

TREVOR 1

directly below the upper level. Beneath the D.S. R. corner of the upper level is a pillar extending down to the ground to support the weight of the platform. In between the upstairs door and the upstairs elevator doors stands a globe-style drinks cabinet, above which hangs another voice pipe funnel.

Set apart from the stage is a tech box complete with computer, faders and littered with empty drinks cans, etc. The tech box is visible to the audience and is where Trevor will be seen operating lights and sound for the show.

Dramatic house music plays.

PRESHOW ACTIVITY:

As the audience enter, Trevor is finishing off laying the floorboards U.S. R. under the upper level. His hammer breaks.

Two members of the stage crew are searching the stalls and circle for a missing Duran Duran CD and for Winston, a dog needed for later in the show.*

Chris greets members of the audience as they arrive, in his best tuxedo.

Annie is by the fireplace trying to stick a mantelpiece above it and trying to stick an old journal to the mantelpiece. She enlists the help of an audience member and gets them to hold the mantelpiece in place before disappearing offstage. Trevor appears and commandeers the audience member to sweep the stage. As they start sweeping, the head of the broom falls off. Annie reappears and brings the audience member back to help with the mantelpiece. She sends them to get her tool kit. The audience member can't lift it. After several attempts Annie crosses over and picks it up easily. The mantelpiece is eventually stuck in position over the fireplace, and the audience member is sent back to their seat.

Start

Trevor comes D.S. C. Annie scuttles off.

TREVOR. Good evening, ladies and gentle—

* If music by a different band is used on pages 45 and 78, adjust this activity appropriately.

The mantelpiece falls off the wall. Annie emerges from the wing.

ANNIE. *(To the audience member.)* You said that was fine.

TREVOR. *(Aside to Annie.)* Just leave it, leave it.

Annie starts to try and repair the mantelpiece. Trevor addresses the audience.

Okay, welcome to *The Murder at Haversham Manor*. Can I kindly request that all your cell phones and other electronic devices are switched off and please note that photography of any kind is strictly prohibited. Also if anyone finds a Duran Duran* CD box set anywhere in the auditorium, that is a personal item and I want that back. Please do drop it at my tech box end of the show. Enjoy the performance.

House and stage lights go down. Trevor exits s. l.

(On his radio but broadcast to the whole theatre.) Alright, can we prepare for lights up on Act One, note for the cast Winston is still missing, we need to find him before the guard dog scene—

CHRIS. Trevor! Trevor!

TREVOR. *(Still over the speakers.)* —we need him back in his cage as soon as possible. What’s Annie doing onstage? Get her off so Chris can do his stupid speech—*oop!*

Trevor’s microphone cuts off. Annie hasn’t finished repairing the mantelpiece. Chris enters from the s. r. wing in the darkness.

Stop

CHRIS. Leave it. Just leave it.

ANNIE. You need it...

CHRIS. We don’t have time.

Annie hurries off into the wings, taking the mantelpiece and tool kit with her. Spotlight comes up on Chris, cutting off his head.

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and...

Chris steps forward into the spotlight.

...welcome to the Cornley Drama Society’s presentation of *The Murder at Haversham Manor*. Please allow me to introduce myself; I am Chris, the director, and I would like to personally welcome

* If music by a different band is used on pages 45 and 78, change “Duran Duran” appropriately.