

13th Hospital

Written by Joshua Powlison

Doctor Louis Scrooz (Not as smart as he acts)
Nurse Zee Cray (Maniacal)
Nurse Nee Lou (Addle-brained)
Patty (Only level-headed one)
Ben (Beth's spouse, jumpy)
Beth (Ben's spouse, jumpy)
Tammy (Ben and Beth's little girl scout)

Scene 1 (Hospital)

Hospital bed (could be a low table with padding) with a small table beside, CS. The small table needs a pair of scissors, a little mallet, and a face mask. The face mask needs to be attached to a small tube running under the bed.

LC: Lights Up

BEN and BETH carry in PATTY from SR, who is currently unconscious. The DOCTOR and NURSES Zee and Lou follow quickly, with TAMMY behind.

Ben: Where do we put her down?

Doctor: On the table is good.

Tammy: Is she okay?

Ben and Beth drop Patty on the table. Patty jolts awake

Patty: What... where am I?

Zee: In the hospital, you twisted your ankle.

Patty: How did that happen?

Tammy: Daddy hit you with his car!

Ben: It was an accident!

Tammy: Yeah, but you were going 30 over the speed limit... in a subdivision!

Beth: I told him we shouldn't have gotten out of bed today! (rubs rabbits feet together)

Ben: Would you put down those rabbit's feet?!

Patty: Why, what's so bad about today?

Silence

Zee: (evil, low voice) It's... Friday the 13th. (evil laugh)

LC: Lightning

FX: Thunder

Zee: TGIF!

Beth takes out rabbit's feet and rubs them together vigorously

Doctor: (to Patty) I'm Doctor Louis Scrooz.

Zee: I'm Nurse Cray. But you can call me Zee.

Nee: And I'm Nurse Nee Lou!

Patty: All right, I'm Patty.

Nee: (goes over to Patty's foot) Now let's get working on that leg! (to Patty)
How is your assurance?

Patty: You mean insurance?

Nee: Is that the word?

Ben: We'll cover the costs!

Beth: Ben! We can't possibly afford that!

Ben: We'll make a way! (thinking) Community service!

Beth: Community service is free work!

Tammy: I can get you some work with the girl scouts, Daddy!

Doctor: All right, let's start with a physical examination. Nee...

Nee: Okay! (grabs Patty's ankle)

Patty gasps

Tammy: Does that hurt?

Patty: A little.

Nee: (to Patty) You're a brave girl. (Lifts Patty's leg high in the air to look at the ankle) Looks okay from this side. (drops Patty's leg- not gingerly)

Tammy: The bottom side?

Nee: No, the outside. We may have to perform an autopsy later.

Ben: You mean a biopsy?

Nee: Is that the word?

Doctor: You have absolutely nothing to worry about, Patty. We specialize in Friday the 13th injuries; you could say it's our passion. (grabs the mallet) We enjoy injured people... helping them, that is.

Beth: Oh, don't mention that it's Friday the 13th! (vigorously rubs rabbit's feet)

Doctor: (to Tammy) Do you want to help me?

Tammy: Sure!

Doctor hands Tammy the mallet

Nee: We're a family practice.

Zee: Now lightly tap her ankle.

Tammy taps Patty's ankle with the mallet lightly. No reaction. A little harder. Still no reaction. Whacks that ankle! Definite reaction. Patty shrieks.

Tammy: Wait- are we testing her knee or the mallet?

Zee: We have response! (to Patty) The problem really is your ankle.

Nee: Yeah, some patients don't know what they're talking about. I take it you're a smart one, Patty.

Patty: Yes, well...

Beth: Oh, right, I remember one time when I had a terrible headache, and it wasn't even my head! It was my stomach! I was pregnant!

Ben: I remember that.

Tammy: I don't! I was the baby!

Patty: My head hurts.

Beth: I know how you feel, dear.

Tammy bonks Patty's head with the mallet. Patty reacts

Tammy: It really is your head!

Zee: Now, that's quite enough, little one. Time for the grown-ups to get to work. (fights with Tammy for the mallet)

Tammy: (to Doctor) What are you going to do next?

Doctor: Well... this next procedure is going to be really painful.

Zee: (holds up the scissors and snips them) Scissors!

Pause

Patty: I'm not sure if I'm ready for this.

Doctor: Alright, get the sleeping gas, Zee.

Zee: Yes, sir!

Zee grabs the mouth cover on the table attached to a tube going under the bed.

Ben: Sleeping gas? Is that really necessary?

Beth: Ben... remember when I was in the hospital last month?

Zee puts the mask on Patty, twists a knob on it.

Ben: Of course I do! TV dinners for a week!

Beth: Well, I had this terrible headache, and they put me out so I wouldn't notice it!

Ben: I thought that was because you were complaining so much. Besides, it's expensive. I guess we can't worry, though; we'll find a way to cover it.

Beth: How?

Ben: I'll teach Sunday School!

Beth: Sunday School teachers aren't paid!

Ben: Really? I don't believe it...

Patty starts laughing hysterically.

Zee: She must laugh in her sleep!

Beth: I think you used laughing gas.

Ben: (to Doctor) Do you know what you're doing?

Doctor: Of course, I'm a Doctor!

Ben: I mean... maybe you should take up another career...

Beth: Like underwater basket-weaving! (rubs the rabbit's feet together)

Ben: (to Beth) Would you stop that?!

Beth: Ben, everybody knows that the doom and gloom of Friday the 13th is terrified of rabbit's feet!

Ben: Why?

Beth: Because rabbits are so- hoppy! (laughs) Get it?

Ben: Very bunny.

Doctor takes the mask off Patty, twists a knob on it. Patty is still laughing.

Nee: (to Doctor) Will she think we're inconspicuous?

Doctor: You mean incompetent?

Nee: Is that the word?

Patty calms down.

Patty: Is it over?

Doctor: Almost, we need to finish up here. Unfortunately, we need to operate quickly, and we don't seem to have the right gas hooked up.

Beth: An operation?!

Tammy: (gasps) Operation! I love that game!

Nee: (to Patty) You'll have to go under without an incentive.

Patty: You mean a sedative?

Nee: Is that the word?

Beth: I remember one time, I had this headache, and we were out of aspirin.

Tammy: Yeah, I remember too, the headache wasn't my fault that time!

Patty: I think I'm ready.

Doctor: First, we'll check your blood pressure. Nee, get the blood pressure cuff.

Tammy: Blood pressure cuff?

Zee: It's like handcuffs, but it goes further up your arm.

Tammy: Oh, right. You're sure you've got this?

Doctor: We don't have time to be sure!

Tammy: I can help again!

Nurse Nee puts blood pressure cuff on Patty's arm. Pumps it. Keeps pumping it. Patty starts squirming at the pressure she's feeling from it. Nurse pauses for a second.

Nee: Tell me when it gets tight.

Patty: It's plenty tight.

Nee: Good! We'll be ready to start very soon.

Beth: How soon?

Tammy: Can we leave before then?

Zee: (holds up the scissors) Scissors?!

Doctor: Don't excite yourself, Zee. Please check her blood pressure.

Doctor goes over to Patty's leg. Nurse checks the blood pressure cuff, takes it off.

Zee: Oh, your blood pressure is high! Poor girl. Speaking of which, how's your insurance?

Ben: I told you, we're covering her!

Beth: Ben...

Ben: I told you, Beth, we'll find a way to cover it! Freelance work or something!

Beth: Freelance work is done for free!

Ben: (thinking) No, it's not!

Tammy: Do we all get suckers when we're done?

Doctor: I'm ready!

Twists Patty's leg one way. Patty screams, as do all but the Doctor and Nurses.

Doctor: Feel better?

Patty: No, it feels worse actually.

Doctor twists Patty's leg the other way. Patty screams again, as do the others except the Doctor and Nurses.

Tammy: Do you feel better now?

Patty: Mostly.

Doctor twists Patty's leg in the same direction as the first time. The screamers scream again.

Patty: It still really hurts!

Beth is rubbing the rabbit's feet together

Ben: (to Beth) Cut it out! (to Doctor) I think you need a different approach.

Beth: More rabbit's feet?

Ben: I was talking to the Doctor!

Zee: (more excited than ever) Scissors?!!

Pause

Doctor: Yes Zee, I think it's time.

Nurse Zee gets crazed

Beth: Wait!

Everyone pauses

Zee: No scissors?

Beth: No, let me try something! (starts massaging Patty's ankle)

Patty: Oh, that feels so good.

Doctor: Here, let a trained professional do that. (heads over to Patty's foot and starts massaging it)

Patty: Oh, that feels great.

Nee: (to Patty) He actually got his "Doctor" title from a degree in massage therapy.

Ben: Figures.

Patty: Well, it definitely feels like you know what you're doing.

Doctor: You really think so? (goes around and starts massaging her back) I love doing this.

Patty: Oh, that feels so good. Seriously, you rock!

Doctor: Thanks! There's just not as many people on Friday the 13th who need massage therapy.

Beth: I disagree! I'm all tense now. (rubs the rabbit feet together)

Nee: Me too!

Patty: My ankle feels great! Thank you so much!

Doctor: Glad to hear!

Tammy: (to Nurses) Are you two really nurses?

Zee: Oh... well... my dad was actually a factory owner for the biggest scissors distributor in America.

Ben: Really?

Zee: Yes. I like to think I inherited some of his business smarts. And I grew up just loving scissors. (holds up scissors) I'd run around the house all day, just me and my scissors...

Tammy: Mommy never lets me do that!

Nee: And I'm an English professor!

Ben: You mean an English professor?

Nee: Is that the word? Anyway, one day, while Zee was running around with scissors, she threw out her back.

Zee: Yes, that's when I realized why Mom told me not to do that. And that's when Doctor Louis helped me out.

Doctor: Nee brought Zee over to my workplace. We all hit it off, and have been steadfast friends ever since.

Beth: Oh, that's so sweet.

Tammy: You should open a massage business together!

Nee: But what do we do with all of this equipment?

Zee: And with the scissors!

Patty: Well... I'm studying to become a doctor...

Ben: Do you have a certificate yet?

Patty: Yes.

Ben: Then you're probably already better than he is.

Doctor: (to Patty) You're welcome to whatever you'd like!

Nee: Will you just promise to tell your friends about our tactics?

Patty: You mean practice?

Nee: Is that the word?

Patty: Yes I will!

Doctor: Oh, and you're welcome, once you get your degree, to work here if you'd like.

Patty: Would I?!

Doctor: Only you can answer that.

Patty: Yes!

Zee: (holds up the scissors) You know, life is a lot like a pair of scissors.
(pause) It can be used for all sorts of things, but when you do what you truly love with it for the betterment of others... it helps you remember why they're made.

Doctor: (to Nurses) Come on, you two! It's not the weekend yet; let's start converting this place into a masseur's dream!

Ben: I'll help!

Beth: So will I!

Tammy: Me too!

LC: Lights Out
Curtain Call