

WALLA: SNORING STOPS, HUSBAND AND WIFE WAKE UP, SHRIEKING, TO FROGS EVERYWHERE.

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055 MARRIED COUPLE  
Get it off! / What is it? / *Frogs!*  
/ Get them off - get them off!

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VOICES AND SFX FROM ALL SCENES BEGIN TO OVERLAP AS WE "PULL BACK" AND GET A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF ALL EGYPT: FROGS EVERYWHERE. CROAKING, SQUELCHING, SLIMY MOVEMENTS, CROAKING.

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WALLA: STYLIZED OVERLAPPING VOICES AS PANIC AND DISGUST RISE

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056 EGYPTIAN PEOPLE  
Get off! / Get them out of here! /  
The stench! / The slime! / Get  
these slimy things off me! /  
They're in the food! / They're in  
my bed! / They're everywhere! / Get  
them out! / *Get them out!*

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BITHIAH'S VOICE OVERLAYS TOWARD THE END; HERS ALONE HOLDS MORE WONDER AND CURIOSITY THAN DISGUST

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057 BITHIAH  
*Frogs? What sort of a god are  
you...?*

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CRESCENDOING MUSIC AND CROAKING DROWN OUT THE VOICES IN TRANSITION TO:

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6 INT. PHARAOH'S PALACE - BALCONY - NIGHT

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PHARAOH STANDS ON HIS PRIVATE BALCONY, OVERLOOKING THE CITY. A NIGHT BREEZE BLOWS, BRINGING WITH IT THE THE SOUND OF CROAKING AND THE PEOPLE'S YELLS AND SHRIEKS FROM BELOW.

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WALLA: PHARAOH SIPS WINE.

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Side 2  
START >>>

058 **MERNEPTAH**  
*A whole city afraid of frogs...*

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AKHMED COMES SQUELCHING INTO THE ROOM, WALKING OVER FROGS TO REACH HIS FATHER.

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059 AKHMED  
Father! Father! *They are  
everywhere!*

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060 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Akhmed. It is the middle of the  
 night. Go back to bed. \*

061 AKHMED  
 I cannot sleep. The frogs are in my  
 bed, my wardrobe, the- \*

062 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Are you a fly, that you should be  
 afraid of frogs? \*

063 AKHMED  
 No, but-- \*

064 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Do you believe the frogs will kill  
 you? \*

065 AKHMED  
 No, but father, they *smell*, and  
 they keep hopping all over-- \*

066 **MERNEPTAH**  
 This is nothing but a trick! Do you  
 understand? Another pathetic trick  
 to frighten the weak. \*

067 AKHMED  
 Can you make the trick go away? \*

068 **MERNEPTAH**  
 I summoned the Court Magicians.  
 Come, my son, sit with me on the  
 balcony. At least the air is  
 fresher out here. \*

AKHMED JOINS HIM ON THE BALCONY. THE BREEZE  
 BLOWS. \*

WALLA: AKHMED BREATHES IN THE NIGHT AIR DEEPLY.  
 THE COUGHS. \*

069 AKHMED  
 Even the breeze smells of frogs! \*

A BEAT. THEY LISTEN TO THE NOISES OF THE CITY  
 AND THE CROAKING BELOW. \*

070 AKHMED  
 It sounds like the whole city is  
 awake. \*

071 **MERNEPTAH**  
 The people are easily fooled. But  
 we are not fools, are we, Akhmed?

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072 **AKHMED**  
 No, Father.

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A WEARY PASER ENTERS, FOLLOWED BY THE COURT  
 MAGICIANS.

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073 **PASER**  
 The Court Magicians, Great One.

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074 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Magicians. My son doubts Egypt's  
 power. Show him that these frogs  
 are nothing more than a trick.

**<<< END**

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075 **MAGICIAN 1**  
 Of course, O Great One.  
 (whispering)  
 By Heka, by the hidden force that  
 binds the world...

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076 **MAGICIAN 2**  
 Behold!

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MORE FROGS CROAKING, SQUELCHING SOUNDS.

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077 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Do you see? Any trick this Hebrew  
 god can produce, the might of Egypt  
 can match it.

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078 **AKHMED**  
 Then have them make the frogs go  
 away!

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079 **MERNEPTAH**  
 (to his magicians)  
 Do as my son says. Cleanse the  
 palace of these pests.

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BEAT. THE FROGS CONTINUE TO CROAK.

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080 **MAGICIAN 1**  
 Great One... The removal of such  
 extensive magical manifestations...  
 requires...preparation...

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081 **MERNEPTAH**  
 Do it now.

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