

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

Scene#	Page#	Explanation of scene	Envisioned Stage Picture
1	p.12	<p>“Teddy: CHARGE Harper: Have you ever tried convincing him he wasn’t Teddy Roosevelt? Abby: Oh no! Martha: He’s so happy being Teddy Roosevelt.”</p> <p>In this scene, the reader begin to understand that “Teddy” is not the most mentally stable character and that his caretakers believe that allowing him to live in his ignorant and fake world is easier than dealing with the problem.</p>	<p>Teddy is running up the stairs, Harper is alarmed and bracing his chair, and Martha/Abby is standing/sitting and agreeing with each other. Everyone but Teddy is in a sitting area.</p>
2	p.19	<p>“Mortimer: Oh, by the way, I’m going to marry her.”</p> <p>After saying this, Abby calls in Martha excitedly.</p>	<p>Mortimer is looking suave and sly-making a “no big deal” face after telling his aunts this big news, and they are fangirling. He is making a face at the audience and one of them is crying and the other is envisioning the wedding.</p>
3	p.21	<p>Mortimer is explaining a play about murder and sees a dead body in the window seat</p>	<p>This scene is horrifying and comedic to the audience, and we will see Mortimer lift up the window seat and keeps talking and then revisits the window seat which has a dead body in it</p>
4	p.22	<p>“Mortimer: -Teddy’s killed a man! Martha: Nonsense dear. Mortimer: There’s a body in the window seat! Abby: Yes dear we know.”</p> <p>Mortimer is appalled because his aunts are calm and knowledgeable about the</p>	<p>Mortimer is being sat down in a chair by one of his aunts, and the other one is getting him water/fanning him and trying to calm him down which riles him up even more.</p>

		murdered body in the window seats.	
5	p.23	<p>“Abby: The gentleman died because he drank some wine with poison in it. Mortimer: How did the poison get in the wine? Martha: We put it in the wine because it’s less noticeable- in tea it has a distinct smell. Mortimer: <i>You</i> put it in the wine?”</p>	Martha reaches up for the elderberry wine, (I have decided that due to the character’s personalities) Abby is the one who was comforting mortimer and she is leaning on the table with a cup of obviously clear water and hankerchief that was being used to fan Mortimer and Mortimer is frightened. Abby offers Mortimer the water and he is so disheveled he takes it but spits it out to be safe after realizing he drank something from these crazy women’s home.
6	p.34	<p>“Jonathan: Come in doctor.” In this scene, Jonathan (Mortimer’s brother that had been ex-communicated) breaks in. Abby and Martha are hiding and a tall Jonathan walks in followed by a short “Doctor”</p>	Jonathan enters as his aunts are hiding from him, and his stooge comes in carrying a heavy briefcase. Jonathan is very ugly and his “Doctor” doesn’t look much better.
7	p.51	<p>“Jonathan: Doctor! Your hankerchief!”</p>	Jonathan is man-handling Elaine, Mortimer’s fiancée who was at the wrong place at the wrong time. He is stuffing a hankerchief in her mouth trying to shut her up as Einstein watches and winces at the scene
8	p.67	<p>“Jonathan: You mean you and Aunt Martha have murdered Abby: Murdered? It was one of our charities! Martha: Why, what we’ve been doing is a mercy” Here the ‘crazy’ person of the family (Jonathan) is introduced to a different kind of insanity- his legitimately insane Aunts. This is the first Jonathan has heard tell of them murdering people, and their lightheartedness even freaks</p>	Jonathan looks at Einstein (who is sitting with a flask to his mouth) and Abby and Martha see nothing wrong, and by their physical as well as verbal shrugging of of the concerned tonality in Jonathan’s voice, the audience is reminded that they deem their actions very called for.

		him out a bit.	
9	p.74-75	<p>“Mortimer: Now I ask you doctor, what an intelligent person would do?”</p> <p>On these pages, Mortimer is telling a story of/his recollection of something, trying to get out of the pickle he is in, but he is really digging himself a deep hole. Jonathan is acting out the villainous and murderous actions that Mortimer is explaining in the play on Mortimer.</p>	<p>The height of this scene is when Jonathan goes to loop the cord around Mortimer’s shoulders. Einstein is a nervous wreck, and Mortimer himself is just jibber jabbering along until he feels the cord and then he struggles against it.</p>
10	p.77	<p>“Einstein: We got a drink. We both need a drink”</p>	<p>In this scene, Einstein and Jonathan are desperate or liquor (Einstein moreso, be it that he is a drunk), and they find the wine thanks to Einstein (clever name choice on Kesselring’s part). They do not know that the wine is poison, and have the glasses up to their lips until Teddy blows his trumpet and startles them, causing them to drop/shatter their glasses.</p>