

COMPLETE LIBRETTO

**THE
SHINNING**

AN OPERA IN TWO ACTS

**MUSIC
PAUL MORAVEC**

**LIBRETTO
MARK CAMPBELL**

**BASED ON THE NOVEL BY
STEPHEN KING**

**Commissioned by Minnesota Opera
A Minnesota Opera New Works Initiative Production**

 **SUBITO MUSIC**

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The Shining

Produced by Minnesota Opera

World Premiere: May 7, 2016

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, St. Paul, Minnesota

Eric Simonson
Stage Director

Michael Christie
Conductor

Minnesota
OPERA

Ryan Taylor
President and General Director

Dale Johnson
Artistic Director

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SETTING

The Overlook Hotel, western Colorado, the end of September to late November, 1975.
 Epilogue: eight months later, a hotel in Maine.

CAST

Humans

Jack Torrance, 30-35 years old lyric baritone
 Wendy Torrance, his wife, 30-35 years old soprano
 Danny Torrance, their son, 6 years old treble
 Dick Hallorann, the Overlook Hotel’s cook, 50-60 years old bass-baritone
 Stuart Ullman, the hotel’s manager, 45-55 years old tenor
 Bill Watson, the hotel’s custodian, 55-60 years old tenor

Apparitions

Mark Torrance, Jack’s father, 45-55 years old bass
 Delbert Grady, the former caretaker of the hotel, 30-35 years old tenor
 Lloyd, the former bartender of the hotel, 65-70 years old tenor
 Horace Derwent, the former owner of the hotel, 25-30 years old baritone
 Mrs. Enid Massey, a wealthy guest, 55 years old soprano
 Mrs. Grady, wife of Delbert Grady, 30 years old soprano
 The Grady Girls, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Grady, six and eight years old treble
 A Crooner tenor
 Other former guests of the hotel mixed chorus

PRODUCTION NOTES

- The set of the Overlook Hotel should appear formally structured and balanced in Act One; during the Act One finale, the set should begin to reflect Jack’s growing madness by melting and distorting in shape.
- Projections may be used intermittently throughout the opera: a giant splatter of blood, a gun, masks, “redrum”, etc. But it’s only in Act Two that the projections may show the apparitions. In Act One, the projections should be of objects and symbols only—abstracted as much as possible.
- The reveal of the apparitions should be handled in this order: 1) hearing them offstage, 2) seeing them onstage in the Act One finale, then 3) seeing them in the projections and onstage all through Act Two.

*This libretto is dedicated to my husband, Stephen Andrew John Tracy.
 Thank you for your patience and your many kindnesses—both expected and unexpected.*

SYNOPSIS

Act I

Setting: In and around the Overlook Hotel, Colorado, late September to mid-November, 1975. Jack Torrance has been engaged as winter caretaker for the Overlook Hotel in a remote part of the Colorado Rockies and arrives there with his wife, Wendy, and son, Danny, on the last weekend of September, at the end of the hotel's season. Wendy and Jack welcome the change the hotel will bring to their lives, believing that the experience will bring the family closer together; Jack is also happy that he'll finally have time to finish his play. The general manager, Stuart Ullman, gives the Torrances a tour of the hotel and touts the history of its famous guests. The family is then introduced to the hotel cook, Dick Hallorann, who shows Wendy and Danny around the kitchen.

Ullman privately expresses his concerns to Jack about his personal history, which he has learned includes physical abuse and alcoholism. Jack reassures Ullman that he has conquered his problems and that all will be fine. Bill Watson takes Jack to the basement where he instructs him about boiler maintenance and reveals some stories about the hotel's nefarious past: a previous caretaker, Delbert Grady, killed his wife and two daughters before taking his own life; another guest, Mrs. Massey, committed suicide in a bathtub after her young lover abandoned her.

At the same time outside the hotel, Hallorann confides in Danny that he senses the boy shares a second sight, the "shining," that Hallorann's grandmother detected in him as a child. He also tells Danny that fears about the hotel can be controlled—but encourages Danny to call out to him if the Torrance family is in danger. Ullman, Watson, and Hallorann bid the Torrances farewell, leaving the family alone on the porch of the hotel.

One evening a few weeks later in the caretaker's quarters, Wendy reads *Treasure Island* to Danny while Jack works on his play. As Danny leaves to brush his teeth before being tucked in, the couple affirms their love for each other. Danny is trapped in the bathroom and once he escapes, appears traumatized, claiming to have had dark visions. Jack tries to shake Danny out of it, but Wendy stops him, revealing that Jack once injured the child. She vows to take Danny to the doctor in town the following day for a check-up. As she tucks Danny in and sings him a lullaby, Jack recalls his own childhood abuse at the hands of his father, Mark. Danny utters a curious message—"redrum"—which Wendy dismisses as a reaction to *Treasure Island*.

SYNOPSIS (CONT.)

Jack sifts through boxes of memorabilia in the basement a week or so later, finding a scrapbook assembled by “The Manager.” He learns more about the Overlook’s infamous past, including Horace Derwent’s sale of the hotel to the Mafia and a subsequent “hit” that occurred there years later. He also reads about the tragedies of the Grady family and Mrs. Massey. An invitation to a New Year’s Eve masked ball drops from the scrapbook and ignites Jack’s imagination. He vows to tell the hotel’s story. Wendy and Danny return from the doctor where Danny has received a clean bill of health. Disturbed about Jack’s obsession with the Overlook, Wendy requests that they leave immediately, but Jack dismisses the idea.

The first week of November. Wendy is awakened by strange noises, and Danny runs into his parents’ bedroom in a panic. Jack checks the elevator, then the ballroom, where he momentarily hears people and happens on a dog mask and a giant croquet mallet. He is shaken, but composes himself before returning to the quarters to reassure Wendy, who still believes they should leave the hotel.

Danny has approached Room 217 several times in the past weeks, and now, in mid-November, finally enters it with a key. In the hotel office, a ranger on the CB radio warns Jack of an upcoming blizzard. Suddenly, the ranger’s voice becomes that of his father Mark, telling Jack to kill his family. Jack smashes the radio with the mallet. Wendy rushes in and is horrified to learn that Jack has destroyed their only contact with the outside world. Danny is found with his clothes wet, bruises around his neck, and lipstick marks on his face. As Jack rallies to protect his family, the structure of the hotel collapses, and all of its apparitions appear, including Delbert Grady, Mrs. Massey, Horace Derwent, and the guests of the New Year’s Eve party. Danny cries out for Hallorann as snow begins to fall.

Act II

One day in late November. Jack returns to the basement for the boiler’s daily maintenance. Grady appears and encourages Jack to apply the same discipline to his son that Grady meted out to his daughters. He then invites Jack to join him for the masked ball. In the caretaker’s quarters, Danny warns his mother that “they” have gotten to his father. Wendy tries to mitigate his fears. But once Danny is alone, he again calls out for Hallorann.

SYNOPSIS (CONT.)

Jack enters the ballroom where the masked ball is in full swing and orders drinks from Lloyd, the bartender. Onstage, Horace Derwent, Grady, and Lloyd raise their voices in song, soon joined by Mark Torrance and then Jack, before he collapses and the party dissolves. Finding her husband sprawled on the floor, Wendy tries to help him back to their quarters. Jack attempts to strangle her and she renders him unconscious by smashing a bottle over his head; and she and Danny lock him inside the pantry. When Jack comes to and demands to be released, Wendy leaves the kitchen with Danny, taking a large knife with her. Grady enters and helps Jack free himself from the pantry.

In the caretaker's quarters, Wendy tries to assuage her son's fears before returning to the kitchen for food. She sees apparitions in the ballroom, but convinces herself that they are not real. Jack suddenly leaps from behind the bar and attacks her with the mallet. Wendy plunges the knife into his back and runs back to the quarters, locking the door. Jack follows her and almost breaks through the door, when Wendy slices his hands with razors that she has retrieved from the bathroom. Grady and Derwent appear to Jack, telling him to dispose of Wendy later, as Hallorann is suddenly approaching the hotel on a Snowcat and must be attended to.

Hallorann enters the hotel. Danny runs toward Hallorann, attempting to warn him, but Jack strikes Hallorann with his mallet, rendering him unconscious. Jack corners Danny, but Danny bravely stands up to him, saying, "You are not my father." Returning momentarily to his senses, Jack begs Danny to run, allowing him to escape. Derwent, Grady, and Lloyd appear, castigating Jack for his failure and warning him that the boiler is about to explode. Hallorann revives, and drives Wendy and Danny away from the hotel in the Snowcat. In the basement, Jack resolves to let his family live; when they are out of harm's way, he allows the boiler to explode and the entire hotel bursts into flames.

Epilogue: a hotel in Maine; eight months later. Wendy and Danny are staying in a cabin at a hotel in Maine where Hallorann now works as a cook. On his break, Hallorann checks up on Wendy and Danny. While Danny fishes from a pond and his mother looks on, Hallorann urges the boy to be strong and get on with his life and help his mother, despite the tragedy that has befallen them.

ACT ONE

Scene 1.

[The last weekend of September; a sunlit scenic overlook in a very remote part of the western Rockies. There is a scattering of aspens with golden leaves, but only a few trees, as the location is near timberline. A beaten up red Volkswagen Bug putters on and stops. Danny Torrance opens the door and runs out, followed quickly by his parents, Wendy and Jack.]*

WENDY:

Danny! Danny! Don't run. Be careful! It's dangerous.

JACK: *[Over above.]*

Hey Doc! Slow down.

[Danny stops. His parents catch up and grab each of his hands and walk toward a broken wooden rail fence at the edge of a cliff.]

WENDY: *[To Jack.]*

Did you remember the parking brake?

JACK:

Of course. The poor old Bug.

WENDY:

At least it got us here.

[They arrive at the fence. Jack points off in the distance.]

JACK:

There it is.

WENDY:

Oh, Jack, it's gorgeous.
It's perfect. It's so perfect.

[She smiles and leans affectionately into his arms.]

JACK:

Our new home.
The Overlook Hotel.

WENDY:

Beautiful.

JACK:

Some say
The most beautiful hotel
In the country.

WENDY:

Very grand.
A far cry from our digs
In Boulder.

JACK:

Think of it.
The three of us.
I'll write my play.
The chance we need.
To start over.
...A family again.
And snowball-making.

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Another chance.
Just us.
I'll learn to knit.
To start over.
We'll be a family again,
Help Danny with his reading...

JACK: *[To Danny.]*

Isn't that right, Doc? Isn't that right?

[Danny looks far off darkly. An unsettling chord registers faintly in the orchestra.]

JACK:

But instead of driving—upsy-daisy!—
[Jack lifts Danny and spins him around.]
You're going to *fly* to the Overlook.
Isn't that right, Doc?

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Jack! Jack!

JACK:

Isn't that right?
Unless you...fall!

[Jack mimes dropping Danny and he squeals with joy. Wendy gasps.]

WENDY:

Careful!

JACK:

Don't be such a killjoy.
We're only playing!

[Jack stops spinning Danny and holds him.]

WENDY: *[Sweetly.]*

I know. I know...
Oh, Jack. I'm so happy!
As happy as the day we were married.

JACK:

Only as happy as that?

WENDY:

Happier!

JACK:

Me too.
So it begins.
A fresh start.
A new life.
All ours.
So it begins
Far away from it all.

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

So it begins.
A new home.
So begins
A new life.
All ours.
On a mountain
Away from it all.

JACK:

I did the right thing, Wendy,
For once in my life,
The right thing.

[Wendy and Jack exchange a very loving smile. Jack presses Wendy into him while holding Danny in his other arm.]

JACK:

Come on. Let's go meet the boss.

[The family gets back in the Volkswagen and drives off.]*

[End Scene 1.]

**The scene can work with or without an actual car onstage. If one isn't used, the sound effect of car doors opening and closing would help clarify the moment.*

Orchestral Interlude #1

The Overlook Hotel rises up and takes shape ominously; first the facade, then the different areas of the hotel.

Scene 2.

[Different areas of the hotel: a hallway, the caretaker's quarters, the kitchen/pantry, the basement, the porch; all overlapping scenes.]

ULLMAN: *[Entering grandly with Jack, Wendy and Danny.]*

...Ninety-nine guest quarters,
All commanding magnificent views.
Gardens,
A dining room,
Ballroom,
Banquet hall,
And a court for Denver croquet.
Which you saw out front.

WENDY:

Denver Croquet?

ULLMAN:

Something invented by Horace Derwent,
One of the former owners.
Same as croquet,
But twice the size.

WENDY:

With those great big mallets,
Danny says it looks like croquet
For the Jolly Green Giant.

JACK: *[Suggestively, to Wendy.]*

To say nothing of the balls.

[Wendy rolls her eyes and smiles.]

ULLMAN:

The Overlook has a great and honorable past...

WENDY: *[Aside to Jack.]*

This one's a walking brochure.

ULLMAN:

...We have housed Vanderbilts,
Duponts, Rockefellers,
And four presidents.
And here is where
We are housing you.

[They have arrived inside the caretaker's quarters. A couple of beds. A desk. Adjoining room for Danny. Door off representing a bathroom.]

JACK:

Homey.

WENDY:

Perfect.

JACK: [*Pointing to the two beds, then patting Wendy's behind.*]

Makes a fine little love nest...

WENDY: [*Aside to Jack.*]

Down, cowboy.

JACK: [*Lifting him in his arms.*]

Think you can stand this place, Doc?

DANNY:

Sure I can!

[*Richard Hallorann enters.*]

ULLMAN:

And here is Mr. Hallorann, our chef.

HALLORANN: [*With a wink to Wendy and Jack.*]

Cook.

JACK: [*Shaking hands.*]

Jack Torrance.

Wife Wendy, son Danny.

HALLORANN:

Pleasure.

[*Kneeling to Danny and shaking his hand. The orchestra indicates a sudden connection between them.*]

Young man, you are not staying here all winter.

Nosireebob, you're coming down to St. Pete's with me.

We've got some fish to catch.

ULLMAN:

Mr. Hallorann will show you the kitchen.

HALLORANN:

Right this way.

[*They start to leave.*]

ULLMAN: [*To Jack.*]

A word with you, Mr. Torrance.

JACK:

Certainly.

[Jack gestures to Wendy to go ahead. She and Danny leave with Hallorann.]

ULLMAN:

Further inquiry, Mr. Torrance—

JACK:

Jack.

ULLMAN:

Has revealed some things from your past—

JACK:

Things?

ULLMAN:

Of grave concern.

Grave concern.

An incident at a certain prep school

Where you lost your temper

And hit a student...

JACK:

Mr. Ullman...

ULLMAN:

Your ongoing struggles with alcohol.

JACK:

Sir...

ULLMAN:

Mr. Torrance,

The winters here are cruel.

Solitude exacts a toll.

Only a few years ago,

There was a terrible tragedy

With our winter caretaker.

Terrible.

For him...and his family.

JACK:

Mr. Ullman,

That incident at school

Was not my fault.

And I hear that the dean

Already wants me back.

And the drinking?

Officially retired.

Didn't bring the poison with me—

And hope there's none here.

ULLMAN:

Dry as a bone.

[Lights up on the kitchen with Hallorann, Wendy and Danny. These scenes play simultaneously.]

JACK:

All will be fine.
Don't you worry,
Mr. Ullman,
All will be fine.
I've got my play to write,
And Danny's got his reading,
Wendy's got her hands full
With the two of us.
All will be fine.
All will be fine.

HALLORANN: *[Over above.]*

All will be fine, all will be fine.
Don't you fret none, Mrs. Torrance,
Don't you worry, ma'am.
All will be fine.
The food in here could feed
Your family for a decade,
Everything you need
Is here.
All will be fine.

ULLMAN:

Well, it's too late now anyway.
[Watson enters the caretaker's quarters.]
Watson will show you the boiler.
I will say good-bye
Before I go.

[Watson and Jack leave. Lights down on caretaker's quarters.]

HALLORANN: *[Showing Wendy and Danny around.]*

You got everything you could possibly need...
Including bread.
Thirty loaves of white, thirty of dark.
We try to keep a racial balance here.
A Thanksgiving turkey,
A Christmas ham,
A leg of lamb for Easter.

[To Danny.]

You like lamb, Doc?

DANNY:

I think so.

WENDY:

How did you know that
We call him "Doc?"

HALLORANN:

Looks like a "Doc," I guess.
Last chance, Doc.
Coming to Florida with me?

DANNY:

Better not.

HALLORANN:

Well, then, can you help me with my bags?

[Lights up on Jack and Watson in the basement at the boiler, Watson demonstrating how to empty its pressure.]

WENDY:

As long as he zips his jacket.

HALLORANN:

All will be fine, Mrs. Torrance...

WENDY:

Wendy...

HALLORANN:

All will be fine, Wendy.
Before you know it,
Spring will be here.
Before you know it.
The snow will melt
And little green things
Will pop up all over.

WATSON: *[Over above.]*

All will be fine, Mr. Torrance,
Long as you do this,
All will be fine.
Remember,
She creeps.
Remember, she creeps, she creeps.

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

I hope so.
I'll find my husband
And meet you out front.

WATSON: *[Pointing at a gauge.]*

So you got to empty her
Twice a day, twice a day.
If'n you don't, you and your family
Will be blown sky-high.

[Danny and Hallorann exit, as does Wendy. Lights down on kitchen/pantry.]

WATSON:

I tell you,
This basement gives me the willies.

JACK:

What's in all these boxes?

WATSON:

Clippings, letters,
Old crap like that.
Hotels got secrets,
Lots of them.
People come,
People go.

JACK:

Heard about the caretaker...

WATSON:

Delbert Grady.
Horrible mess.
Here with two daughters
And a wife.
Goes amok,
Kills 'em all,
Takes his own life.

[Jack gestures to Watson to go on.]

That ain't all...
Mrs. Massey...
Fancy old broad.
Brings her young buck here.
Then he leaves,
She takes pills,
Slices her wrists,
In the bathtub.
Oh and a senator—
Goes to Jesus
In a bra and panties.

JACK:

No joke!

WATSON:

You got it with the boiler?

JACK:

Yes, Sir.
Empty her
Twice a day.
If'n you don't...

[They both make a gesture like an explosion. Watson and Jack turn to leave. Jack looks back at the boxes, which suddenly glow from inside. Lights up on the hotel porch. Danny and Hallorann sit.]

HALLORANN:

Here we are.
[He takes Danny's hands.]

I want to tell you something,
Need to tell you, Doc:
You're not alone.
Not alone.

There's others out there like you,
Others with a knack,
The same as you,
Same as you.

My Grandma had it.
We could talk for hours,
Without a word.
The Bible calls it visions,
Science: precognition,
She called it "the shining."

It sure is lonely at times,
Mighty scary too.
But tough as it is,
Remember to:
Keep shining on,
Keep shining on,
No matter what.
Shine on...

[Hallorann lets go of Danny's hands and stands.]

Hey, Doc.
How hard can you hit?
Give me a blast.
Show me what you can do.

DANNY:

Hit?

HALLORANN:

Think as hard as you can.

[Danny closes his eyes. The music builds; an offstage ensemble of voices hit a long and piercing note. The light suddenly changes violently and Hallorann is thrown back on the ground, grabbing his heart.]

HALLORANN: *[Slightly dazed.]*

Whoa! I knew it.

DANNY: *[Running to him.]*

Sorry! I didn't mean to—

HALLORANN: *[Standing, brushing off.]*

I'm okay.

Do you dream a lot, Doc?

DANNY:

Sometimes...

HALLORANN:

Nightmares?

DANNY:

The bad kind.

But please don't tell Daddy.

Please—

HALLORANN:

Not a word, Doc.

[Hallorann makes a "cross your heart" gesture; Danny repeats it. Lights down on them. In the ballroom, Jack encounters Wendy.]

WENDY/JACK: *[Simultaneously.]*

There you are.

[They laugh at saying the same thing to each other at the same time.]

I've been looking—

[They laugh at saying the same thing to each other again.]

JACK:

Where's Danny?

WENDY:

With Hallorann, the cook.

[Jack lifts Wendy's arms in a dance pose.]

JACK:

May I have this dance, Madame?

WENDY:

Of course, Monsieur.

[Jack spins Wendy around once, bends her over and kisses her. Fade. Lights back up on Hallorann and Danny.]

HALLORANN:

And if you *do* see something,
In the hotel,
In a room or hallway,
Just look the other way
And it'll be gone.
Gone.
You control the shining.
Remember that.
One more thing:
You run into trouble,
Give me a great big holler,
Like you just did.
Holler for Hallorann.
I know I'll hear you
Even down in St. Pete's.
Got that?

[Danny nods. Jack and Wendy enter, followed separately by Ullman and Watson.]

HALLORANN:

Remember what I said.
Holler for...

DANNY:

Hallorann.

WENDY: *[Smiling to Danny.]*

What were you two talking about?

DANNY:

Not much.

[The following exchanges overlap and are very animated.]

WATSON:

Have a good winter.
Twice a day.
All will be fine.

JACK: *[To Ullman, Watson, and Hallorann, shaking hands.]*

Your hotel will be here in the Spring.
Twice a day.
Nothing to worry about.
So long.

ULLMAN: *[To Jack, Wendy, Danny, with above.]*

I hope so.
Best of luck.
Be good, Danny.

WENDY: *[To Ullman, Watson, and Hallorann, with above.]*

Safe travels.
Enjoy the beach.
So long.

HALLORANN: *[To Wendy, Jack and Danny, with above.]*

Mr. Torrance, Wendy.
Look after them, Danny.
Remember, remember what I said, remember...
See you in the Spring.

[Hallorann, Ullman and Watson leave. Wendy, Jack and Danny look after them. A long, disconcerting pause. Jack takes his wife's and son's hands.]

JACK:

Let's go in.

[The hotel seems to swallow them.]

[End Scene 2.]

Orchestral Interlude #2

Danny wanders through the hotel. He passes by Room 217 and pauses. Jack types away on a typewriter; removes a page, reads it, smiles in satisfaction and lays it on a small stack. Wendy knits, holds up a scarf, smiles. Danny shudders and runs away quickly from the door to Room 217.

Scene 3.

[One evening a few weeks later, mid-October. The caretaker's quarters. Wendy reads to Danny from Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island while Jack clatters away at a typewriter.]

WENDY:

“So there we had to stay—
My mother almost entirely exposed,
And both of us within...”

[Wendy points to a word in the book for Danny to read.]

What word is that?

DANNY: *[Figuring out the word.]*

Eeeear...shshshshot.

WENDY: *[Finishing reading.]*

Very good.

“Earshot...of the inn.”

[She snaps the book shut decisively.]

End of chapter.

Enough of *Treasure Island*, my buccaneer!

Time for bed.

Kiss Daddy “good night.”

And I'll come and tuck you in.

[Danny runs into the area where Jack is typing and jumps on his lap. Wendy looks on from the other room.]

WENDY:

I never stopped loving you...

JACK:

Give your old man a hug, Danny.

[Danny leaps up onto Jack's lap and hugs him.]

Now get ready for bed.

And never forget

How much your father loves you.

Never forget that, son.

[Danny crosses his heart and goes into the bathroom, leaving the bathroom door open. Jack remains at his typewriter.]

WENDY:

I never stopped loving you.

Never.

Even in the darkest days,

Our hardest times,

When you drank,

When you lost your job,

When you weren't around,

When I thought it had to end,

I never stopped loving you.

Not once.

WENDY:

And now that love
Is rewarding us,
Paying us back,
With moments like these,
Moments like these...
When life just seems to
Rise right up,
Right up,
And smile.

[Wendy stands and goes to Jack.]

Hey, Mr. Shakespeare,
Fancy meeting you here.

JACK:

I prithee come hither, Milady.

WENDY:

I love you.

[They kiss lightly. Behind them, the door to the bathroom closes suddenly.]

JACK:

And I love you.

[They kiss more deeply, for a longer time.]

WENDY:

Pen your next brilliant line,
While I tuck Danny in.
Then, it'll be your turn.

JACK:

For?

WENDY: *[Suggestively.]*

Tucking in.

[Jack resumes typing. Wendy goes toward the bathroom.]

WENDY:

Danny! Time for bed.

[There is no answer. Wendy is worried.]

Danny?

[No answer.]

Open the door, Danny.

[She knocks. No answer. She knocks again.]

Danny. Open the door.

[She knocks again, insistently.]

Danny! Danny!

JACK:

Jesus Christ, Wendy.
I can't think!

WENDY:

Danny's locked himself in.
He won't answer.

[Jack runs to the bathroom and knocks on the door.]

JACK:

Danny!

WENDY:

Danny!

JACK:

Open the door.
Right now.
Bedtime is bedtime, Doc!
You'll get a spanking
If you don't open up!
Danny!

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Danny!
Open up!
Right now!
Don't threaten him, Jack.

WENDY:

Break the lock.

[Jack hesitates.]

Quick.

JACK/WENDY:

Danny! Danny!

[Jack smashes the lock and opens the door. He rushes in and removes Danny, who is nearly comatose.]

DANNY: *[Foaming at the mouth.]*

Bad stuff. Bad. Bam. Daddy.
Red—

WENDY:

Oh, Jack, what's wrong with him?

JACK: *[Shaking Danny rather strongly.]*

Danny! Danny!

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Don't shake him.
Jack, you're hurting him,
Like you did before.

[Jack and Wendy argue. The following exchange overlaps heatedly.]

JACK:

Like I did before?
Like I did before?
Did you say that?
Yes you did. Nice!
This is exactly the time.
How many times do I
Have to ask you to forgive me
For breaking his arm?

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

I didn't mean—
Jack this is not the time.
Jack, please.
This is not the time.
This is about Danny right now.
Can we not fight?

[Danny suddenly puts his hands over his ears and screams, with the ensemble of offstage voices.]

DANNY:

STOP!
[Suddenly coming to.]
I don't know. I don't know.
What did I say?
I'm sorry if I was bad.

[Danny breaks down in sobs.]

JACK/WENDY:

No, Doc, it's okay, it's okay.
Everything is okay.

WENDY: *[To Jack, as she lifts Danny and takes him to bed.]*

Tomorrow, first thing.
I'm taking him to the doctor,
Down in Sidewinder.
First thing.

JACK: *[To Danny.]*

I—I didn't mean to scare you.

[Wendy tucks Danny into bed. She sings him a lullaby.]

WENDY:

Time for bed, my child,
Not a peep.
Leave your tangled care
And go to sleep.

[As Wendy sings the lullaby, Jack recalls a memory of childhood abuse by his own father, Mark Torrance, during bedtime. Mark appears in a vision, brandishing a cane.]

WENDY:

May your dreams
Be filled with delight,
May they comfort you
Through the night.
Come the morrow,
A new day will break.
And we will be here
When you wake.
We will be here
When you wake.

MARK: *[Over above.]*

It's bedtime for Jacky.
Bedtime for my little boy.
Where is Daddy's cane?
Daddy needs his cane,
And Jacky needs a lesson
Like all my goddamn family.
Sweet dreams, Jacky Boy!
Sweet dreams, little pup!
Little whelp! Little bastard!
My son!

JACK: *[Over above.]*

Daddy stop, Daddy stop!
You're hurting Mommy.
Daddy stop, Daddy stop!
You're hurting Mommy.
No, don't. Don't.
No, don't.

[The cane comes down. Jack is shaken, but listens to Wendy's last lines in the lullaby and is calmed.]

WENDY:

Time for bed, my child,
Not a peep.
Leave your tangled care
And go to sleep.

[Wendy signals that Danny is asleep. Jack and Wendy kiss his forehead lightly and tiptoe out of the room. When they reach the door, Danny sits up suddenly.]

DANNY:

Daddy, you'd never hurt Mommy, would you?

JACK:

No.

DANNY:

Or me?

JACK:

Never. Now go to sleep.

[Wendy and Jack turn to leave.]

DANNY:

What's "redrum?"

WENDY:

"Red rum?"

It sounds like a pirate drink:

"Yo ho ho and a bottle of redrum!"

JACK:

No more *Treasure Island* before bedtime.

Now sleep, Danny, sleep.

WENDY:

Lights out...

JACK/WENDY:

Good night.

[Jack and Wendy leave Danny's room. He starts to sleep. Then suddenly rises up in bed as if seeing something terrifying. Blackout.]

[End Scene 3.]

Scene 4.

[A week later, the basement. Jack stands in front of the boiler imitating Watson.]

JACK:

"She creeps.

She creeps.

Got to empty her

Twice a day...

JACK:

If'n you don't, you and your family
Will be blown sky-high."

[Suddenly a shaft of light hits the boxes of hotel records.]

What have we here?

Maybe some dirt

On your precious Overlook,

Mr. Ullman,

You officious little prick.

Invoices...

"May 25th, 1947

45 Customized Croquet Mallets..."

"August 4th, 1963.

15 Crates Gilbey's Gin..."

[Muttering to himself.]

Hold on, Jacky Boy.

[He goes through another box.]

There's more.

[Goes through another box.]

What's this?

[Blowing dust off of a book and opening it.]

A scrapbook.

[He leafs through the book reading headlines.]

"1945.

Posh Hotel Reopens with Stellar Clientele.

"1963.

Las Vegas Group Buys Famed Colorado Hotel.

Millionaire Derwent Back in Colorado."

[Suddenly excited.]

Here we go...

"1964.

Mafia in the Mountains?

Mob overlords staying..."

"'66.

Gangland Style Shooting at Colorado Hotel.

Bloodbath in Presidential Suite."

[As Jack reads, offstage voices reenact what he is reading about. A door knocks loudly.]

JACK:

"Baby Charlie' Battaglia...

Peter Zeiss...

Vito 'The Chopper' Girenelli...

Tommy guns."

MAFIA GUY #1: *[Over above.]*

Room Service!

MAFIA GUY #2: *[Over above.]*

Come in.

MAFIA GUY #3: *[Over above.]*

Payback time!

MAFIA GUY #2: *[Over above.]*

Hey, you can't—

[Machine gun shots. Screams. Running. Jack leafs through the book again.]

JACK:

Ah, Delbert Grady.

“Winter Caretaker Murders His Family.

Tragedy at Overlook Hotel.”

May 15th, 1970.

[As he reads, offstage voices reenact the scene.]

JACK: *[Reading.]*

Delbert Grady...

And his wife,

Anna Mae...

Found frozen...

GRADY: *[Over above.]*

My lovely daughters need

Their manners corrected.

GRADY GIRLS: *[Over above.]*

Daddy?!

Bye, Baby Bunting

Daddy's gone a hunting,

Gone to get a rabbit skin

To wrap the baby bunting in.

ANNA MAE GRADY: *[Over above.]*

Delbert!

[A gunshot.]

GRADY:

As do yours.

[Sound of another gunshot. Jack is feverish. He is becoming obsessed.]

JACK:

“1973.

Mrs. Enid Massey Dies After Long Illness.

[As Jack reads, an offstage voice reenacts the scene. Sound of dripping water.]

JACK:

“...Staying at the
Overlook Hotel.”
I’ll bet that’s
The “society broad.”
Died in the bathtub
Mr. Ullman had it
All covered up.
He covered it up.

MRS. MASSEY: *[Over above.]*

I knew you’d never leave me, Tommy.
All is forgiven.
Let’s go to bed. Let’s go to bed.
I knew you’d come back to me, lover.

JACK:

Wow, what a story.
But who kept this scrapbook?
Who made it?
Left it here?
No name.

[Reading.]

“The Manager?”

[A slip of paper suddenly flies from the scrapbook. Jack reads it.]

“Horace M. Derwent Requests
The Pleasure of Your Company
At a Masked Ball to Celebrate
The Grand Opening of
The Overlook Hotel.
Dinner At Eight.
Unmasking and Dancing at Midnight.
August 29th, 1945. RSVP...”

[Offstage voices reenact the scene. A party before midnight. Someone imitates a dog barking. A band strikes up and a song of the day is heard.]

JACK:

’45... War over.
God blessed America!

[A distorted gong strikes midnight.]

While Horace Derwent
Was working on
A tax dodge,
A warehouse,
And a mob playground,
All rolled into one.

HORACE DERWENT: *[Over above.]*

Unmask! Everyone, unmask!

PARTYGOERS: *[Over above.]*

Three, two, one...

CROONER: *[Over above.]*

I am yours
And you are mine,
Forever and a day,
Forever and a day,
We'll never, never part.
Bright as gold
Our love will shine,
Forever and a day...

[Jack snaps the book shut and the party sounds go away. He looks up.]

JACK:

God what a story.
One hell of a story.
All here.
In this book,
In these empty rooms,
Above my head.
Secrets, scandals, suicide, murder.
All here.
In the Overlook's "great and honorable past."
Screaming to come to life.
Screaming to be told.
And I'm just the man to tell it.
They want me.
They chose me.
Screw the play.
Here is the story.
The real story.
They chose *me*.

[Jack is about to leave with the scrapbook and few clippings. All the voices start again.]

MRS. MASSEY:

Let's go to bed, lover.
Let's go to bed, darling.

CROONER: *[Over above.]*

We'll never, never part
I am yours, and you are mine—

DERWENT: *[Over above.]*

Unmask! Everyone, unmask!

GRADY GIRLS: *[Over above.]*

Bye baby bunting
Daddy's gone a-hunting.

PARTYGOERS: *[Over above.]*

Three, two, one!

GRADY: *[Over above.]*

My daughters need correcting.

JACK:

Wendy?
Is that you?
Danny?
Who's there?

[He turns and freezes. A double-sized croquet mallet gleams in the light. Blackout.]

[End Scene 4.]

Scene 5.

[Very early evening, caretaker's quarters. Wendy and Danny have returned from the doctor in Sidewinder.]

WENDY:

Doc, you always seem to know.
How is Daddy?

DANNY:

Worried.
About us.

WENDY:

Is he drinking?

DANNY:

No.

WENDY:

Is he okay?

DANNY:

The hotel...It's getting inside him...

WENDY:

Inside him?
What does that mean?
Maybe we should leave...

DANNY:

No. He won't love us anymore.

WENDY:

Daddy loves you.
With all his heart.
He tries very hard.
Because he loves you.
Loves us.
Let's be strong,
Strong for him.

[Suddenly, Jack appears with the scrapbook.]

JACK:

Boo!

[Wendy and Danny are startled. Jack runs into the room. He puts the scrapbook down and tickles Danny who giggles joyfully and picks up Wendy in his arms and twirls her about.]

JACK:

Upsy-daisy!
"I am yours
And you are mine,
Forever and a day..."

WENDY: *[Smiling.]*

Jack!
Put me down!

DANNY:

Daddy!
Let me! Let me!

[Jack lets Wendy down.]

JACK:

Whatever you say, Milady!

WENDY:

Great news.
Danny got
A clean bill of health.
All is fine.

JACK:

Congrats, Doc!

[Jack picks up Danny and spins him around.]

WENDY: [*Referring to the scrapbook.*]
What's this?

JACK:
A scrapbook.
Found it in the basement.
The seeds of
My next opus.
I'm starting a book:
An exposé
About the hotel.

[*Wendy glances at Danny.*]

WENDY:
And your play?

JACK:
That can wait.
This is here and now.

WENDY: [*To Danny.*]
Danny, go wash up for supper.

[*Danny nods in assent and leaves.*]

JACK: [*Looking after Danny affectionately.*]
We don't deserve that kid.

WENDY:
Jack, maybe we should reconsider.
Reconsider staying here.

JACK:
Wendy, we can't leave!

WENDY:
I'm sorry,
But I worry,
I worry about our son.

JACK:
Like *I* don't?

WENDY:
He's little,
And so fragile,
Unlike the other boys.
I worry about
Him riding a bike...

JACK:

I worry about
Providing for him...

WENDY:

His nightmares...

JACK:

Paying for school,

WENDY:

His health,

JACK:

His future,

JACK/WENDY:

I worry, we worry.

JACK:

Look, if anything ever happened
To the two of you,
I could never live with myself.
But without this job,
We're done.
Done.
It's our only hope.
If I fail at this,
We'll never recover.
Never.
Capiche?

WENDY: [*Relenting.*]

I'll make dinner.

JACK: [*Slyly.*]

How's about a little dessert later?

[They kiss. Wendy leaves. Jack peers back into the scrapbook, removes a large clipping and pins it to the bulletin board of his desk.]

[End Scene 5.]

Orchestral Interlude #3

Danny again approaches Room 217. He cups his ear to listen and looks under the door. Wendy knits, holds up a scarf (which is now finished) and smiles. Jack continues to work, clipping more scrapbooks from his desk now cluttered with them. He sorts through them, then types again. Danny again runs away from the door to Room 217.

Scene 6.

[Early November, the caretaker's quarters/various areas around the hotel. Quiet. Jack is at his desk looking off, not writing. His desk is now covered with clippings from the scrapbooks. Wendy is asleep. Suddenly, there is a brief blast of a big band playing, party noises, a gunshot, the elevator jolting and stopping.]

WENDY: *[Jumping up in bed.]*

Jack? What was that?

JACK:

Just the elevator.

WENDY:

Just the elevator?

JACK:

Probably a short.

[Danny enters in his PJs, panicking.]

DANNY:

Daddy? Mommy?

[Jack stands to go.]

WENDY:

Don't leave us.

JACK: *[Irritably.]*

It's my goddamn job, Wendy.

When will you understand that?

Sorry. I'll be back.

[Jack looks around the hotel, a flashlight guiding his way. He checks the elevator. Rattles it. Nothing. He goes to the office, peers in. Nothing. He enters the ballroom. Looks around. Nothing. He turns. Suddenly, laughter and the sound of a party jolt the air; Jack turns quickly and sees a full bar with up-lit bottles. He recoils backwards and falls to the ground. He gets up, and the bar and the noise are gone. He sees a dog mask on a chair. When he picks it up, it flies from his hands and disappears. He turns and sees a shaft of light shining on the double-sized croquet mallet. He goes over to it. Suddenly, the sound of the party starts again. He picks up the mallet and swings it around. The party stops. Jack is shaken by what he's seen but tries to gain control again.]

JACK:

Hold on, Jacky Boy.

Careful there.

Can't let your imagination

Get the better of you.

[He gathers himself, wipes off his brow and is about to leave. Then, he picks up the mallet and returns to the caretaker's quarters.]

JACK: [*Dismissively, to Wendy.*]

Just as I thought.
A short circuit.

WENDY:

But I thought I heard people.
A party—

JACK: [*Like WC Fields or Groucho Marx.*]

Sorry, my dear.
We're the only party here.

WENDY: [*Pointing to the mallet.*]

What's that?

JACK:

A little insurance.

WENDY: [*Concerned.*]

Jack... We should leave.
Before it's too late.

JACK:

We're not leaving,
And that's that.

WENDY:

Something's not right here.
Something's not—

JACK:

When I say it's nothing,
It's nothing.
Are you finished scaring our son?

WENDY: [*Hurt.*]

Jack!

JACK:

I need to get back to work.

WENDY: [*She tries to comfort Danny by singing the lullaby again.*]

...Come the morrow,
A new day will break.
And we will be here
When you wake.
We will be here
When you wake.

[Jack returns to his typewriter. He tries to work but is very agitated. He mimes holding a drink and toasting it. Then he shudders. A vision of his father Mark appears, brandishing a cane. Jack picks up the mallet and mimes bringing it down on his typewriter the same time Mark does. Jack sits back down and looks off.]

[Blackout. End Scene 6.]

Orchestral Interlude #4

A few weeks later. Danny again approaches Room 217 (wearing the scarf Wendy has knit for him), but this time he has a key in his hand. He opens the door to the room and goes inside; through another door is a bathroom with a tub and a closed shower curtain. He walks into the bathroom, goes to the tub, reaches up to open the shower curtain. Then stops. He then reaches up again. A hand grabs his and the shower curtain opens; a naked lady with rotting flesh stands up in the tub while Danny struggles to break free. Lights out and lights up quickly on Scene 7.

Scene 7.

[Mid-November, the office of the Overlook, and later, the entire hotel. Jack enters and turns on the CB radio. He is extremely agitated.]

VOICE ON CB RADIO: *[Spoken through static.]*

“Overlook...you there? Ranger Andrew Johns here. Looks like one helluva blizzard comin’ our way. You there? Overlook? Batten down the hatches! Overlook? You there?”

JACK: *[Over above, ignoring the radio.]*

God, just one little drink.
One little drop.
One tiny sip,
Of one little martini.
Right now!
Stop it, Jacky Boy.
Losing it.
And it’s only November.

[Finally addressing the CB radio.]

Yes, Sir.
Snug as bugs in a rug.
Over and out.

[Suddenly, Mark Torrance’s voice booms from the CB radio.]

MARK TORRANCE:

KILL HIM.

JACK:

Dad?

MARK TORRANCE:

Have a drink, Jacky Boy,
And kill him.
Kill that bitch.
Kill her, too!
Kill the both of them.
That boy has disobeyed you.
He's gone where you
Told him not to go.
And he must pay.
He needs to be corrected.
They need to be—

[Jack rises and smashes the CB radio to pieces with the mallet.]

JACK:

No!
Dead! You're dead!
No!

WENDY: *[Rushing in.]*

Jack? Jack!

[Jack snaps out of his trance.]

JACK:

Wendy?

WENDY:

What happened!

JACK:

A dream.
I guess it was a dream.
My father...
He was screaming at me!
I had to break the radio
To shut him up.
To kill him.

[Jack starts to weep.]

I had to.
I had to.

WENDY:

But that was our only link
To the outside world.
Our only link—

JACK:

I had to.

WENDY: *[Suddenly.]*
Where's Danny?

JACK:
I thought he was with you.

WENDY:
My God.
We have to find him.

[They open the door to the office and Danny stands there in a comatose state. He has bruises on his neck and streaks of lipstick on his face; his clothing is also wet.]

WENDY:
DANNY!

JACK:
Danny! What happened??
Who did this to—

[Jack starts to pick Danny up. Wendy steps in front of him.]

WENDY:
Don't touch him!

JACK:
You don't think I did this!

WENDY:
Don't!

DANNY:
The dead lady...
The dead lady...
Kissed me.

WENDY:
He's got bruises around his neck.
And...lipstick marks?

DANNY: *[Numbly, with offstage voices.]*
The dead...lady...
She kissed me.

WENDY:
His clothes are all wet.

JACK:
You'll never let me forget
What I did, will you?
I never touched him!

JACK:

Lipstick? Maybe it was *you*?

WENDY:

Jack!

How can you say that?

JACK:

Now you know what it's like.

WENDY:

It doesn't matter.

JACK:

Of course it matters!

[Danny breaks down in sobs.]

WENDY:

We have to get out of here.

We have to leave.

[Consoling Danny.]

It's all right, Doc.

It's all right.

We have to leave.

Look at your son, Jack!

Look at him.

[To Danny.]

It's all right now, Doc.

[To Jack.]

Something is trying

To get him.

Something inside

This hotel.

We have to leave.

JACK: *[Over above.]*

Leave?

A blizzard's coming!

Will you think?

For once in your goddamn life...

Will you think?

[Mimicking her.]

"Look at your son, Jack,

Look at your son..."

You never fucking get it.

A blizzard is on the way

You have to trust me.

I'm not Superman!

Trust me, Wendy, please.

WENDY:

Right. You're not Superman,
You are my husband.

[Jack gathers his family and corrals them downstage with his arms around them. As he does, the entire structure of the hotel gradually falls apart, melts and distorts.]

JACK:

I am the husband,
I am the father,
You are my family,
I am the provider,
And the protector.

[To Wendy.]

I am your husband,

[To Danny.]

I am your father,
I will defend you.
As long as I am living,
I will protect you.

[The entire ensemble of apparitions slowly creeps in—one by one—and sings over him.]

JACK:

Rely on me,
You can count on me.
Heed me, mind me,
Rely on me.
I will protect you.
Rely on me,
You can count on me
As long as I'm living,
I will protect you,
Don't worry,
I will protect you.
All will be fine.
Rely on me.
You can count on me.
As long as I'm living,
I will protect you.
All will be fine!

LLOYD: *[Over above.]*

What will it be, Mr. Torrance?
What will it be, Sir?
What'll it be?
What'll it be, Mr. Torrance?
What'll it be?
Take your time.
We got all the time in the world.

LLOYD: *[Over above.]*

All the time in the world.
 What'll it be, Mr. Torrance?
 We got all the time in the world.

GRADY: *[Over above.]*

My daughters,
 My daughters need
 Their manners corrected.
 My daughters need to be corrected.
 I've got to correct them.
 My daughters need correcting!
 You have my heart.

GRADY GIRLS: *[Over above.]*

Daddy!
 Bye, Baby Bunting,
 Daddy's gone a-hunting,
 Gone to get a rabbit skin.
 Daddy's gone a hunting.
 You have my heart.

ANNA MAE GRADY: *[Over above.]*

Delbert, Delbert, NO!
 Delbert, what have you done?
 Delbert, Delbert, NO!
 What have you done, Delbert?
 NO!

MRS. MASSEY: *[Over above.]*

I knew you'd never leave me, lover.
 All is forgiven.
 Let's go to bed,
 Let's go to bed.
 I knew you'd never leave me.
 All is forgiven, lover boy.
 Let's go to bed.
 You have my heart.

PARTYGOERS: *[Over above.]*

Three, two, one... Three, two, one... Three, two, one...

HORACE DERWENT: *[Over above, later with dog mask.]*

Unmask! Everyone, unmask!
 Woof! Woof! Woof!
 Anything you say, Master!
 Woof! Woof!

CROONER: *[Over above.]*

I am yours,
And you are mine,
Forever and a day.
Forever and a day,
We'll never, never part.
Bright as gold,
Our love will shine,
Forever and a day.
Forever and a day,
You have my heart.

CROSSDRESSING SENATOR: *[Over above.]*

Don't I look pretty? Gosh, I'm so pretty!
As your senator,
I promise to protect your children
Against the moral decay of our times.
I promise you!
And by the way,
Don't you think I look pretty?
Gosh, I'm so pretty?
Whaddya think?
Does this make me look fat?
You have my heart.

MAFIA GUYS: *[Over above.]*

Come in.
Payback time!
Hey, you can't—
You have my heart.

PARTYGOERS: *[Over above.]*

Three! Two! One! YAY!
Forever and a day,
Forever and a day,
Forever and a day,
We'll never, never part.
Bright as gold.
Our love will shine.
Forever and a day,
Forever and a day,
You have my heart.

[The music reaches a climax and stops suddenly as everyone freezes. It begins to snow.]

DANNY:

Hallorann.
Come quick!

[Curtain. End Act One.]

ACT TWO

Scene 1.

[Some days later, the basement. Jack shuffles on, disheveled and unshaven.]

JACK:

“She creeps.
She creeps.
Got to empty her
Twice a day...
If’n you don’t, you and your family
Will be blown sky-high.”

[Jack turns the lever, then stops.]

Maybe I should let it go.
Maybe, maybe let it blow sky-high.
The whole goddamn hotel.
Find a way to get
Wendy and Danny out of here,
Then, “boom!”
And I’ll go with it!
Why the hell not?
They could start a new life,
A new life
Without me.
Which is what they want anyway.
A new life
Without me.
A failure
As a father, husband, teacher, writer,
A failure.
Even as a drunk.
God, what I’d not give,
Not give—
For one little drink.
Just to ease the pain.
One little eensy weensy goddamn...

[Shouting out to the hotel.]

I just saved your life, you ungrateful hotel!
Don’t I deserve a reward?

[Grady appears in a tuxedo and tails.]

GRADY:

Here you are, Mr. Torrance.
We’re waiting for you upstairs...

JACK: *[Through bleary eyes.]*

Waiting?

GRADY:

To join the party.

JACK:

And you are...?

GRADY: [*As if Jack should know.*]

Grady. Delbert Grady.

JACK:

The caretaker?

GRADY:

The caretaker would be you, Mr. Torrance.
You have always been the caretaker.

JACK:

But your wife...your daughters.
Didn't you—

GRADY:

My wife is baking cookies.
My daughters are napping.

JACK:

But you killed them.

GRADY:

Not that I know of, Sir.
But perhaps you should ask your son.
He seems to know everything.
If I may be so bold, Mr. Torrance.
He needs to be corrected.
Needs a good talking-to.
Perhaps more.
My own girls needed correcting.
And that upset my wife,
So I corrected her.

[*Taking Jack aside.*]

We husbands and fathers
Have responsibilities,
Certain responsibilities
To correct the errors of our loved ones.
Certain responsibilities, don't we, Sir?
They must be taught
To respect the Overlook.
They must be shown
The errors of their ways.
Agreed?

JACK: *[Over above.]*

We husbands and fathers
Have responsibilities,
Certain responsibilities,
We husbands and fathers,
Yes, that's right. Indeed.
Indeed we do, Grady.
They must be shown
The errors of their ways.
They must be taught.
Agreed.

GRADY:

When you're done here,
Mr. Torrance,
Come join the party.
I guarantee
You'll be amply rewarded.

[Grady disappears.]

JACK:

We husbands and fathers
Have responsibilities,
Certain responsibilities,
We husbands and fathers.
Indeed we do.

[Blackout. End Scene 1.]

Scene 2.

[Danny and Wendy in the kitchen, a few minutes later. Wendy prepares chocolate milk and cookies for Danny.]

WENDY: *[Looking out the window.]*

All that snow!
Never ends!

[To Danny.]

Doing okay, Doc?

[Danny nods yes, halfheartedly.]

Daddy says
The park rangers will find out
We're not on the CB radio
And they'll check in on us.
Very soon.

DANNY: *[Suddenly having a vision.]*

They got him.

WENDY:

Got him?

DANNY:

Daddy.

They got him.

The people in the hotel.

And they want you

And they want me.

WENDY: *[Alarmed.]*

For what? Danny!

[Danny won't answer.]

For what??

Danny, tell me, tell me!

DANNY:

I don't know.

Bad stuff.

Sorry, Mommy.

[Danny breaks down in tears.]

WENDY:

It's all right, Doc.

All will be fine, Doc.

All will be fine.

If the rangers don't save us,

Someone will.

Hold on for me, Doc

Be brave for me.

I am sure we'll escape here

Very soon.

And do you know

What we'll do next Spring?

The three of us?

We'll go fishing.

We'll get a boat

And go fishing,

Just like we did last year.

Maybe we won't catch a thing.

But we'll have a good time.

A wonderful time.

I know

We will.

All will be fine, Doc.

All will be fine.

WENDY:

If the rangers don't save us,
Someone will.
Someone, someone, someone will.

[Noticing Danny's distress.]

Where is Daddy right now?

[Danny points downstairs to indicate the basement.]

The ballroom?

I'll go find him.

You stay here.

And don't move.

[There is a loud shriek of wind. Wendy is jolted.]

That wind—when will it ever stop?

And that snow.

When will it end?

[Wendy leaves.]

[Fade. End Scene 2.]

Scene 3.

[The ballroom, a little later. Jack stumbles in. He is gone. He turns and sees the full bar he saw before, along with Lloyd, the bartender.]

LLOYD:

What will it be, Mr. Torrance?

JACK: *[Sardonically.]*

Glad you asked, Lloyd.
Set me up with twenty martians,
One for every month on the wagon.
And one to grow on.

LLOYD:

Right away, Mr. Torrance.

[Lloyd prepares martinis.]

JACK:

Good man.

[Jack looks for his wallet and comes up with nothing.]

Seems my bitch of a wife
Has absconded with my funds, Lloyd.

LLOYD:

No charge, Mr. Torrance.
Orders from The Manager.

JACK:

The Manager? Where is “The Manager?”

LLOYD:

In due time, Sir.
Here’s to your son.

JACK: *[Suddenly gripped with terror.]*

What do you want with my son?
Danny’s not involved, is he?

LLOYD:

Enjoy your drink, Mr. Torrance.

PARTYGOERS: *[Offstage.]*

Three two one.
Three two one.
Three two one.

DERWENT: *[Offstage.]*

Unmask, unmask, everyone, unmask!

[Suddenly, the ballroom comes alive. Laughter, drinking, dancing; in masks and costumes. Derwent and Grady are in attendance, as are other apparitions. Derwent plays with a man in a dog mask as partygoers laugh.]

DERWENT:

Down little doggie.
Bad little doggie.
Roll over little doggie.

MAN IN DOG MASK:

Woof, woof.

[Jack moves among the partygoers as if one of them. They greet him by shaking hands or kissing him as he downs martini after martini.]

PARTYGOERS: *[Individually/layered.]*

So glad you could make it.
So glad you’re here.
Welcome, Mr. Torrance.
So happy to have you.
Welcome to the party, Mr. Torrance.
You look fantastic.
Sexy Mr. T!
So glad you’re here.
The life of the party!
Best man this hotel ever had.
If you’re free later, come up to my room.
What a guy! What a man!
The definition of success!
So glad you could make it, Mr. Torrance.

DERWENT: *[Appears on a platform before a microphone.]*

And now dear friends,

[The microphone emits a shriek of deafening feedback.]

We would like to do a little number on you.

I mean...*for* you.

[Laughter.]

Featuring a very special guest:

Mr. Mark Torrance.

JACK:

Dad?

MARK: *[Boisterously.]*

Hello, son!

[Derwent, Grady, Lloyd, and Mark Torrance stand on a platform before a microphone and sing the 1940s-style song.]

DERWENT, GRADY, LLOYD, AND MARK TORRANCE:

I am yours,

And you are mine,

Forever and a day.

Forever and a day,

We'll never, never part.

Yes, you may stray,

Very far away,

But you soon learn.

Our love is truly true,

Always sees us through.

[Jack mounts the stage and joins them. The partygoers applaud.]

DERWENT, GRADY, LLOYD, MARK AND JACK:

We'll be on

Our own cloud nine,

Forever and a day.

Forever and a day,

We'll never, never part.

JACK: *[Repeating.]*

Never, never, never, never...

[He reels and collapses. The party suddenly disappears. The ballroom is empty. Jack wakes up.]

Never...

Where did everyone go?

Grady? Lloyd?

[He collapses again. After a short pause, Wendy enters.]

WENDY:

Jack?

[No answer. She moves in closer.]

Are you in here?

[No answer. Moves in closer.]

Jack?

JACK: *[Waking.]*

Wendy, is that you, darling?

WENDY: *[She sees Jack on the floor and goes to him.]*

Oh, Jack!

Let me help you back to our room—

[Jack suddenly grabs Wendy's ankle violently. She shrieks.]

JACK:

May I have this dance, Madam?

WENDY:

Jack, I only want to help.

JACK: *[Trying to drag her down, mockingly.]*

You and Danny “only want to help!”

WENDY:

You're hurting my leg.

JACK:

I'll hurt more than that.

[Jack stands and approaches her menacingly. Wendy backs away.]

JACK:

You never loved me.

You only want us to leave

To just destroy me.

Did you ever think about

My responsibilities?

Why do you just drag me down.

Drag me down, drag me down.

The two of you planned it together—

You turned Danny against me.

And now he hates me.

That was your plan all along wasn't it?

Well, I'll fix you! I'll show you who's boss.

You must be corrected, Wendy.

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Stop it, Jack!
Please stop it.
You don't know what you're saying.
You're drunk.
I don't know how,
But you're drunk.
I never planned anything against you.
Nothing. You have to believe me!

[Wendy turns to run and Jack seizes her from the back and puts his hands around her throat. She screams.]

WENDY:

Jack, no.

JACK:

Corrected!

[Jack strangles Wendy. She gasps for air. Suddenly, Danny appears.]

DANNY:

Daddy, stop!
You're hurting Mommy.

[Danny rushes to Jack who cuffs him across the face. He falls. As he does, Wendy reaches behind her and seizes a bottle.]

JACK:

Little pup! Little whelp!
[Jack wraps both hands back around Wendy's neck.]
Now back to the business at hand...

[Wendy brings the bottle down on Jack's head. He collapses.]

WENDY: *[Gasping for air.]*

Danny.
We need to...
Put Daddy where the hotel
Can't hurt him.
Hurry, before he wakes up.

DANNY:

Okay, Mommy.

[Wendy and Danny start to drag Jack from the ballroom as lights fade.]

[End Scene 3.]

Scene 4.

[The kitchen/pantry. Wendy and Danny have dragged Jack just outside the pantry door. Jack starts to wake.]

WENDY:

Doc, hurry.
Get the lock.
He's waking.
Hurry.
Hurry, Doc!

JACK: *[Overlapping with above.]*

Is that you, Doc?

DANNY: *[Overlapping with above.]*

It's bedtime, Daddy.

JACK:

What are you two doing?

[Wendy and Danny have dragged Jack into the pantry. They run out just as Jack grabs Wendy's ankle. She screams.]

JACK:

Gotcha!

[She frees herself. Jack rises. They shut the door and bolt it just in time.]

JACK:

Damn you both.
Open this door.
Let me out.
Damn you both.
Danny, this is your father talking.
Open this door.
Mind your father, Danny!

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Danny, this is not your daddy talking.
This is not your father.
This is the hotel.

DANNY: *[Over above.]*

This is the hotel.

[Wendy grabs Danny's hand and are about to leave. But then she sees a big kitchen knife, grabs it and clutches it behind her back as they leave.]

JACK:

Open the door, Wendy!
Open the goddamn door.
I will get out and when I do
I'll bash your fucking brains in.
Wendy! Danny! You'll pay for this!
You'll pay for this, goddammit all!

[Grady suddenly appears on the other side of the door.]

GRADY:

No need to shout, old fellow.

JACK:

Grady?

GRADY:

You appear to be locked in.
And you didn't attend to
The business we discussed.

JACK:

Let me out, Grady.

GRADY: *[Belittlingly.]*

Tut, tut.
Locked in by a woman half your size
And a little boy.

JACK:

Let me out
And I'll take care of them.

GRADY:

Will you, Sir?
Doesn't seem so.
I—and the others—believe you
Don't have the belly for it.

JACK:

I do! I do! I swear it.

GRADY:

Will you bring us your son?

JACK:

I will.

GRADY:

I believe your wife will object.

JACK:

I'll make it so she
Won't be able to.
Now let me out.

GRADY:

May I have your word?

JACK:

My word, my promise, my sacred vow.
Now get me out of here.

GRADY:

Once again you disappoint us, Mr. Torrance.
You forget that there's a safety latch near the door.
That will let you undo the lock from the inside.

[Jack looks up and sees a small box with a latch. He opens it and presses it. The door unlocks. Grady has disappeared.]

JACK:

Thank you Grady. You won't regret it.

[Jack notices the mallet has been left for him. He picks it up and swings it, laughing victoriously. Blackout.]

[End Scene 4.]

Scene 5.

[Caretaker's quarters, a little later. Wendy and Danny are playing "Go Fish."]

WENDY:

Go fish.

[Danny draws a card; it makes a "book" and he places it down. He holds up his hands to show he is out of cards.]

You win!
Good going.
Time for dinner, Doc.

DANNY:

Mommy, don't go.

WENDY:

We can't starve, Danny.
Don't worry,
He can't hurt us now.

DANNY:

Don't go.

[Danny starts to cry.]

WENDY:

Oh, Doc.

I know you love your Daddy,

[Wendy dons the apron and with her back to Danny, checks to see if the knife is still there.]

But that man isn't your Daddy.

He isn't.

Promise me you'll stay right here.

Till I get back.

[Danny crosses his heart. Wendy leaves. Danny is engulfed by the sound of the wind. He suddenly has a dark vision.]

DANNY:

Mommy...Mommy...

[Danny leaves.]

[End Scene 5.]

Scene 6.

[The ballroom, directly after. Wendy enters. Grady's girls appear before her.]

GRADY GIRLS:

Bye, baby Bunting,

Daddy's gone a-hunting...

[They disappear.]

WENDY:

I don't see you.

You are not here.

[The Crossdressing Senator appears.]

CROSSDRESSING SENATOR:

Don't I look pretty?

Gosh, I'm so pretty!

[He disappears.]

WENDY:

I don't see you.

You're not here.

[Derwent and the man in the dog mask appear. The man has his nose in Derwent's crotch.]

DERWENT:

Down little doggie, good doggie.

WENDY:

You're not here. You're not here.

[Derwent and the man in the dog mask disappear. Jack jumps out from behind the bar and lunges at Wendy with the mallet. He lifts it up to strike her and she dodges it.]

JACK:

Thought you'd lock me in!
Thought you could
Outsmart me!

[Jack slams down the mallet again and misses her again.]

WENDY: *[Over above.]*

Jack! How did you get out?
How? No! Jack I'm your wife!

JACK:

You bitch!
You're gonna take your medicine now.

[Wendy pushes him and he falls. He bounds back up.]

I'll kill you for that.
I will kill you for that.

[Jack lunges at her again.]

WENDY:

Oh, God...forgive me.

[Wendy withdraws the kitchen knife and plunges it in Jack's back. He falls. She runs. A partygoer appears and stops her.]

PARTYGOER:

Terrific party, isn't it?

[Wendy runs. Jack rises with the knife still in his back and chases her.]

JACK:

Come back here.
Come back here, you bitch!
And take your medicine.
Wendy!
You can't hide from me!
Wendy!

[Blackout.]

[End Scene 6.]

Scene 7.

[Directly after, caretaker's quarters. Wendy runs in and locks the door behind her.]

WENDY: *[Searching for Danny.]*

Danny! Where are you!

Where are you, Danny?

[Jack enters and starts smashing the door with his mallet.]

Oh my God.

JACK:

Wendy! Come out here.

WENDY: *[Searching for a weapon.]*

Oh my God... Razors... Razors...

[Wendy runs into the bathroom and returns with razors.]

JACK:

Unlock this goddamn door!

You're gonna pay dearly, my dear!

My loving wife!

[Jack has almost beaten the door down. He reaches through to unlock it and Wendy slices his hands. Jack screams in pain. He tries again and Wendy slices his hands again. Grady and Derwent appear to Jack. He suddenly stops attacking the door.]

GRADY:

Get to her later.

DERWENT:

Get to her later.

WENDY: *[Staggering around, looking for another weapon.]*

Stay away.

DERWENT:

We need the boy.

GRADY:

We need the boy.

DERWENT:

And he brought in an outside party.

GRADY:

An outside party.

WENDY: *[Picking up a book and hurling it at him.]*
Just stay away, Jack.

DERWENT:
His friend...

GRADY:
The cook.

JACK:
Hallorann? Here?

WENDY: *[Realizing that Jack isn't responding.]*
Stay away.

DERWENT:
Yes, Hallorann.

GRADY:
The cook.

DERWENT:
He must not hinder us.

GRADY:
He must not hinder us.
The manager is deeply dismayed...

DERWENT:
Deeply dismayed...

GRADY/DERWENT:
With you.
As are all of us.

[Suddenly there is the grind of a Snowcat approaching—far off, then getting closer.]

WENDY: *[Fading.]*
Stay away...

JACK:
I will take care of this.

GRADY/DERWENT:
Undoubtedly, you will.

[Jack leaves with Grady and Derwent. Wendy hears the Snowcat.]

WENDY: *[Falling to her knees.]*

A snowcat!

The rangers!

Doc? Where are you?

Doc?

I'm sorry, Doc.

[Wendy collapses.]

[End Scene 7.]

Scene 8.

[The ballroom. Hallorann enters urgently, brushing snow off his parka and boots. He searches for Wendy and Danny.]

HALLORANN:

Mr. Torrance?

[Pause.]

Mrs. Torrance? Danny? Doc? You here?

[Pause.]

Came all the way from St. Pete's...

[Jack appears with his mallet behind his back.]

JACK: *[Smiling, genteel.]*

Hallorann!

Just the man I've been looking for.

HALLORANN: *[Looking in disbelief.]*

Mr. Torr—?

[Suddenly, Danny appears.]

DANNY:

Hallorann, look out!

[Jack brings the mallet down on Hallorann's back who screams and falls. Jack turns to Danny and starts to chase him. Jack finally corners Danny.]

JACK:

Come here, you pup!

Come here, you whelp!

Take your medicine.

Now it's your turn.

I'm in charge!

I'm the boss!

I am the man!

I am the father!

I am *your* father!

[Jack smashes the mallet down and breaks a lamp. Danny does not flinch.]

DANNY:

You are not my father.

[Jack smashes the mallet near Danny's head. Again, Danny does not flinch. Jack is starting to break down.]

JACK:

You shouldn't...Danny...you shouldn't...
Talk to your father that way...son.

DANNY:

You are not my father.
You are not my father.
And they lie.

JACK:

Prepare...prepare...to take your medicine.

DANNY:

They lie!
And you know it.
You said:
"Never forget how much
Your father loves you.
Never forget that, son."

[Jack stops and drops the mallet. He is suddenly himself again.]

JACK: *[Pleading quietly.]*

Go!
Run, Danny, run.
Get out of here.

DANNY:

No. I won't leave.

[Danny kisses one of Jack's hands.]

JACK:

Do I as tell you!

[Jack raises the mallet high. There is a pause. He is about to bring it down, then drops it and bangs his head against the top of the bar. Danny runs. Grady, Derwent, and Lloyd appear.]

GRADY:

Very bad work, Mr. Torrance.

DERWENT:

Terrible.

LLOYD:
Unforgivable.

DERWENT:
The Manager is very angry.

GRADY:
Furious.

DERWENT:
You have one last chance.

GRADY:
To redeem yourself.

LLOYD:
One last chance.

DERWENT:
You forgot one of your responsibilities.

GRADY:
You forgot...

JACK: *[Suddenly remembering.]*
The boiler.

DERWENT/GRADY/LLOYD:
There may be hope for you after all.

[Jack runs. Offstage voices repeats "three, two, one" until the end of Scene 10.]

PARTYGOERS:
Three, two...three, two...three, three, etc.

[End Scene 8.]

Scene 9.

[The ballroom. Hallorann rouses himself as Wendy enters.]

WENDY:
Hallorann!

HALLORANN:
Mrs. Torrance. What happened?
Where's—?

[Suddenly, Danny runs on.]

DANNY:

Here I am.
We have to go.
The boiler!

[Wendy, Hallorann and Danny run out.]

[End Scene 9.]

Scene 10.

[The basement. The pressure has built on the boiler; steam fills the room. Jack stands before the boiler.]

GRADY:

Hurry.

LLOYD:

Do something.

GRADY:

Hurry up.

[The Snowcat starts up and its grinding noise fades.]

LLOYD:

And off they go!

GRADY:

Out of harm's way!

JACK: *[Sweetly, sadly.]*

Out of harm's way...
Out of harm's way.

DERWENT:

This is your last chance.

JACK:

Out of harm's way...

DERWENT:

Do something!

GRADY:

Hurry up!

JACK:

I am the husband.

I am the father.

[Mark Torrance appears with his cane.]

MARK:

Don't make me take this out

On your ungrateful hide!

Don't make me!

[Jack reaches for the lever to take the pressure off. Then stops. He puts his hands down.]

JACK: *[Stepping away from the boiler.]*

I'm afraid it's too late, gentlemen.

LLOYD/GRADY/DERWENT/MARK:

No! Stop it! Fix it! Idiot! Do something!

Stop it, you fool!

JACK: *[Stopping, looking off and smiling.]*

I love you, Wendy.

I love you, Danny.

Good—

[The boiler explodes. The Overlook goes up in flames.]

[End Scene 10.]

Scene 11. (Epilogue)

[Eight months later. It is summer. On the porch of a small cabin at a hotel in Maine. Wendy reads a book. Away from her, Danny sits fishing before a pond. Hallorann enters and looks on briefly.]

HALLORANN:

Thought I'd stop by on my break

And check up on the two of you.

WENDY:

Thank you for that.

And for letting us stay

At this hotel.

HALLORANN:

Ain't like the Overlook...

WENDY: *[Smilingly.]*

Thank God for that.

HALLORANN:

...But it's cool being the cook here.
And Maine suits me fine.
How's he doing?

WENDY:

On and off.
He'll be that way for awhile.

HALLORANN:

What about those dreams?

WENDY:

Only one this week.

HALLORANN:

He's gonna be okay.

WENDY:

I wonder.

HALLORANN:

You and him.
You're both going to be okay.

WENDY:

I decided to take that job
Down in Maryland.

HALLORANN:

Sounded like a good gig.
You won't forget old friends, will you?

WENDY:

Never.
As if Danny would ever let me.
[Indicating Danny.]
He's been waiting for you all morning.

HALLORANN:

Oh...another thing.
An important thing:
Order the Shrimp Creole tonight.

WENDY:

Thank you again.

[Hallerann sits with Danny and puts his arm around him.]

HALLORANN:

Catchin' much, Doc?

DANNY:

One nibble.

HALLORANN:

You miss your Daddy, don't you?

DANNY:

You always know.

HALLORANN:

When we share the shine,
Secrets don't happen.

DANNY:

Sometimes I wish it had been me.
And not him.

HALLORANN:

Listen, Doc...
These woeful days will be over.
These woeful, sorrowful, horrible, days
Will be done.
Before you know it,
Guaranteed.
So for now,
So for now,
You cry all you need to,
Cry and cry to you got no tears left.
Then do what a good son does,
Do what a good son does...
Be strong.
Be strong.
For your Mom and me.
She sure loves you,
And I do, too.
So be strong.
And keep on going,
Keep on hoping,
Keep on being strong.
Promise me,
Promise me...

[Danny nods. Hallorann stands and starts to walk away when Danny feels a tug on his fishing line.]

DANNY:

Hallorann. Come quick!

[Wendy stands to assist Danny, but Hallorann, with a benevolent smile, signals her to stay.]

HALLORANN:

You're doing fine by yourself,

Little man.

Fine by yourself.

Just fine.

[End Scene 11.]

The End.



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