

How s that gonna work?!

**JAMES**

Spider, is your web strong?

**SPIDER**

The strongest in the world.

**JAMES**

And can you make lots of it?

**SPIDER**

I can spin all the web you need!

**JAMES**

Perfect! We ll loop Spider s web around the seagulls necks, and then we ll tie the other end to the stem of the peach.

**CENTIPEDE**

And how are you going to get those seagulls down here?

**JAMES**

Bait!

*(The INSECTS look pointedly at EARTHWORM.)*

**EARTHWORM**

I find that term incredibly insensitive.

**JAMES**

But you are the biggest, juiciest earthworm in the entire world.

**EARTHWORM**

I am not about to be pecked to death by a flock of seagulls.

**JAMES**

I won t let them touch you, Earthworm. I promise.

**EARTHWORM**

Fine... I ll do it. For you, James.

**JAMES**

Thank you, Earthworm. Action stations everyone! We ve not a moment to lose!

**CENTIPEDE**

This is **never** gonna work!

SIDE 2

**JAMES**

*(staring at LADAHLORD and afraid)*

Who are you?

**LADAHLORD**

**Unimportant!** Who. Are. You? James Henry Trotter

*(LADAHLORD stands and begins to cross slowly towards JAMES.)*

**JAMES**

If you come any closer, I'll scream for my aunts.

**LADAHLORD**

And what makes you think those two hideous creatures would come running to your rescue?

**JAMES**

They're my family.

**LADAHLORD**

Ha! Says who?

**JAMES**

That's what I've been told.

**LADAHLORD**

Ah! But do **YOU** think so?

**JAMES**

I...? I...

**LADAHLORD**

*(passionately with enthusiasm)*

**And there it is!** The very first primordial ooze of an inkling that has the potential to lead to so many other fan-tas-ma-rific things! **Ha!** James! That bag, right over there, contains something remarkable! Are you willing to reach into the great unknown and find out what's inside?

**JAMES**

I...I don't know.

**LADAHLORD**

**Come on, James!** Only you have the power to change the course of your wretched little life. What's it gonna be? Victim? Or hero?

*(JAMES looks at LADAHLORD and then at the bag. And then JAMES thrusts his hand deep inside the bag.)*

**LADAHLORD**

*(screaming at the top of his lungs)*

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!

**JAMES**

*(screaming in reaction)*

Ahhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!

*(JAMES removes a dusty old book from the bag.)*

It's okay! It's okay! It's just a book! Why were you screaming?

**LADAHLORD**

To get your undivided attention.

*(whispering)*

What's inside the book, James?

**JAMES**

*(reading)*

It's full of recipes... with very strange ingredients.

**LADAHLORD**