

Honey

by

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Main Characters:

Honey

Creator

Man

Mary Shelley

Convention

Minor Characters:

Dippel

Victor Frankenstein

Martin

Sales Person

Crowd Members (4)

Committee Members (4)

Creature

Scene 1: A CONFERENCE ROOM, PEOPLE ARE GATHERING, WHISPERING AND TAKING THEIR SEATS.

Committee member 1: Ladies and gentlemen. Today is an extraordinary day for all of us, the committee members, as well as for the humanity. I hope you will undertake our task seriously and that you realize the consequences of our decisions. We are here, ladies and gentlemen, to define perfection. Perfection in its various forms—perfection in drawing, literature, music, clothing, appearance, and so forth. We will set the standards of perfection once and for all and thus unburden the humanity from struggling to figure out what perfection is. They will only have to open the Perfection Reference manual, say, under classical music, to see what a perfect classical music is and how it should sound like. They will be spared the endless quarrels of what is perfect and will work more efficiently: they will be able to focus fully on the attainment of perfection. Before we discuss perfection in its specific forms, are there any questions or comments that should be addressed? PAUSE Yes sir?

Committee Member 2. Before we go on to define specific standards, I'd like to know how we are going to define them ourselves? I mean, do we just throw in our own preferences and then vote and see which one wins the majority vote, or do we discuss who the heroes of the past are and define the standards based on what the heroes did?

Committee Member 1. That is a very good question. Does anybody would like to suggest any solution to this dilemma? Sir, please?

Committee Member 3. I think that we should act as the invisible representatives of the humanity. We should not, therefore, decide standards of perfection according to our own preferences, but to what the heroes and heroines, gods and goddesses, and others have taught us. It is the only...

Committee Member 4. Invisible representatives of the humanity did you say? Am I supposed to understand that I should be invisible? We are the elite and are dictating the standards in one way or another, and you are telling me to listen to the voice of the humanity and abandon my own, highly cultivated taste?

Committee Member 2. Surely, Madam, we should not let the female half of our race strive to look like you. Our current standards of weight, for instance, would have to increase dramatically.

A LOUD LAUGHTER

Committee Member 4. That's outrageous! We're supposed to discuss perfection and not try to find even the slightest imperfections in others!

THEY BEGIN TO QUARREL AND THE EFFORTS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE MEMBER TO BRING THEM BACK TO ORDER ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL. THE VOICES FADE. THERE'S A PAUSE.

Scene 2: MUSIC (E.G. BELLS AND XYLOPHONE) ARE HEARD WHILE GENTLE VOICES SING, SLOWLY AND ALMOST IN A WHISPER:

Wake up, wake up honey sweet

There's no time to lose in sleep

Open your eyes and heart to see

Who created you so beautifully!

Your smooth, honey-scented skin

Shimmers with the brightest gleam

Your soft, golden cloud of hair

Gives your face a radiant glare

Wake up, Honey, Wake up! (VOICES ARE LESS AND LESS AUDIBLE).

SOUND OF THE OPERATING ROOM IS HEARD.

Creator. IN A WHISPER Wake up honey. I've just finished the work of my life—I was able to create you! Wake up! I'll switch off all the equipment that you're connected to. It was monitoring the work of your body organs and functions while you were being created. Now that you are alive, we don't need these loud machines anymore! (SOUND OF THE OPERATING ROOM SUBSIDES). Yes! I see you open your eyes, slowly, slowly, you must get used to the light in the room. Now you're stretching yourself gently, gently, you're doing it for the first time

in your life. I did the best I could to give you nice and elastic muscles, but a stretch may be painful when you do it for the first time.

Honey. HER VOICE IS GENTLE SINCE SHE HAS JUST AWOKE, BUT HER SPEECH IS VERY CLEAR, LIKE THAT OF ANY ADULT, YOUNG WOMAN. I did the best I could to give you nice and elastic muscles, but a stretch may be painful when you do it for the first time.

Creator. Hey! I like the way you speak! It's very clear!

Honey. Hey! I like the way you speak! It's very clear!

Creator. Oh, I see what's the matter. HONEY REPEATS EVERY SENTENCE THAT HE SAYS. Your speech organs are fully developed, that is what I gave you, after all, but you can't create your own sentences yet. You just can speak! What an interesting phenomenon. Oh don't repeat every word I say. HE COVERS HER MOUTH WITH HIS HAND. Now, I'll tell you when you need to speak. What you need to learn is to use the dialog. Right now you're just repeating everything like a parrot. Oh gosh! You're looking at me like you wouldn't understand a thing of what I'm saying. Am I supposed to speak to you like to the new-born baby then? Come on now. You are a beautiful young woman. I won't treat you like a baby. You'll learn very fast. Listen. When I say "What's your name," you're supposed to answer "my name is Honey." OK? Let's practice. What's your name? HE TAKES HIS HAND OFF HER MOUTH.

Honey. What's your name?

Creator. No, no! You're supposed to say, my name is Honey.

Honey. No, no! You're supposed to say, my name is Honey!

Creator. COVERS HER MOUTH AGAIN. Listen. HE POINTS TO HIMSELF. My name is Frank. THEN HE POINTS TO HER Your name is Honey. What's your name?

Honey. Your name is Honey!

Creator. All right, we're making progress. It's going to take some time, because if I don't cover your mouth you just act like a parrot, even though you probably don't know what a parrot is, do you? But it's a good start. You look perfectly beautiful, honey, now it's time to work on perfecting you in all other ways. I'll let you wonder around the house today, so that you get familiar with the environment, and I'll teach you names of basic household objects, but as soon as you learn that, we'll get to the real work. I'll teach you how to read and write and will assign a list of books for you then. Once you read all the books from that list, and once you learn many other things, such as a playing a certain number of songs, cooking a certain number of dishes, etc, etc, etc, you will be perfect in all aspects of your life. And you'll then be my wife!