

Fair Dreams

6-Page script

by

Joni Hägg

Draft 1.0 - 7.2.2020

Sakarinkatu 3A 22
00500 Helsinki, Finland
+358 (0)40 5451844
Jonihagg@gmail.com

PAGE 1

PANEL 1

Establishing shot. A circus fair is happening, and a young couple is walking holding hands.

Title Credits.

PANEL 2

The couple stops as the girl points towards something she has noticed in one of the stalls.

1. Girl: Look! It's so adorable!

PANEL 3

We see a large teddy bear on the prize shelf of a stall.

2. Boy, off screen: You want it?

PANEL 4

The boy heads towards the stall, the girl follows with excitement.

3. Boy: I'll win it for you. I Promise.

PANEL 5

At the stall, which is one of those where you try to throw a baseball at some markers to score points. The boy is throwing balls hard, seriously concentrating.

PANEL 6

We see the the balls miss the mark, one after another. He has already failed multiple times.

PAGE 2**PANEL 1**

A while later, after he just keeps on failing, the boy is putting more cash on the desk to buy more balls. He looks strained and agitated already. Behind him, the girl is trying to pull him gently away from the stall. She thinks that this is clearly going too far.

1. Girl: Come on, it's okay. I want to go home.
2. Boy: You go, I'm so close, I know it!

PANEL 2

The girl walks away, disappointed.

PANEL 3

The Boy has played all his money away, and is mad at the stall keeper.

3. Boy: You're cheating, somehow! Gotta be!

PANEL 4

The boy tries to leap over the desk, to punch the stall keeper.

4. Stall keeper: Hey, hey!

PANEL 5

A Strongman of the fair has intervened, and is holding the boy up in the air.

PAGE 3**PANEL 1**

Largest panel of the page.

Inside a dark circus tent, the strongman has dragged the boy in front of a "circus council" of a circus director, serious clowns, animal trainers, trapeze artists and the like. They look down on the boy seriously. At the foot of their table is the massive teddy bear that the boy covets. there is a clear indication that if the boy wants the bear, they want something from him.

INSET PANEL 1

Inset panel. Close up of the Director.

1. Director: You want the teddy, you work for it.

PANEL 2

Panel 1 in a row of 3. These three panels are relatively small portraits of the boy, sitting on a chair. A progress sort of take.

The boy sits on a chair, looking absolutely terrified and depressed. It's like his life is over.

PANEL 3

Panel 2 in a row of 3.

A progression from previous panel. The boy's face has been smeared with some paint, it's really messy and he has a furry bear suit on his lap.

PANEL 4

Panel 3 in a row of 3.

And more continuation, now the boy has a complete bear makeup and wearing a fluffy bear suit.

PANEL 5

Wide panel. Rest of the page.

On the circus tent's main floor, we see the boy in the bear getup chasing a ballerina. He is trying to be menacing, but its sad.

PAGE 4PANEL 1

The boy, still devastated and sad with a sort of an empty look on his face, drags the giant teddy bear out of the circus tent. The bear drags on mud. The boy is still wearing the bear suit, and has tried to wash most of the makeup away but some of it remains.

PANEL 2

The boy notices something that catches his eye.

PANEL 3

A small tent to the side, it's door flap is a little open and there is an air of mystery about it (Light, maybe smoke coming out)

PANEL 4

We see the boy's face as he peeks in the tent, he looks surprised and shocked.

PANEL 5

Big panel. Here we see the various circus performers over what appears to be a dead body. There is a clown with bloody hands putting the red makeup on. A vampire with a goblet full of blood that is dripping. A witch sowing hairs from the body onto her broomstick. There are some midgets measuring the body for some reason. Just go wild here, add anything you can think of really. Its a full on scene of bewilderment and macabre.

PAGE 5

If you think you can add some of that escape tension on this page, go for it- but I think a compressed sequence like this works.

PANEL 1

The boy stumbles, still holding onto the teddy, as he begins to run away in fear from the tent.

PANEL 2

We see the boy clutching the bear close to his chest as he runs in the dark carnival (that has some properly creepy lighting).

PANEL 3

We see the boy's leg, as a whip catches it, wrapping around the ankle!

PANEL 4

The boy falls, and looks up from the ground. He and the teddy are all muddy.

PANEL 5

The Director with his whip and mighty lion look down on the boy.

1. Director: Bad teddy.

PANEL 6

This panel, I think an aggressive feeling of the lion either swiping its claws or biting hard. Furs of the teddy, maybe a little blood splatter fly.

PANEL 7

The head of the teddy bear, separated, caps off the page in an ominous manner.

PAGE 6**PANEL 1**

Hard cut to the next day at the circus. Like on page 1, a young couple is walking through the happy fair.

PANEL 2

The girl points something out to her boyfriend.

1. Girl: Look, how cute!

PANEL 3

And here, the "reveal" of the big teddy on the shelf. Like we talked about, its pretty obvious that something is "off" with the bear. Its bigger than it was before, it has been sewed back together, it has a little dirt & blood on it and the shelf seems to be bending under the weight of the bear- as if it was way heavier than it should be! We don't tell the reader that the boy is inside, or even what happened to the boy- we just leave them with the mystery and the heavy implications.

2. Boy, off panel: You want it?

The End.