

FRANKENSPELLSUPERSTAR
The Tale of a Man-Made Messiah

SCENE ONE - PROLOGUE

Gypsies:

Are you afraid of the dark?

Are you afraid of the wind?

Are you afraid of being left alone?

Are you afraid of thunder?

Are you afraid of stillness?

Are you afraid of echoes?

Of echoes?

Are you afraid of voices in the night?

Of silence?

Are you afraid of dying?

[beat]

What would it be like to live forever?

[beat]

How could it be done?

Could the dead be brought back to life?

(From the darkness)

(From the void)

There was once a man

(who answered questions)

(who asked questions)

named Frankenstein

(Frankenstein)

(Victor)

(There was once a man) a young doctor or from a wealthy family.

(the Frankensteins) (up there)

(on the hill)

He had been out of medical school
over two years now

(run away)

(put through by his brother)

(Frederick)

but had not yet begun a regular practice.

(There was once a man)

(Could the dead be brought
back to life?)

Instead, he pursued research into questions
few dared to ask.

(What would it be like to live forever?)

The answers he uncovered drove him
further from those he loved...
from those who loved him.

(poor Elisabeth)

(They were to marry soon)

For the closer he came to discovering
the secret of life, the further
he fell from his own humanity.

(Are you afraid of the wind?)

(secret of life)

Are you afraid of thunder?

(Are you afraid of the dark?)

(Are you afraid of the dark?)

~ÇÑ B -&+

"/1*5 =(1#8 0.? '3*W<Ag thunder and lowers the body.

• Jazz Celebration: As the Creature lays on the descended table,

Victor celebrates his success with the lab animals (many are

able>

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H\$FHHH[*]` ~~~~~{SCENETWO - BIRTH

Gypsies:

Do you have a secret?

Are you afraid of secrets?

Are there secrets no one should ever tell?

Are there secrets no one should ever learn?

What if you could see into secrets?

See right through them...

ever tell?

Are there secrets no one should
ever learn?

What if you could see into secrets?

See right through them...

A1`0<Δc‡ê8Δf0Δf0Δf0+Δg♣.Δf‡#Δf#Δf

~c±êÜ|+id this, he believed, for the people

who lived below the hill. (below the hill)

(What if you could see forever?)

(Do you have a secret?) But these people feared his quest,

feared his questions,

(Are you afraid of secrets?)

and feared what hi

V3a: Hilde & Animals

V3b: Animals (w/ horns' scale)

V3c: w/ Creature (howling with sax)

V3d: w/ Hilde

V3e: w/ Gypsies (return to V2b music/Animals' scales)

C3: All

one

...Gypsies narrate transition as Animals drift to rings of people and the need for caution for

as innocent as the Creature; Animals are gathered around;

Gypsies provide 'folklore of wisdom' backdrop to the scene.

• "Come Here, Boy" funky production number: Hilde & Gypsies

teaching the Creature what he needs to know/ Animals providing

the

dancing and choral singing:

V1a: Hilde (w/ sax)

V1b: Gypsies(w/ organ) & Hilde

C1: w/ Animals

V2a: Hilde

V2b: Gypsies & Hilde

C2: w/ Animals Tower...

Song 6: Death

• Hilde explains to the Creature that he will soon die if they do not

go back to the lab (3/4 over 4/4 V1).

• Animals urge "You must go back" to Run, Run Away" music.

• Creature explains fears/ Hilde comforts.est positions

around stage, Hilde & Creature mime learning to read, etc...

Song 5: All You've Taught Me

• Duet - Hilde/Creature:

V1: Hilde (4/4)

C1: Creature, tentatively singing for first time (3/4)

V2: Hilde (4/4)

C2a Creature (3/4)

C2b: w/ Hilde

V3: Hilde (4/4)

C3: Hilde & Creature (and possibly Gypsies/Animals)

...Hilde suddenly notices sores on Creature's skin; he doesn't seem to be regenerating/healing properly; they must return to

Frankenstein's Lab to read Victor's notes and see what can be

done; Creature is afraid, but

Hilde guides him...Gypsies narrate

transition as the two friends (and Animal

companions) begin their

journey through the countryside toward Frankenstein (V2)

• Animals/Hilde/Creature "We must go back" over Gypsy lead.

• What is on their minds as they begin their journey is sung/

spoken as music reminds us of "Frankenspell Superstar" theme.

• (Electric Guitar 7ths) Villagers ssee monster/witch girl/rats: begin

to blame ills on them; follow w/ torches, angry & afraid.

• (timpani/"FS") Running faster; hatred/anxiety growing; All sing.

• Transition into "Lab" theme: Confronting the Tower; All.

• Creature Confronts Victor (Victor singing)

• Creature Confronts Victor (Creature singing)

- (Guitar/organ Vamp) Villagers outside set fire to the Tower; Creature holds Victor to the window to see their doom, noting fitting ending it is to the "modern Prometheus".
- Creature realizes Hilde is also trapped within the flames, that the people also want to burn the "little witch girl"; he fights through save her; goes back to save Victor on Hilde's urging.
- Creature laments as his skin is burned and he begins to lose consciousness, "What have you done to me?" ("FS" theme).

...Gypsies ask questions as Hilde kneels aside dying Creature; Victor's remorse is held in cheer/forgiveness (to acoustic guitar return to 4/4 - "Hilde's Love Theme"); Frederick join.

C2: All.
 Tag: Hilde/Victor/Elisabeth sing lead, Chorus/Gypsy sing chorus, over the quiet organ (in near a capella).

confronted by the Crowd; Elisabeth finds him and Victor embraces her (with Frederick near); Townspeople confront the consequences of their own bigotry and violence.

Song 7: Have We Learned? • Finale, sung by Hilde, All over dying, unconscious Creature:
 V1a: Hilde solo.
 V1b: Chorus repeats.
 V1c (synth only): Gypsies "Questions asked..."; Chorus/leads join in.
 C1a: Hilde sings Creature's "Love Theme" (3/4);
 C1b: All join in.
 V2: Victor solo of remembrance of Frankenstein

Elisabeth (Victor's fiancée)
 Frederick (Victor's older brother)
 Lab Animals (20)
 Townsfolk (10-16)
 Hilde's Grandfather

Answers might do (what might they undo?) to their already darkened lives. (Are you afraid of the light?)
 (There's a curse up there) Because of their fear, they said that Frankenstein Tower they said that
 (There's a curse up there) Frankenstein Tower was cursed... (A living curse is on them all) (a curse)
 (a curse) and they gave Victor the nickname, "Frankenspell." (Fraankenspell)
 (He's crazy) (mad) And because of the darkness in their lives, they envied Victor's brilliance (Frankenspell)
 (He's crazy) (mad) And because of the darkness in their lives, they envied Victor's brilliance (Are you afraid the the dark?)
 (Superstar) and called him, "Superstar" (a genius) (Superstar)

[Sing "Frankenspell Superstar"]s brilliance: What if you could see forever? Want an eye?

Here. Take one... Victor Frankenstein saw into a secret, (but could not see through it...)
 (or beyond) a secret he thought would conquer death. (hunger) (pain)
 (suffering) He thought he could construct a perfect man, unscarred by mortal fears. (Are there secrets no one should learn?)
 (loss) He believed, for the people who lived below the hill. (

(What if you could see forever?)

(Do you have a secret?) L 9 4â5:~78;<~&##!k>#(E%

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ÿ 4%\$!'+)1*3M80!;9)6

(like a slave)

(but not a slave)

The object of two years work
shuddered and strained upon

(strained and shuddeea slave)
(but not a slave)

The object of two years work
shuddered and strained upon
the stained pallet, then, slowly
opened its yellow eyes. (empty)

[thunderbolt sounds]

(strained and shuddered)

(like an echo)
[thunderbolt sounds]

(endless)

Blackened lips cracked and parted
and drew in its first breath.
A giant hand, misshapenYBM04P@7rafts,
reached outward.
Victor recoiled...and ran.

[inhale]

[inhaled gasp]

(from dream to nightmare)

(from triumph to failure)

He had wanted to create beauty...
and blinded himse to the grotesque
patchwork of death before him.

(and blinded himself)

(What if you could see forever)
Until now.

Until now.

He had wanted to bring the gift of life
to all...

If it can be done...

then it must be tried!

This he believed.

Until now.

Until now.

He had wielded his scalpel
on the grand altar of science,

(Are you afraid of thunder?)
(Of light?)

(There was once a man)

turning his back to consequences...

Until it was too late...

Until it was toSCENETHREE - ESCAPE

Gypsies:

[thunderbolt sounds]
(The secrets of human life)

And loosed the secrets of heaven
[thunderbolt sounds]

Lightning split the sky
[thunderbolt sounds]

(savage earth))ed,

Like a bullwhip taming the wild beast

(but not a slave)

[inhaled gasp]

covered with scars and grafts,
reached outward.
Victor recoiled...and ran.

(from dream to nightmare)

(from triumph to failure)

He had wanted to create beauty...
and blinded himselffo late...

[Sing "Run, Run Away"]

[Scripted bridge at music bridge:]

Gypsies:
Is he gone?

(Run with us!)
(We will teach you how to run)
(...but not a slave)

you don't bust a suture,

futurekhAçBD_GHÃÍUòV≠CJEFKLOPÁQπRMNSXÇYiZW'@ñf'&)6>&@n

It may seem like things are happening
rather quickly,
with you just being born and all,
but if we don't get you out right
now, this may be all you ever see
of what life has to offer...

Hurry, you haven't much time!

(You must run!)

(Like a slave...)

(Run with us!)

You've got quite a

nT8"! "&6<qP!L4/!!P% 8, %%#\$?>?,

&0&4#

*(3A7/% 8, %%#\$\$?>n. Sing "Come Here, Boy"]

Animal 1: For a man with no past, you learn pretty fast.

Animal 2: If you don't bust a suture, you've got quite a future!

≠öª&—[3ù«¿iΔÕ5'Z"fÕ‡Ûô‡elç1Îô"~&...~3i¿aÕ-Yf≈Ûë],ç)+ôîSCENEFOUR - FREEDOM

Gypsies:

Escaped.

Free.

Through the locked door.

Beyond the walls that bind.

Away!

(and ran and ran)

The Creature ran, through the countryside, avoiding anything that reminded him of Victor Frankenstein, countryside, avoiding anything that reminded him of Victor Frankenstein, of the laboratory, of confinement.

ture ran, and ran, through the (like a Gypsy) (beyond the walls that bind)

(and ran and ran)

(through the locked door)

He was free.

e only outcast

in these hills.

The laboratory animals he freed also found themselves shunned by their natural brethren.

One by one they sought the Creature out.

And together they remained,

apart,

...without a home.

until one day the Creature But freedom can be more frightening than you might expect.

There was once a man...

(Are you afraid of being alone?)

(Of echoes?)

(echoes?)

(Do you feel safer in the dark?)

Although he was a product of extr'o'ole way she spoke. Then, one day, her grandfather did not come out and stretch and smile in the morning sun, as he always did.

All morning the little girl cried,

laying flowers on a new mound of dirt.

The Creature did not understand.

He saw only the beauty of the flowers...

and the little girls face that, to him, was even more beautiful.

It was the sadness in her eyes that drew him out, that made him forget to hide,

that made him forget himself.

Suddenlyrdinary genius,

(an outcast)

he, himself, understood very little of what he saw.

Although he was himself a kind of invention, he shunned all technology, fearing it, finding comfort in the cool greens of the forest and the unexpected sweetness of rain on his thirsty lips.

(Is he human?)

(Us)

(Them)

(Does he live?)

(What is human?)

(Them)

(Us)

(To drink of life, together!)

The most synthetic ain
on his thirsty lips.
The most synthetic being to ever
walk the earth, Frankenstein's
Creature loved the natural world.

More than anything.

Althoved the natural world.

More than anything.

Althship.
Althhip.
Alth spied
a little girl.

a little girl.

He watched her for days

food from the garden,

the gentle way she moved,

surrounded by shadow:

Hilde: [Gasp]

Creature: [Flowers in hand, standing, seen, bewildered. Drops flowers and turns to flee.]

Hilde: Wait! [Runs to flowers.] Did you bring these for Grandpapa?

[Holds out flowers as if to say, "Here, smell them, they are lovely. Bring them to Grandpapa
yourself" Moves closer to Creature.] They're lovely.

Creature: [Turns toward Hilde. Ignores flowers; reaches for her face.]

Hilde: [Gasps; backs away.] I'll place them for you they all come with you? They're beautiful!

You don't look like you're from the mountain. I've never seen creatures like you before.

You're lucky you didn't run into a bear...or wolves!

Of course, if you've been traveling with him, you've been safe enough, I suspect.

Animals: [Continue speaking to her excitedly.]

Hilde: What's a wolf? You've never seen a wolf? Well, they're sneaky and fast and have
bearded faces and very sharp teeth...and they hunt things that limp and look sick
and don't know . [Puts flowers on grave. Then goes and brings

grave. Looks into Creature's face, questioningly.] Did you know Grandpapa?

Creature: [Grunts, unable to speak. Ignores grave; looks only at Hilde.]

Gypsies: What does the Creature know?

Only what he's seen:

The face of his creator, contorted in
failure, running away;

The clenched fists of the
townsfolk, cursing;

The wide eyes of fearful farmers, peering
through barred windows;

windows;
The quick glansuspicious,

huddled,

haunted.

He watched your grandfather...

(To drink of life, together!)

Except companionship.

Except companionship.

a little girl.

with her grandfather, gathering wood
for the fire,

milk from the goats,

the gentthe gent, there he was, no longer

Creature to the

and saw his kindness...

Hilde: [Recognizes the Creature's poverty in his tattered appearance] Will you come you come you come's poverty in his tattered appearance} Will you come in to sup?

You must be hungry...

Animals: [Squeak in hunger.]

Hilde: Are you alone? ...Who's there?

Animals: [Emerge from foliage, hiding places.]

Hilde: Oh! Look at these creatures! [She is thrilled, like a little girl let loose in a pet store.]

Did where they're going.

Do you know where you're going?

I didn't think so.

[Music cue: "Come Here, Boy" instrumental beginning.]

Gypsies: That is how the girl began to teach
the Creature.

So that he would not be hurt.

So that he would be&%

9@n8G\$ &ðÒP

'ãñough once-living human parts

made up his very body,

(Want an eye?)

he was separated from humanity

(What is human?)

by a greater vcreature. He was a monster.

He was unlike...any other...thing...

that lived.

But he was not oid than any other
a part?)

(What makes us...

creature.

He was a monster. He was unlike...

any other...thing...that lived.

But he was not thçE¿YDÕ%RYÒQfΩ^Ûâ^Ukç!

jôìx&πw3ÖÑ¿QÉÕëYÈêfμùÛÀùM™w[wanting to frighten her new friend]...but don't worry or anything;

I can show you the ropes.

[Pan Pipes kick in.]

If you listen real close...

and don't forget a word...

I think you'll make it...

even in this dangerous world...

[Guitar licks kick is funk happy.

And the more she taught him,
the more she realized how little
he knew.

(A man with no past...)

(New bon)

And the more he learned,
the more she realized how much
she had to offer him.

[Sax takes over melody - rn)

(...Journeying)

And the more he learned,
the more she realized how much
she had to offer him.

[Sax takes over melody - mi+ôï9&j83çE¿YDÕ%RYÒQfΩ^Ûâ^Ukç;jôìx&πw3ÖÑ¿QÉÕëYÈêfμùÛÀùM™ç©ôÂΣ&±ddle of instrumental section.]

Hilde: You're lucky you ran into me first.
To think what might have happened if you'd've stayed in town!
Things are a lot scarier down there than you know!

[Rim shots begin to tap out quarter note rhythm.]

But...[not V\$Ä

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B“!ò ,Z %3+++(")+qSCENEFIVE - CONNECTION (Duet)

[Animals crowd around Hilde as she teaches them one of her lessons. Everyone is gleeful and interested and appreciative. They act out the narration.]

Gypsies:

The little girl on the mountain taught
them many thinterested and appreciative. They act out the narration.]

Gypsies:

The little girl on the mountain taught
them many things.

In return, the animals scavenged the
countryside for nuts and berries

for bright objects and curio=u?h>1!%"?%66FOGV9ù2(;)/18ú
"+FF=6!ofor everything
around them;

a way of living that...was like the way her
Grandpapa had lived.

There had never been a more eager
student. For what he was learning was something book cannot teach and laboratories will never
uncoveer been a more eager

student. For what he was learning was
something books cannot teach and
laboratories will never uncover.

[Sing "What We've Learned"]x °°mÆç9≠öª&—[3ù«¿iΔÕ5‘Z”fÕ‡Ûô‡elç1Ïô”&...~3i¿aus
utensils they would lay at her feet.

She would laugh

and they would dance...
and each grew happier.

and each grew happier.

But what she loved above all else was
her time alone with the Creature. She
helped him learn to read, *

(1=;3%A%#&*& *!2%2/~ãto cook for
himself, to speak like a gentleman

(well, almost like a gentleman),

and to move about the house without
knocking everything over. She taught
him grace,

a rough and honest kind of grace,

a gentle respect ect ect t +
T',%%·Hà¶Ä\$

\$.@52Lyou can heal.

Please, you must!

Gypsies:
Please go back.
Please go back to see.
Please go back.
We must see if you can heal.

Creature:
No, I can't.
No.
No, I can't.

[Sung:] Hilde (w/ Gypsies):
Please go back.
Please go back to see.
Please go back
We must see if you can heal.

Animals:
You must go back.
You must go back.
You must go back.
You mu /9A\$!&

[Spoken:] Hilde:
He couldn't have meant for
this to happen. How could he
bring life into the world, knowing

\$.@52L /

It's full of wounds and sores.

I cannot fix it.

Please go back.

We must go to the Doctor, to Frankenstein,

Please go back to see.

and see if he can help. I'm sure there's

Please go back.

something he can do.

We must see if yease go bac

OSCENESIX - DEATH

(Return to Frankenstein Tower)

Gypsies:

The Creature loved the mountain,

loved his freedom,

and loved the little girl.

He revelled in life

and was revealed, in turn.

But it was not to last.

[Hilde noticesd, too,
And live a normal life.

Creature:

A normal life? I am a wretched monster!

Hilde:

Creature:

Animals & Gypsies:

A normal life? I am a wretched monster!

Hilde:

Animals & Gypsies:

sies:

"No!"

You can come back with us.
Knowledge will set you free.

"I will go with you."

"Please, for me!"

Without you I'll be lost.

Won't you do this for me?

Creature:

Alright, I will return,

Go, not for me, Creature's decaying skin as bandage falls loose; begins to notice

soars on other exposed areas.]

What the little girl had feared now seemed
certain: His skin was decaying. (Though he could learn)

The Creature was not regennerating properly.

He was slowly dying before her very eyes.

(he could not heal.)

(he could not grow)

(Though he could feel)

[Music cue: "You Must Go Back"]

Gypsies:

ld feel)

He was slowly dying before her very eyes.

[Music cue: "You Must Go Back"]

Gypsies:

but for you...

Townspeople: [Spoken]

Look at that thingg!

Huge and hulking!

Dang'rously strong!

Hideously wro!

[The Creature & Hilde, with Animal entourage, wind their way through a
hostile and suspicious countryside to arrive at Frankenstein's Tower.]

hostile and suspicious countryside to arrive at Frankenstein's Tower.]

Huge and hulking!
Dang'rously strong!
Hideously wrong!
Must be the curse!
Live and perverse!
Monstrous villain!
More beast than man! [Ironically directed equally toward Victor in Frankenstein's Tower as well as the Creature.]

Townspeople: [Sung]
Is it the curse made flesh?

Gypsies:
Or fear made manifest in Frankenstein's Tower as well as the Creature.]

Townspeople: [Sun]
Is it the curse made flesh?
Is this from Frankenspell?
Will we all pay the price?

Gypsies:
Or fear made manifest?
Or from your private hell?
It won't be your sacrifice?

[Townsfolk and those trailing along from the countryside ad lib shouts and growing anger under the following lines as they surround the Tower, trapping the Creature & Hilde within.]

Crowd Main Lines: [Spoken]

There! Look! Frankenstein's Tower!
It's breaking into Frankenstein's Tower
With that little witch girl.
So it was Frankenstein's creature!
A monster!
We cannot let such an unnatural evil survive in our midst! We must kill it...before we are brought to ruin by its hands!
Burn it out!
Burn them all!

Townspeople: [Sung]
Burn! Burn! T all this commotion! Me, do not betray...

Victor: [From his library, going to his window, then the Creature enters.]
Where's the promise we live on?
We all die!

Don't bother...

No, you're wrong!

No more than yourself.

He's a monster!

You're his father!

Please, you've the wealth to pay...

Gypsies: hey're to blame!
Burn! Burn! Torch them both in hell's own flame!

[Spoken] What is all this commotion! My God!
What are you doing here! Stay away!

Creature: [Sung]

See the creature featured like a monster mirrored by the creature crumbling, humb his master, sliding toward disaster;
Cow'ring from his tow'ring, overpower'ring fear and shame. (Victor: Stay back!)
See the creature crumbling, humbly fumbling for a cure to dying, crying;
Tumbling t'ward the dust and rust and busted, broken dreams of lying blame.

Gypsies:
Only wants to be Savior.
Only wants to see Brave New Life.

Creature: [Spoken]
Do you see? I'm dying!
Rotting away even as I stand before you!
Heal me, or I will throw you to the people below.
Victor: [Spoken]
You were never made to survive!
Muscles, nerves, bones...these things I've
brought back to life!

I've no more time to live. ...They would not have gotten out withos and to safety . Frederick and Elisabeth, noticing the flames, enter, coming from the main part of the house. Frederick tries to fight off the CROWD as Elisabeth hopes for Victor's escape.]

Gypsies:

Sopranos: Ah, ah-ah ah. Ah-ah ah. Ah, ah ah ah ah aut his help.

What have you done to me...

[Creature falls, unconscious. Hilde cradles his head.]

Hilde:

...No! No. Oh, please, forgive...

[Song ends. Focus remains with Hilde and Creature, encircled by CROWD, as Elisabeth and Frederick try to eature, encircled by CROWD, as Elisabeth and Frederick try to comfort Victor.]

SCENESEVEN - FINALE

[As Frederick and Elisabeth tend to Victor, Victor cannot take his eyes or thoughts froictor:

I... I...

Elisabeth: Oh, Victor

Frederick: You're safst go back.

it could not survive? No,

You must go back.

he could not be that cruel.

Take us with you.

He couldn't be!

You must go back.

You must have escaped before he [Simultaneously:]

You must go back.

had a chance to do something important. Creature: No! He

You must go back.

will not help! He ran away!

You must go back.

Hilde: We can read his logs.

You must go back.

We can discover a way ourselves! We

Take us with you.

have to go back!

[Sung:]

Creature:

There I cannot return;

Not to that hateful place

Where I was damned and spurned;

Not that disgraceful place!

Hilde: [Sung]

You must go back;

The answers wait for you.

If you don't go, then you will never know if

You can be healeeh.

Altos: Ah, ah-ah ah-ah. Ah-ah ah ah ah ah ah.

See the burning climbing higher, without learning, churning

With the weight of hate, distrust and lust for blame; this bigotry defines the heartless mob.

See the altar where we've faltered, stthands. Even after the book is closed, the voice goes on speaking. ...For those who are listening, there will always be surprises.

x H[]-ÄI+0+0+ð^@00ü0ô`0ó-ÄH[]-ÄI+0+0+tm the fallen Creature.]

Frederick: Victor are you alright?

Victor: I... I...

Elisabeth: Oh, Victor.

Frederick: You're safe, brother. It's over.

Elisabeth: Let me look at you! When we saw the flames...

Victor: ...he's dead...

Elisabeth: He lived, Victor. He truly lived.

Victor: I didn't know...how...

Frederick: It's over, Victor. You're alright. That's all that matters.

Victor: ...No... No...

Gypsies:
Did he live?

Did he fail?

The Creature?

Victor?

What if Victor had succeeded?
What would happen then?

Was he human?

The Creature?

ALL: What makes us human?

What makes us...

a part?

[Music cue. Sing "Have We Learned."]

[Bows; Bow Music.]

Author Note to the Audience: Once the story ends, our fears go away. We know our fears are a part of us. We know our fears are a part of us. We know our fears are a part of us. We know our fears are a part of us.

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HòY¶ÇPmes and to safety [as the Gypsies sing]. Frederick and Elisabeth, noticing the flames, enter, coming from the main part of the house. Frederick tries to fight off the CROWD as Elisabeth hopes for Victor's escape.)

Gypw the outcome. Who lives. Who doesn't. Who's happy. Who isn't. The fear comes in not knowing. But for the storyteller, there are no endings. Lives cannot be put on shelves.

Nor can they be contained on a page or held in a single pair of e pair of