

HARLOW

Excuse me sir...

THE BARKER

Nope, no, sorry, we are all closed up for the evening.

HARLOW

Oh, I'm not here for the show. I'm looking for someone.

THE BARKER

You and a hundred other bugs. Look, pal, the Nightingale has gone for the evening. She's doing another show on Thursday. Come back then?

HARLOW

Who?

THE BARKER

The Swedish Nightingale. Jenny Lind? ... Oh, sorry, I thought you was one of them bums who had a touch of the old "Lind Mania". But you've got on that spiffy suit and you don't look the sort, mister...?

HARLOW

Harlow. Doctor John Martyn...

THE BARKER

Doctor eh? Well, Jenny has retired for the evening but if you've got a couple of coins we can still accommodate. So who would you like to examine? Tom Thumb? Wee little fellow but he's in excellent health. No? The Fiji Mermaid! A mystery of the deep! If you ask me it's just a monkey's head sewn on top of a mackerel, but you're the doctor so only you'd know for sure. Ooh, Chang and Eng- The Siamese Twins? No, not them or you would have said "I'm looking for 'sometwo" not "someone". Or would you have? I mean, that is the real question, ain't it. Are they one man or two...

HARLOW

Phineas Gage.

THE BARKER

Phineas? What you want with old Phineas? Not much of a demand to see poor mister Gage these days I'm afraid. But then again you said you weren't a gawker. What do you want with him?

HARLOW

Just to see him, I guess. To see how he's getting along. I'm his doctor, you understand, and I've lost track of him.

THE BARKER

Yeah. Old Phineas! The Only Man Living with a Hole in the Top of his Head!

You ever seen that pole that he carries? Says it's the thing that went right through his ol' brain, he does. Personally I don't believe it but you know people. Problem was no one really cares if you've got a hole in your head. Most folks already got five as it is. Yeah, not a real draw old Phineas. Not to worry, we've got lots of other attractions. There's a sucker born every... anyway he's gone.

HARLOW

Gone?

THE BARKER

As in left. Right in the night. Didn't even stay for his pay. I'd say it was a surprise but then nothing surprises me anymore. Good riddance if you ask me. Odd fellow that one.

HARLOW

Odd how?

THE BARKER

Oh, I'm not one for talking ill of people. I'll leave that up to Gracie! Lemme get her for you.

He calls out for her.

GRACE! He and her were a bit of an item. I would say more but I'm not one for rumors you know.