

MASTER'S WAKING GIFT

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. DUNGEON PASSAGE WAY - NIGHT

Through the musty darkness, EEGAD (male, 40s) leads the way holding an LED candelabra before him. BARON VON VINN, (male, 50s, in Victorian attire and cape) follows behind.

The Baron pauses so that he can stretch and UN-CRICK his back and glances back the way they came. Eegad waits.

BARON VON VINN  
Farewell darkness, my old foe. Two  
hundred years you say.

EEGAD  
To the day, Master.

The resume their walk.

BARON VON VINN  
I didn't expect the experiment to  
work so well. It was just so...  
boring. Nothing new.

EEGAD  
There have been changes, my Baron.

The Baron regards Eegad.

BARON VON VINN  
And you... you haven't aged a day.

EEGAD  
Thanks to you, Master.

The Baron notices the candelabra.

BARON VON VINN  
What kind of candles are these?

EEGAD  
Something new Master, L-E-Ds. No  
waxy mess.

They resume walking.

BARON VON VINN  
"Leads?" Hmm. Can they change lead  
to gold now?

EEGAD  
Yes, Master.

EEGAD (CONT'D)  
We have two... guests. Maidens.

BARON VON VINN  
Excellent. I'm famished.

They enter into a...

DUNGEON CELL

Two MAIDENS (female, 20's), in revealing tops and short tight skirts stand, their wrists in manacles which are chained to the wall. They look forlorn.

The Baron claps his hands together rubbing them with delight.

MAIDEN #1  
Please let us go.

MAIDEN #2  
Yes, please.

The Baron LAUGHS.

BARON VON VINN  
You are my, my... maidens in irons.

Maiden #1 cowers back.

MAIDEN #1  
No.

Maiden #2 sees Maiden #1 and cowers as well.

The Baron steps away, motioning Eegad to a word in private.

BARON VON VINN  
Very lovely. Where'd you get such delectable and... attired, if one can call it that, peasants?

EEGAD  
I told them they were auditioning for a scare house.

Behind him Maiden #2 slips her hand from a manacle to scratch her nose.

BARON VON VINN  
Yes, my mansion has always been the most scary.

Maiden #2 returns her hand to the manacle just as Baron turns to study the women.

Behind the Baron, Eegad signals for them to "play it up."

Both women shake their shackled wrists and MOAN.

The Baron turns to Eegad.

BARON VON VINN (CONT'D)  
Quick, we must prepare the  
laboratory.

EEGAD  
Um, about that, Master.

As the Baron strides away, Eegad hurries to keep up.

One of the two women pulls out a cell phone. With their other hands still in the shackles they stay in character as she takes a selfie.

DUNGEON PASSAGEWAY #2

Eegad walks beside the Baron.

BARON VON VINN  
Should I... swap their brains,  
maybe? Turn them into, into...

The baron slaps one hand into the other.

BARON VON VINN (CONT'D)  
Cats. I'll turn them into cats.  
I've always wanted a cat.

Eegad shrugs.

EEGAD  
I've collected quite a few of those  
upstairs.

The Baron bristles with excitement. Eegad looks hesitant.

EEGAD (CONT'D)  
But, about the laboratory...

LABORATORY

Pitch black beyond the candle lit corridor.

The Baron reaches around the corner on his side in the darkened laboratory. What he reaches for is not there.

Eegad reaches around the corner on his side. CLICK. Lights come up dimly.

The Baron watches as Eegad turns the brightness knob to bring the lights up.

The Baron looks on his side of the wall.

BARON VON VINN  
Where's my...

The Baron makes the motion of opening and closing a large blade switch.

EEGAD  
It violated building codes, Master.

The Baron looks up at the ceiling.

BARON VON VINN  
Where are the flaming torches? The fire pots?

The Baron looks to Eegad.

BARON VON VINN AND EEGAD  
(together)  
L-E-Ds.

Nodding sadly, the Baron surveys the room and GASPS. He rushes to a modern wood table.

BARON VON VINN  
Where's my big beautiful oak table?  
The metal bands; the spikes; the chains?

EEGAD  
Rotted, I'm afraid, Master.

The Baron rubs his hand on the table, then checks his fingers.

BARON VON VINN  
So smooth. Not a single splinter.

EEGAD  
It's called I-Key-Ah.

BARON VON VINN  
I-Key-Ah. Well, lets bring in the  
ironed maidens.

Eegad cringes.

EEGAD  
I'm afraid, Master, that they have  
another "gig" to get to.

Eegad leads the Baron to a pair of modern chairs that sit  
side by side.

Forlorn, the Baron gathers his cape, and flops down.

Eegad takes the other chair.

BARON VON VINN  
No candles, no fires, building  
codes, maidens with other gigs to  
get to. This is no fun at all.

EEGAD  
Perhaps the Master might like this.

Eegad presents a television remote.

BARON VON VINN  
How is that fun.

Eegad points the remote and presses a button. They are bathed  
in flickering light. A SCREAM fills the room.

The Baron, startled, raises a caped arm partway across his  
face.

BARON VON VINN (CONT'D)  
What... what...

EEGAD  
It's called "cable."

BARON VON VINN  
A "cable" to what?

EEGAD  
Over a hundred channels.

Eegad presses a button on the remote and the flickering  
changes. A woman is begging "No, no, no..."

The Baron lowers his protective arm. His expression changes  
to fascination.

Eegad removes a bowl of popcorn from a nearby table, offering it to his Master.

The Baron samples a couple kernels and nods his approval.

LATER

The Baron roars with laughter as the BUZZ of a chain saw comes from the television. Eegad laughs with him.

The Barron throws his popcorn at the screen causing both to laugh harder.

BARON VON VINN  
(delighted)  
How often does this theater show?

EEGAD  
All day, every day.

The Baron looks at Eegad with astonishment, then bursts into laughter.

BARON VON VINN  
I think I'm going to like this new age. Though, it's not quite as good as committing mayhem one's self.

EEGAD  
You are so right, my Master.

Eegad takes out a video game box and hands it to the Baron, who scrutinizes it.

BARON VON VINN  
Grand Monster Mayhem?

EEGAD  
Violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, blood, strong language... rated Teen.

Eegad takes out two video game controllers from under the table near him. He hands one controller to the Baron.

FADE OUT.

END