

FADE IN

SFX: Eerie woods sounds throughout.

SFX: Shoveling dirt.

LADY VAN TASSEL
(tired, straining against
each shovel hit, to self)
Stupid horses...Nnngh!...get into
my vegetables, will you?

SFX: Heavy shovel sound.

LADY VAN TASSEL (CONT'D)
Nngah!... This'll teach
you...NNNGH!

SFX: Shovel sound.

LADY VAN TASSEL (CONT'D)
...Get into the Van Tassel
crops...NGHGAH!....this is what you
get...

SFX: Sounds fade.

SFX: Snuffling sounds. Horse whinnies, crashing sound.

SFX: Silence.

SFX: Eerie woods sounds return.

SFX: Boots clanking, twigs snapping.

SFX: Flies buzzing. A deep voice growls.

HORSEMAN
Daredevil...

SFX: Boots clanking, twigs snapping, fades.

SFX: Woods sounds fades.

SFX: Fire crackling, silverware on dishes.

LADY VAN TASSEL
I don't know what you're so
concerned about. I stopped the
bloody thing from getting into the
crops, didn't I?

LADY CRANE

'Twasn't any wild horse you ensared
in your trap.

LADY VAN TASSEL

Yes, yes. The horseman's horse.
Anybody ever seen this horseman?
Hmm? Anyone lose their heads?
Shall I wire London and--

LADY CRANE

Alright alright fine. If the
horseman comes, it be your head he
takes.

LADY VAN TASSEL

(to self)
Not much of a horseman without a
horse, is he?

SFX: Fireplace crackling fades.

SFX: Silence.

SFX: Slight wind, horse whinnies.

LADY CRANE

Your ladyship mustn't ride. An ill-
wind blows.

LADY VAN TASSEL

Calm yourself, Lady Crane. 'tis but
25 miles. I shall be there by
midday. You worry yourself.

LADY CRANE

I worry for you, milady.

LADY VAN TASSEL

Worry for the both of us, then. I'm
off. Yah!

SFX: Clanking of metal, horse whinnies, hooves clopping on
dirt fades.

LADY CRANE

Be safe...

SFX: Howling wind, cracking twigs and branches, kicking
leaves.

SFX: Lady Van Tassel mutters angrily.

LADY VAN TASSEL

(angry)

Stupid horse... We've been this way
a hundred times and NOW she decides
to get spooked? BONNIE! Throw me,
will ya? Where are you, you
confounded...

SFX: Rumbling sound.

LADY VAN TASSEL (CONT'D)

(cautious)

What the blazes...?

SFX: Lightning crashes! A deep voice roars.

LADY VAN TASSEL (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Dear God... It cannot be...

SFX: Explosion! Lady Van Tassel screams, skids along ground.

SFX: All ambient noise dies away. No ambient noise for the
duration of the conversation. This is the Headless Horseman.
The voice of the horseman is deep and hollow.

HORSEMAN

RAAAAARGH! I RISE!

LADY VAN TASSEL

(scared whisper)

The horseman...

SFX: Clanking buckles, boot spurs as he walks. The horseman
sniffs pronouncedly.

SFX: Lady Van Tassel stifled breathes heavily as she hides
behind a tree from the horseman.

HORSEMAN

I...I smell...

SFX: More clanking buckles and bot spurs as he searches.

SFX: Twig snaps. Lady Van Tassel's breathing stops.

HORSEMAN (CONT'D)

(smoothly)

Yesssss....

SFX: A leather-gloved hand slaps down on the Lady Van
Tassel's shoulder and she screams.

HORSEMAN (CONT'D)
You shall do nicely!

LADY VAN TASSEL
(whimpering, pleading)
Please... Please good sir.... Don't
take my head.

HORSEMAN
(hisses)
Why would I do that? You are not my
target this night. Countess.....
Felicia.....

LADY VAN TASSEL
(a touch relieved)
Where... where is your horse?

HORSEMAN
You are not concerned for the
countess?

LADY VAN TASSEL
She... she...

HORSEMAN
She has wronged you, yes?

LADY VAN TASSEL
(affirmative)
Mmm...

HORSEMAN
Then we ride!

LADY VAN TASSEL
What are you--AURUGH!

SFX: Bones snapping, twisting. The Lady Van Tassel slowly
groans and grunts, slowly becoming a horse during the
Horseman's speech.

HORSEMAN
A fortnight ago, a farmer set a
trap for my horse. Pit. Spikes.
Daredevil did not survive.

LADY VAN TASSEL
(deeper voice)
Stop...I...can't...
My face tight...my hands...heavy...
What are you doing to me?

HORSEMAN

I require a new Daredevil. Yes. You shall do nicely indeed, lassie.

SFX: Lady Van Tassel's panicked groaning and breathing becomes more horselike.

HORSEMAN (CONT'D)

We may even be able to punish the ne'er-do-well that did in my Daredevil. Yes, I know we will. Hurry up, lassie. The Lady calls.

SFX: One last human-like groan transitions fully to a horse's whinny.

SFX: Wind howling, other ambient noises return.

SFX: Hooves clop heavily into the earth. Buckles clank and a saddle is placed on the Lady Van Tassel-turned-horse.

HORSEMAN (CONT'D)

We ride! To Countess Felicia's!

SFX: Lightning crashes as the new horse whinnies. The horseman shouts in triumph as the two ride away.

SFX: The sound fades. We think it's the end of the audio. It's not.

SFX: A bell rings out.

MAN

The horseman strikes again!

LADY CRANE

Who?

MAN

The Countess, Lady Felicia.

LADY CRANE

Good riddance to bad rubbish.

MAN

Do not speak like that in my presence again!

LADY CRANE

She has wronged you too, hasn't she? She's wronged many a people in Sleepy Hollow. I say again, good riddance to bad rubbish.

SFX: Man growls disgustedly.

SFX: Original Lady Van Tassel enters, panting, crying.

MAN

Lady Van Tassel! You are... I'll
fetch you some clothes.

LADY VAN TASSEL

I...I woke up...in the woods, by
myself. I couldn't find my
way...but then...I could... Help
me, Brom...

BROM

At once, your ladyship.

They walk through the town.

LADY VAN TASSEL

What?

BROM

Begging your pardon?

LADY VAN TASSEL

I thought I heard... 'Tis nothing.

HORSEMAN

(whispering, almost as if
on the wind)

I will require you again, once I am
called.

Lady Van Tassel breathes heavily, nervously, as they plod
through the town. Brom has not heard.

HORSEMAN (CONT'D)

Come when I call, or you shall lose
your head as well.

SFX: A bell rings out.

MAN #2

A second body has been found!
Farmer Mathers...

FADE OUT