

Love and Blood: Side #2

ACT I
Scene 2

At Rise: The Chicago Maniac stealthily and hilariously sneaks up to door like a child pretending to be a spy.

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

Huh not much for a big time editor
 (Tries the door which swings open easily.)
Wow, this guy really isn't one for home security.
 (Pulls out knife from within trench coat)
Works for me!

(Lights dim for a moment allowing stage crew to push the door in a new position up stage right. On stage left a couch or something similar is added. We can hear water running like someone is in the shower. Lights back up.)

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

(Stage whisper. Walks toward the door knife raised over head.)
This will teach you to uphold the sacred tenets of journalism!
 (The noise of a shower turning off a yipe and the sound of shuffling.)
What the-
 (Swings door open revealing JOHN SPELINSKY in his boxers and a white undershirt stained with blood, being stabbed to death gleefully by BELLA THE BUTCHER. JOHN hits the ground dead clutching his loofah and awkward silence ensues.)

BELLA THE BUTCHER (awkwardly)

Umm...

THE CHICAGO MANIAC (yelling)

What the hell!?
 (BELLA THE BUTCHER snaps out of her shock and lunges with her knife towards THE CHICAGO MANIAC a short fight scene commences with them having to step over JOHN SPELINSKY'S corpse at times. The fight scene ends with both weapons thrown to the side and both actors locked in a standstill.)

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

Who are you and what do you think you're doing, stealing my kill?

BELLA THE BUTCHER

Who do you think you are interrupti- wait, you were planning to kill this guy too?

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

I'm not planning to do anything, I am going to kill him and you.

(BELLA THE BUTCHER glances down meaningfully to the already very dead JOHN SPELLINSKY between them.)

BELLA THE BUTCHER (sarcastically)

You're a little late to the party.

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

Well why'd you have to do that for?

BELLA THE BUTCHER

That idiot's been making up lies about me in the paper! But why are you... Oh God don't tell me *you're* The Chicago Maniac.

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

And you're the one who's been copying me!

(BELLA THE BUTCHER rips herself away stomping her foot petulantly.)

BELLA THE BUTCHER (shrieking)

Why on earth would I ever copy a dimwitted fool like you?!

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

Well now hold on a-

BELLA THE BUTCHER

I have studied with the likes of Staberella and The Strangster. I have perfected my craft for years! And when I finally make my debut the paper mistakes me for the freaking public restroom guy. Like does it get any grosser?

THE CHICAGO MANIAC

Hey, I'm not happy about this either. I worked hard to gain my reputation then all of sudden some new- to-town upstart comes and tries to steal my thunder. Besides, there's a little thing called originality. Stabbed in the shower. What crappy film did you get that from?

(BELLA THE BUTCHER growls and THE CHICAGO MANIAC gestures to the dead body.)

And now look at what you've done. What kind of message is this supposed to send?