQUITH

I don't know whether you heard that I lost my only son recently under somewhat tragic circumstances. A skating accident.

MONTY

Yes. My sincerest condolences.

LORD ASQUITH

Thank you. You know, of course, I was grooming him to succeed me.

MONTY

I did not.

*(This is difficult for his lordship, as HE is not usually given to public displays of emotion.)*

LORD ASQUITH

Well, it is over. The past cannot be recalled. I should like to know if you would care to come into my firm.

*(MONTY is stunned.)*

You could have no greater education in the business of stockbroking. Beyond that, I can make no promises.

MONTY

Lord D'Ysquith, I hardly know what to say.

LORD ASQUITH

To begin with, you shall have two hundred and fifty pounds a year.