

MAL SIDES #1

SCENE 7

(THE GROTTO.)

*(GOMEZ and MAL are puffing on cigars.
MAL is seated on an old oaken chair.)*

MAL

START Interesting chair. Antique?

GOMEZ

Fifteenth century. "The Heretic's chair." Once owned by Tomas de Torquemada, Grand Inquisitor of Madrid.

MAL

You collect this stuff?

GOMEZ

A man must have his hobbies. Some play cards, some play golf. Me, I collect "instruments of persuasion." "Why," you ask.

(then)

Go on, ask. Ask!

MAL

Why?

GOMEZ

It's fun! The history of the world told in agony and dismemberment. Get up, I show you.

(Mal gets out of the chair)

You sit, they ask you a question. They don't like the answer...

*(GOMEZ pulls a lever. A giant spike
shoots up.)*

Ooooooooooooooooooh! That'll make you believe, eh?

(a laugh, then retracts the lever)

Sit down. Let me ask you a question.

MAL

Some other time.

GOMEZ

Okey-dokey.

(then)

So how about these crazy kids, eh?

MAL

What about 'em?

GOMEZ

They seem very fond of each other, no?

MAL

I guess. But it's not like they're getting married.

GOMEZ

Married? Of course not. They're so young. Of course, they marry young these days, do they not?

MAL

I dunno what they do.

GOMEZ

Then speak about you. The Beineke Saga. Your lives, your hopes, your dreams.

(pointedly)

Your son.

MAL

Lucas? He's a little soft like his mother. But when he gets out of college, I'll toughen him up. Teach him the business. Make him a man.

GOMEZ

May I say something? You and I - I feel we understand each other. Do you feel this?

MAL

No.

(then)

So tell me, Addams - ten thousand square feet right in the middle of a public park. How'd you swing this place?

GOMEZ

These two acres have been in my family ever since Queen Isabella of Spain deeded it to my great ancestor Alfonso the Enormous, for services rendered.

MAL

What services?

GOMEZ

Alphonso the Enormous. *The Enormous* - do I have to draw you a diagram?

(exiting)

Come, Beineke - let me show you the moat. Did you bring a bathing suit? Never mind lets be crazy. **END**