

**WE ARE HALFWAY INTO ACT 1...**

EXT. JUST OUTSIDE TOWN - NIGHT

We see dark figures, staggering down the middle of the road...

VARIOUS SHOTS of ZOMBIES, some nicely dressed and made up for their funeral, some pretty randy looking...

But all...

Walking toward town.

In their midst, we see...

MONICA, looking pale and beautiful in the moonlight.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAIN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

A few citizens are out on the street, gazing up in wonderment, or aiming their smartphones and video cams at the sky.

CITIZENS

I've never seen anything like it...  
Look at the colors... Incredible!...  
Do we still have any of that pot?  
(etc.)

As the dead amble into town...

Moving past the living, who do not notice them... yet.

MONICA, walking

At the other end of the zombie sex appeal spectrum A DROWNED MAN (who bubbled up from the lake) SLOSHES down the street, leaving a trail of ooze and slime behind him. Putrefied, covered with weeds and muck, he is one nasty looking corpse.

He moves past A LIVING COUPLE, absorbed in their cams, who don't look at him, but can't help but smell him...

WOMAN

Uhhh!

MAN

Somebody must have hit a deer.

The drowned man sloshes toward...

A BAR.

Sal (the local mortician) chases after an older zombie lady, wearing heavy mortuary make-up.

SAL  
Mrs. DeFalco--Mrs. DeFalco, please wait.

But she swats him away and keeps going.

Sal sees...

Matt's police car driving into town.

CUT TO:

INSIDE MATT'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Matt (the town cop) slams on his brakes as Sal runs into his headlights, flagging him down.

MATT  
Jesus, Sal! I almost hit you!

SAL  
They're walking around!

MATT  
Who--what are you talking about?

SAL  
My clients! The dead! They're alive--kind of.

MATT  
Sal, chill! It's just a blackout.

SAL  
No, it isn't! That's what I'm trying to tell you.

MATT  
Sal--

JERRY, the owner of the bar, runs up to Matt's car.

JERRY  
Matt! I need you RIGHT NOW!

MATT  
Jerry, calm--

JERRY  
RIGHT NOW, MATT!

CUT TO:

INT. JERRY'S BAR - A MOMENT LATER

The PATRONS stand huddled in the corner, terrified and holding their noses...

As Jerry brings Matt in and points to the bar, where...

The drowned corpse sits on a bar stool, dripping, oozing, and making *repulsive noises* as noxious gases bubble out of him.

For a moment Matt can't believe his eyes.

JERRY

He just slosed in... I think it's  
Elmore Johnson. He was a regular...  
until he disappeared.

MATT

Looks like he drowned.

Matt moves cautiously to the bar, addresses the zombie, hand on his pistol, just in case.

MATT (CONT'D)

Mr. Johnson?

Elmore doesn't respond.

MATT (CONT'D)

Elmore... is that you?

Elmore suddenly regurgitates a gut full of putrid lake water and muck onto the bar...

Including a couple of squiggling salamanders that slither off onto the floor.

The zombie slowly turns his gelatinous face towards Matt and nods. The sight and smell almost makes Matt puke, but he holds it together.

But one of the patrons throws up.

MATT (CONT'D)

Elmore, I don't want to upset you,  
but you, um, appear to be dead.

Elmore doesn't react. He reaches out and knocks his squishy knuckles on the bar.

JERRY

Wh--what does he want?

Elmore knocks again.

MATT

I think... he wants a drink.

Jerry slips behind the bar, pops open a Bud, and cautiously slides it in front of Elmore.

JERRY

On the house.

Elmore looks at it, gurgles unhappily, then swats the bottle violently away.

Matt tenses, gripping his holstered pistol, not sure what's coming next.

JERRY (CONT'D)

I forgot... he only drinks Lites.

Jerry pops open a Lite, slides it in front of him.

JERRY (CONT'D)

Sorry.

Now Elmore's happy. He picks it up, guzzles it halfway down...

And the beer drains out between the rotted sinews of his neck.

Two more patrons puke.

*SCREAMS* are heard from outside.

MATT

Uh-oh.  
(heads for the door)

JERRY

Matt... what should I do?

MATT

Uh... keep 'em comin'.  
(to Elmore)  
Welcome back, Elmore... Next one's  
on me.

Matt goes out. Elmore belches horrendously, then pulls out...

A pack of waterlogged Marlboros and plunks them on the bar.

JERRY

Elmore? No--uh--no--uh... Never  
mind.

CUT BACK TO:

THE STREET - CONTINUOUS

Matt steps outside and sees...

PANDEMONIUM has broken out as the living realize the dead are among them. Citizens run screaming. Cars speed out of town.

Jake and Ben (teenagers) zoom up on their bikes and ride circles around Matt.

JAKE

It's zombies! There's zombies everywhere!

MATT

You guys go home!

JAKE

*What?*

MATT

Get home NOW!

JAKE

Yeah that's gonna happen!

They ride off whooping--no way they're going home.

The boys ride crazily in and around a group of frightened zombies, taunting them.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Yo, zombos!

(slaps his rump)

Fresh young buttmeat! Come and get it! WHHHOOOOOO!

CAMERA PICKS UP Devon and Mia, walking into town, hand in hand, wondering where they are and what's going on...

SAL moves through the crowd, freaked out, following a zombie...

SAL

Mr. Bartlett, please--your family's all coming tomorrow.

But then he sees...

MONICA, walking down the street

SAL, in love

SAL (CONT'D)

Monica.

A moment later he approaches her. She stares at him with wide, frightened eyes.

SAL (CONT'D)

(moving closer)

Please... Don't be afraid... You don't know me, but I know you. I've seen you in town--at the bank... and in the market.

She stares, has no idea who he is

SAL (CONT'D)

My name is Sal. I'm... your mortician.

She reacts with horror, turns, and flees into the dark.

SAL (CONT'D)

Monica! Wait!  
(goes after her)

VARIOUS SHOTS as Monica runs down the street (surprisingly fast)... with Sal in pursuit.

SAL (CONT'D)

Monica!

He collides with another zombie.

SAL (CONT'D)

I beg your pardon--

The zombie gives him the finger.

Sal turns to pursue Monica again...

SAL'S POV -

But she's gone.

**END OF SAMPLE**