



BEING A CLOWN IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

A FIASCO PLAYSET BY DANIEL HODGES

DHO1 ZANY TOWN

CREDITS

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BOILERPLATE

This playset is an accessory for the Fiasco role-playing game by Bully Pulpit Games.

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“When you play, play *hard*.” - Theodore Roosevelt

THE SCORE

BEING A CLOWN IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

An amusement park is a place of happiness, a carefree escape from the daily grind. But if your life is spent making sure other people have fun, then having fun is the daily grind.

Along with a grind like that imagine doing it in pancake makeup or as the back end of a horse and the laughter of children gets old pretty fast.

Now top it all off with a boss who doesn't give a rats ass for the craft of clowning and no job security because if an investigation into *that* incident doesn't close the park then some developer or other's going to buy the place up any day and bulldoze it.

It's bad enough being a clown without being a cliché too, but sometimes you just can't hold in the tears and to a toddler tears of impotent rage look just like

MOVIE NIGHT

Vulgar, The Prestige, Baskets (TV Series).

SPECIAL TREATMENT

Every clown needs a name. When inspiration strikes you, give your character a name and draw their makeup.

RELATIONSHIPS...

1 PROFESSIONAL

- ☐ Blackmailer and mark
- ☐ Professional rivals
- ☐ Collaborators on something big
- ☐ White face and auguste (the sensible stern clown and the buffoon)
- ☐ Mentor and apprentice
- ☐ Rebel and establishment

2 UNPROFESSIONAL

- ☐ Personal rivals
- ☐ Daddy issues
- ☐ Irrational hatred
- ☐ Irrational affection
- ☐ Hero worship
- ☐ Leaders of rival factions

3 ROMANTIC

- ☐ Agonizing sexual tension
- ☐ Forbidden love
- ☐ Broken trust
- ☐ Irrational affection
- ☐ Ill-advised one time fling
- ☐ Unapologetic lovers

4 UGLY

- ☐ "Sheep" and Freethinker
- ☐ Deep suspicion
- ☐ Artiste and Poseur
- ☐ "True believer" and lapsed
- ☐ Sexual jealousy
- ☐ Rageaholic

5 FRIENDS

- ☐ Fast Friends
- ☐ Irritating buddies
- ☐ Social adversaries
- ☐ Friends with benefits
- ☐ A pair of rebels
- ☐ Manipulator and dupe

6 SOULFUL

- ☐ Two-of-a-kind misanthropes
- ☐ Poet and muse
- ☐ Shared cultural identity
- ☐ Shared faith
- ☐ Shared terrible secret
- ☐ Shared sexual preference

...IN A RUNDOWN AMUSEMENT PARK

NEEDS...

1 TO GET OUT

- ☐ ...of sight and finish what you started
- ☐ ...from under Mr. Whiteface
- ☐ ...of this relationship
- ☐ ...of your turn in the horse suit
- ☐ ...of the “chorus line”
- ☐ ...clean this time

2 TO GET EVEN WITH

- ☐ ...the owners of Zany Town
- ☐ ...the White-face
- ☐ ...the clown that stole my character
- ☐ ...the entertainment reporter
- ☐ ...the establishment
- ☐ ...that two-faced liar

3 TO GET OVER

- ☐ ...an unrealistic dream
- ☐ ...paralyzing indecision
- ☐ ...the squeamishness about what needs to be done
- ☐ ...the final hurdle before they find out
- ☐ ...this paranoia
- ☐ ...this obsession

4 TO OWN

- ☐ ...a pony
- ☐ ...these fools
- ☐ ...an authentic clown union card
- ☐ ...the whole shooting match
- ☐ ..._____
- ☐ ..._____

5 TO GET THE TRUTH

- ☐ ...so I can make them pay
- ☐ ...about the incident
- ☐ ...about the park's future
- ☐ ...about the meeting
- ☐ ...about the White Face
- ☐ ...about those shredded blue prints

6 TO GET MY HANDS ON

- ☐ ...the day's take
- ☐ ...the master key
- ☐ ...the schedule first this time
- ☐ ...the PA system
- ☐ ...my missing medication, like NOW!
- ☐ ...the real clown register

...IN A RUNDOWN AMUSEMENT PARK

LOCATIONS...

1 ZANY TOWN AMUSEMENT PARK

- ☐ The hall of mirrors
- ☐ The shooting gallery
- ☐ Inside the two-piece horse costume
- ☐ Hole four of the clown-putt mini golf course
- ☐ The Journey of Terror ride
- ☐ The Deep Fried Den

2 EMPLOYEES ONLY

- ☐ The service tunnels
- ☐ The utility shack
- ☐ The manager's office after closing time
- ☐ The closed non-PC attraction
- ☐ The ferris wheel gear room
- ☐ The makeup room

3 CLOWN BUSINESS

- ☐ The clown egg museum (clowns register their unique makeup on an egg)
- ☐ The union hall
- ☐ Prop store
- ☐ Clown bar
- ☐ Psychiatrists office
- ☐ Clown tailor

4 PRIVATE PARTY

- ☐ Bouncy castle
- ☐ Clown van
- ☐ Master bedroom
- ☐ Garden shed
- ☐ Swimming pool
- ☐ Act two

5 GREENER PASTURES CLOWN PONY SANCTUARY

- ☐ The Hall of Memories
- ☐ The rose garden
- ☐ The Discerning Pooch cannery
- ☐ The tack room
- ☐ The stables
- ☐ The kill room

6 THE DORMS

- ☐ The floor condemned by the health department
- ☐ Bunkroom four
- ☐ The showers
- ☐ The roof
- ☐ The rec room
- ☐ The basement laundry room

...IN A RUNDOWN AMUSEMENT PARK

OBJECTS...

1 TOOLS OF THE TRADE

- ☐ A squirty flower not filled with water...
- ☐ Buttons the incontinent terrier
- ☐ Big red shoes held together with duct tape
- ☐ A pie
- ☐ A prop knife with a real blade
- ☐ A squeaky hammer

2 DELICATE

- ☐ White Face's egg
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ A taped up letter
- ☐ CCTV footage
- ☐ Minutes of the closed meeting
- ☐ underpants

3 DANGEROUS

- ☐ A line of knotted handkerchiefs
- ☐ A bolt gun
- ☐ Stage makeup laced with DMSO and Arsenic
- ☐ The keys to the clown car
- ☐ Pony tranquilizers
- ☐ Mr. Sunshine

4 DEMENTED

- ☐ A stolen bottle of antipsychotics
- ☐ A dropper full of LSD
- ☐ That elephant
- ☐ A wooden sledgehammer
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

5 DOLEFUL

- ☐ Too many sedatives
- ☐ Divorce papers
- ☐ A terminal diagnosis
- ☐ An accordion
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

6 DIFFICULT

- ☐ An oversized plastic telephone
- ☐ A tiny bicycle
- ☐ The reporter's micro-recorder
- ☐ Oversized stilts
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

...IN A RUNDOWN AMUSEMENT PARK

