

FADE IN:

EXT. ABANDONED COURTHOUSE - DUSK

In a quiet little city by the water.

INT. RUNDOWN COURTROOM - DUSK

Witches from all over the area huddled in masses. The older ones are sitting while most are standing or floating. While around them are cameras on the floor and ceiling.

An old woman in red robes by the name of EDITH sits in the Judge's chair and talks into a microphone.

EDITH

Here ye, hear ye. This meeting  
shall now begin. Time to let the  
news in.

A younger man named CLYDE is sitting on the judge bench tilting his head to the microphone.

CLYDE

Now as we all know, being separate  
comes with con and pro. A pro is  
that we do not get caught, a con  
is our comradery is lost.

EDITH

Now in this night, with no light,  
our candle will burn. And on this  
night with no light our children  
will learn.

CLYDE AND EDITH

How to keep the candle bright.

An Enby that looked about between their ages by the name of IRA starts to speak.

IRA

Now time for news of our county  
and the wide world of ocean and  
country. Ahem. A lawsuit against  
the biggest witch employers has  
been levied by the working witches  
union lawyers. Now as we all  
know--

A human woman by the name of KAREN, 40's, interrupted.

KAREN

I am so sorry to bother you I understand this is some important ceremony, but I heard that I could only get this signed here by the head witch

EDITH

Well, that will be me, and I'd be happy to sign it for you.

Signs paper.

EDITH

Oh, this is-

KAREN

Yeah

EDITH

Well, good for you

KAREN

Thank you.

Karen EXITS.

IRA

Now time for no more interruption, time to continue this production. Ahem. As we all know--

Montage Ira saying the news.

An OLDER WITCH screams and stands from his seat.

OLDER WITCH

By the hurting of my dentures something wicked in here ventures.

CLYDE

Are you sure? If so... EVERYBODY HIDE, EVERYBODY HIDE, EVERYBODY HIDE. Time we shall bide.

Everybody turned invisible except Ira, Clyde, and Edith. DITH

FINLEY, late 30's, a politician, comes running in, holding a nasty bramble.

FINLEY

I want to speak with the managers.  
I want magic and I want it NOW!

CLYDE

(whispered to Edith)  
Poor Casey. Oh poor Casey. She  
wasn't ready for this crazy.

EDITH

Welcome, welcome new comer. Why do  
you come this night in summer?

FINLEY

I was told I could get magic here.  
I need magic to get my political  
rival out of the way.

EDITH

Out of the way you say, um are you  
sure?

FINLEY

Yes. And don't think of doing  
anything funny, if you even  
stepped one hair out of line. I'm  
bringing this decrepit building  
down and burning you all at the  
stake. I will make sure you  
suffer, I'll even tie you up with  
witches' bramble.

Finley holds up the bramble.

FINLEY

And make it snappy you--

CLYDE

Okay, okay, we get it, your way,  
your way.

The shadows swill in circles.

EDITH

Thrice the wicked crow sings.

CLYDE

Twice the evil magpie brings.

IRA

Once the terrible raven screams.

EDITH, CLYDE, AND IRA

(Whispering)  
No life shall flow from this  
drink, whoever shall consume their  
mind stops think. Please hear  
these cries, this drink will end  
whoever's time.

Edith, Cylde, and Ira scream unintelligibly.

A jam jar filled with mysterious liquid plops in front of  
Finley.

FINLEY

You know what I think I'm going to  
have to arrest y'all for gathering  
in a place like this. You all are  
under arrest.

EDITH

EVERYBODY FLY, EVERYBODY FLY,  
EVERYBODY FLY! No more time.  
Gooday and goodbye!

All the witches reappear, swirl and move through the walls,  
windows, ceiling, floor, and door.

EXT. ABANDONED COURTHOUSE - DAWN

Witches fly out in droves looking like a dark cloud of  
faces and arms.

FINLEY walks out of the COURTHOUSE with the bramble and jar  
and on his face is a smug look.