

RINGMASTER. Once you start moving, Lou comes into your car, tells you your advance men wired back good news, said Erwin hasn't seen a circus in years.

That's what you want to hear. Whether it knows it or not, Erwin's been saving up, Erwin's been starving for cotton candy, popcorn, pink lemonade, whatever your candy butchers can shovel into their kissers. Towns like Erwin're gold, where your elephant becomes what she was born to: a five-ton cash register.

ENGINEER. Click-clack click-clack through the night. Their boxcars, our engine, our rails.

Erwin is waiting and we will not disappoint.

You can depend on the Railroad.

STEAM SHOVEL OPERATOR. Dig.

1. Dig. } 5 "digs"
2. Dig. }
3. Dig. }
4. Dig. }
5. Dig. }
6. Lunch.
7. Dig. }
8. Dig. } 4 "digs"
9. Dig. }
10. Dig. }
11. Dinner.
12. Home. }
13. Drink. } 1
14. Tired. } 2
15. Drink. }
16. Ache. } 3
17. Drink. }
18. Nothin'. } 4
19. Drink. }
20. Nothin'. } 5
21. Nothin'. }
22. Drink. } 5

} 5 "pairs" w/ 'Drink.'

(The GUITARIST and DRUMMER create the sound of the circus train approaching: hope, joy and a pinch of Johnny Cash.)

STEAM SHOVEL OPERATOR. (cont.) Train.

Whistle.

Elephant.

(He smiles.)

Circus!

(The Circus folk transform the space in some fashion, creating a sense of the Big Top arriving.)

YOUNG TOWNSPERSON. Eli woke me up at 4:00 a.m.

I cussed him out - thought we was gonna be late.

Peeped in at our folks, still sleepin'. Snuck out the window, ran as fast as we could to the field where they'd do it.

We were all there, all the kids in Erwin, there to watch 'em set up the Big Top. The Greatest Free Show on Earth.

Train whistled, brakes screamed, men and animals stomped outta every door. Everybody marched around, seemed to know what they're doin' 'cept this red-haired guy...he kept bumpin' into stuff, trippin' on ropes. People yelled at him and his face turned as red as his hair. Funny. 'S'like a clown.

Then this elephant came out...I 'bout pissed myself. Bigger than the one we saw a few years back, lots bigger. Never saw nothin' this big. It made this big trumpet? We 'bout pissed ourselves.

The men unloaded the main tent pole and set it right between that thing's eyes. It walked on forward - boom, boom, boom - pushin' the pole up in the air as it stomped: higher, higher, higher. Holdin' that pole up there so the men could fix it in place.

loci/mp

pattern

① MOMO

... Go home to fuck you you

bitch! ... Aaaaawwwwhhhh

... where do you go hole!

They're coming to what's

wrong with you did this ...

⑤ aaaaawwwwhhhh ... where

do go hole in a wheres

(Tapering to barely audible)

... where do go hole in a

wheres do go hole in a

wheres do go hole in a

to go hole in a wheres ...

ERIK

Okay, okay, okay ... we'll go

for a walk ... okay ...

shhhh ...

... shhhhhh ... you're

okay ... shhhhhh ... shhhhhh

... you're okay ... shhhhhh

... there we go, there we go,

shhhhhh ... shhhhhh ... that's

good, you're okay ... shhhhhh ...

UPSTAIRS: Erik wheels Momo around like she's a baby, calming her. Her screams subside. During the following scene, Erik stays with her, maybe massaging/holding her hand ...

DOWNSTAIRS: Deirdre sits on the couch, takes a glass of water from Aimee. Beat.

DEIRDRE

If I ever get like that ... when my time comes, I don't ever want you guys to have to ...

AIMEE

Mom ...

I'm sorry.

DEIRDRE

Sorry you're sick.

Beat.

AIMEE

I've got money in a Roth IRA and—in my 401(k) too.

DEIRDRE

(This has been on her mind ...)

That e-mail about us being electrons wasn't religious—it was from a science website, I want you to feel a connection to ... something bigger than you ...