

Cirque du Romani.

MY APOLOGIES FOR THE INTRUSION, GENTLEMEN.

WELL, GAJE?

SPEAK! WHY HAVE YOU INVADED OUR HOME?

I CAN ASSURE YOU I AM HERE FOR NO ILL INTENT.

MA'AMSELLE, IF MON FEERE BIPBO HAD NOT TAKEN AWAY THE BULLETS FROM YOUR PISTOLET, YOU WOULD HAVE FOR CERTAIN HURT OUR BELOVED BENGALO VERY BAD!

GRRRR

SHH... IT IS ALRIGHT, MON AMI.

I AM QUITE RELIEVED I CAUSED NO INJURY TO YOUR PET, MR. BIPBO. I WAS SIMPLY TRYING TO DEFEND MYSELF AGAINST WHAT I PERCEIVED TO BE A LETHAL ATTACK.

AND BENGALO WAS ONLY TRYING TO DEFEND HIS FAMILY FROM A GAJE INTRUDER.

NOW I ASK AGAIN! WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

PLEASE FORGIVE ANY INCONVENIENCE I MAY HAVE CAUSED. I CAME IN HOPES OF OBTAINING ANSWERS TO AN INVESTIGATION I AM IN THE MIDST OF CONDUCTING.

PERHAPS YOU COULD BE OF ASSIS--

THAT BLADE BELONGS TO ME, GAJE.

PFT PFT

PFT

SHHH

WELL, SINCE YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE TAKEN IT UPON YOURSELVES TO APPROPRIATE SEVERAL OF MY POSSESSIONS, SURELY YOU WOULD NOT OBJECT TO ME HOLDING ON TO ONE OF YOURS?

NOW, TO THE PURPOSE OF MY VISIT...



I AM LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE MECHANICAL GIRL.

SES YEUX, VÉR EYES!

YES, I SEE THEM.

DU SAIS? DEMONNAQUE?

NO...

ANYTHING AT ALL PERTINENT TO HER WOULD BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE.



...OTHER.

UNE FEMME MÉCANIQUE? PARDON, BUT OF WHO DO YOU SPEAK... AH, BIEN SÛR! OF COURSE!

MA'AMSELLE, YOU ARE IN THE WRONG PLACE! I AM VERY SORRY TO SAY TO YOU, BUT YOU WILL NOT FIND THIS WOMAN MECHANICAL HERE AMONG OUR PEOPLE.

SHE IS THE ONE THEY CALL THE LADY MECHANIKA! YOU WILL FIND HER IN THE CITY. I KNOW NOT WHERE EXACTLY, BUT I AM FOR CERTAIN SOMEONE WILL KNOW. SHE IS VERY CÉLÈBRE!

YOU ARE WRONG, BIPPO.

THERE IS A MECHANICAL WOMAN AMONG US TONIGHT. IS THAT NOT SO...

...LADY MECHANIKA?

COME, LET ME AND BENGALO SHOW YOU THE WAY OUT SO YOU CAN GO FIND YOUR FEMME MÉCANIQUE.

C'EST VRAI, MA'AMSELLE?! FOR TRUTH, THE LADY MECHANIKA, YOU ARE HER?

YES, I AM BUT I--

OH, THAT IS SO FANTASTIQUE!



THERE WAS ANOTHER MECHANICAL GIRL, A YOUNG WOMAN WITH MACHINE-LIKE TALONS INSTEAD OF ARMS. I AM CERTAIN SHE CAME FROM THIS CIRCUS.

NOW, IF YOU PLEASE, THE CIRCUS HAS CLOSED, IT IS LATE, AND I AM SORRY TO SAY YOU MUST DEPART. COME, COME, WE TAKE YOU TO THE EXIT.

WE ARE SO VERY HONORED TRULY TO HAVE YOU HERE IN OUR COMPANY! YOU MUST COME AGAIN, AS OUR GUEST OF COURSE, BUT FOR TONIGHT, THE SHOW I AM AFRAID IS ALREADY FINI.

TRES PÉSOLÉ, LADY MECHANIKA, BUT WE KNOW OF NO SUCH MECHANICAL GIRL, SO VERY SORRY WE CANNOT HELP.

YOU WILL RETURN MONSIEUR GITANO'S KNIFE, YES? AND PIBBO WILL OF COURSE RETURN THE BULLETS TO YOUR PISTOLET. PIBBO!



MR. PIBBO, PLEASE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS YOUNG WOMAN. I MERELY WISH TO ASCERTAIN HER ORIGINS, NOTHING MORE.

I'VE NOT COME HERE LOOKING TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR ANYONE IN YOUR CIRCUS. IF IT IS OF ANY CONCERN, LET ME ASSURE YOU I AM NOT THE LAW.

I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THE EVENT THE MECHANICAL GIRL WAS OBTAINED ILLEGALLY, OR EVEN IF HER PRESENCE HERE WAS NOT ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY--

ILLEGAL? NOT VOLUNTARY?!

I UNDERSTAND A MECHANICAL GIRL WOULD PRESENT QUITE THE DRAW AS A CIRCUS ATTRACTION. IF SHE WAS ACQUIRED THROUGH SOME ILLICIT MEANS--

EVERYONE HERE IS FREE TO COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE! ROMANI ARE NOT IN THE HABIT OF HOLDING ANYONE-- ANY CREATURE, HUMAN OR ANIMAL-- AGAINST THEIR WILL!

WE ARE HONORABLE, LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE! BUT YOU, YOU GAZE ARE ALL QUICK TO ACCUSE US! YOU CALL US THIEVES AND LIARS! WHEN A CHILD GOES MISSING YOU SAY THOSE ROMANI GYPSIES MUST HAVE STOLEN HIM!

MR. GITANO... I MEANT NO OFFENSE...

YOU HAVE ASKED YOUR QUEZZZZZZIONSZZZZ AND WE HAVE ANSWZZZZZZEM WE KNOW NOTHING OF YOUR MECHANICAL GIRZZZZZZ!



COME ON, YOU BLOODY THING! WORK!

NOW, YOU WILL LEAVE-ZZZZZT! OR I WILL THROW YOU ZZZZZZZZZ!



THA'S JUS' WONDERFUL. PIECE OF RUBBISH.



GET OUT!!!

SIR, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE CALM--



NO!  
DONT!



GRRRR!

BENGALO,  
NOOOO!



GRRRAARRR



I JUS' HOPE THERE'S STILL SOMETHING LEFT OF YOU BY THE TIME I GET THERE!



WHERE IS THAT BLASTED THING?

GRRRR

ZZZWHOOOMPT

HERE!

BENGALO!!!



SHINKT  
GASPIC

MR. GITANO, PLEASE. I APOLOGIZE FOR THROWING YOU, IT WAS AN UNINTENTIONAL REACTION. I'VE NOT COME TO HURT ANYONE. I ONLY SEEK INFORMA--

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO BENGALO?!



NOTHING, HE'S JUS--

YOU INTRUDE ON OUR HOME? INSULT OUR PEOPLE?

SIR, PLEASE CALM--

AND NOW YOU ATTACK US?!

LEAVE NOW!!!

SIR...

PLEASE, HEAR ME OUT...

GET OUT NOW!!!

I DON'T WISH TO FIGHT YOU!

PTHMK

WILL YOU PLEASE...

WHAK

...LISTEN!

HUNG!

TWAP

BENGALO IS FINE, I PROMISE YOU! HE IS SIMPLY STUNNED, NOTHING MORE. HE SHOULD BE UP AND ABOUT IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS.

AS I'VE STATED, I AM HERE FOR INFORMATION ON THE MECHANICAL GIRL, THAT IS ALL.

AND WE HAVE STATED WE KNOW NOTHING OF ANY MECHANICAL GIRL!

YOU WILL FORGIVE ME IF I AM NOT FULLY CONVINCED BY YOUR PROTESTATIONS OF INNOCENCE. CLEARLY YOU ARE HIDING SOMETHING. YOU HAVE BEEN FAR TOO EAGER FOR ME TO DEPART.

YOU BREAK IN AND ATTACK US IN OUR OWN HOME! OF COURSE WE WANT YOU TO LEAVE!

AGAIN, I APOLOGIZE. I INTENDED NO HARM TO YOU OR YOUR CAT, MR. GITANO. YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, WOULD HAVE KILLED ME IF YOUR KNIFE HAD NOT MISSED.

STOP.

MY BLADES NEVER... MISS.





THERE IS NO  
NEED FOR THIS  
VIOLENCE.

BIPPO, PIBBO, PLEASE  
RETURN TO YOUR DUTIES.  
I SENSE ANOTHER GUEST  
APPROACHING.

I AM MADAME DIVINITE.  
THIS IS MY CIRQUE. PLEASE,  
TELL ME HOW MAY WE BE  
OF ASSISTANCE...