

ACT ONE

Scene 6

COURTHOUSE STEPS. Nothing other than a few steps, some columns, and an improvised platform up center. CONRAD, the MAYOR, and the MAYOR'S WIFE are on it.

START!

MAYOR

...And so it is with great pride and prejudice, as well as the usual pomp and circumstance, that I welcome you to our fair city and present you with this fourteen-carat solid gold key so generously donated by men at the Sweet Apple Brass Works. And as I present this key to you, Conrad Birdie --

URSULA

(With a wild shriek)

AAAAAH! He said it! He said the name! AAAAAAH!

MAYOR

What happened? All I said was Conrad Birdie!

TWO MORE GIRLS

AAAAAAH!

MAYOR

If you girls don't stop that I can't finish my speech!

URSULA

(Running forward)

Who cares about your speech! We want to hear from Conrad!

(SHE Screams

as the CROWD shouts approval)

...Speak to us, oh beautiful one! Tell us how you make that glorious sound that even now, in anticipation of it, has reduced me to a snarling, raging, panting jungle beast!

epd!

/14/ "HONESTLY SINCERE"

(CONRAD looks at GUITAR MAN R who strikes a chord and CONRAD huskily sings)

CONRAD

YOU GOTTA BE SINCERE!

(The MAYOR'S WIFE utters a weak little scream and keels over)