

Episode 205a - CIRCUS OF DREAMS

The Tales of Sage and Savant  
Season 2 Episode 5 Part 1

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## ACT ONE

NARRATOR

Once again, dear listeners I beg your indulgence as I update you on the on-going investigation into what exactly happened on the night of the hurricane. It pains me to tell you that I have no further information. {Frustrated} The investigation is on-going. We are following all leads. We will keep you informed should anything develop in the case. I know nothing. I might as well begin the regularly scheduled broadcast. Computer, open file Sage 1201.0766.Omega1

FADE IN: MUSIC

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Greetings and welcome to the audio-aetheric transmission THE TALES OF SAGE AND SAVANT, a Twinstar production. This broadcast is brought to you on the first of each month from the Twinstar Studios in sunny Southern California. Our tale stars Eddie Louise as Doctor Petronella Sage, Chip Michael as Professor Erasmus Savant, Emily Riley Piatt as Mx Abigail Entwhistle, and myself, Justin Bremer as your humble Narrator. This month's program, entitled CIRCUS OF DREAMS is sponsored by EDGE SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY PUBLISHING and features the music of NATHANIEL JOHNSTONE BAND. And now, without further ado, we bring you THE TALES OF SAGE AND SAVANT.

THEME SONG

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

It has been as week since last we saw our Doctor and her enthusiasm for her new laboratory has not waned. In fact, she has found more to be pleased with in every hour of work spent in her glass house temple to science.

SOUND: Buzzing electricity

DR SAGE  
{Humming} Ta-ra-ra-boom-dee-ay

NARRATOR  
And yes, we have all been suffering with that little earworm from the past. While the Doctor is happily engaged in her new and improved laboratory, her friends are less happily engaged in the office below.

SCENE: THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE QUARTERS NEXT TO HER SURGERY LABORATORY.

PROF SAVANT  
But Abigail, transmigration provides a doorway into knowledge that has no parallel. How can you, a scholar and a scientist, deny the opportunities it presents?

ABIGAIL  
I do not deny those opportunities, Professor. I just do not choose, In and of myself, to partake in them.

PROF SAVANT  
And yet, your friend the Doctor has brought the science to a new era - no longer are we at the mercy of a violent death to enact a return. Surely now that we can be recalled on a schedule your fears are calmed and your curiosity is piqued?

ABIGAIL  
I admit to have some small measure of curiosity, yes. But as me mam always said, 'curiosity killed the cat' so I will not be indulging it. Besides, there is no-one else who can remain behind to ensure that your corporeal forms remain functioning properly. No one else who could bring transmigrationists safely home if the machinery malfunctions. No, I think I shall not accompany you and the Doctor on this latest adventure.

PROF SAVANT

I still believe that you should transmigrate with us, but I cannot fault your dedication to duty. Well then, shall we adjourn upwards?

SOUND: Footsteps, elevator doors and travel.

NARRATOR

Of course, the Professor's enthusiasm might dim a bit were he prepared for the changes to the Farraday armor his good friend the Doctor has instituted after consultation with a contact of Calypso's. The mysterious face of the Charges du affairs has introduced Sage to an American physician by the name of Murphy who is doing pioneering work in the field of forced nutrition and insensible patients. His unique ideas for the delivery of nutritional enemas through a slow drip mechanism are showing great promise for the maintenance of coma patients and the like.

SCENE: THE GLASS ROOFED SECRET LABORATORY OF DOCTOR PETRONELLA SAGE. THE DOCTOR IS EXPLAINING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY SHE HAS INSTALLED INTO THE FARRADAY ARMOR THAT WILL ALLOW FOR RECTAL DELIVERY OF NUTRIENTS.

PROF SAVANT

You want me to stick this into my bum?

DR SAGE

Yes.

PROF SAVANT

And because of this, I must now lie with my feet in these stirrups?

DR SAGE

Yes, so that your body remains in the best positioning for the clockwork.

PROF SAVANT

The clockwork that will remove the tube from my bum?

DR SAGE

Yes, and re-position it, every day to provide your body with nutrition. It is awkward, I know but I could not quite work out how to deliver the nutrition and remove waste simultaneously without the risk of infection. Abigail will be changing the bags of nutrients and swapping clean nozzles for each of us every day whilst we are away. I hope one-day to make the whole system automatic.

PROF SAVANT

Yes, well, there must be a more comfortable way than this!

ABIGAIL

Cheer up, Professor. Nutritional enemas have a long history of success starting with 2nd century Physician Claudius Galenus.

PROF SAVANT

Ah, your Galenus was a philosopher as well as scientist. He felt that 'in order to diagnose, one must observe and reason'. An exhortation to 'stop and think' which might do well to be heeded around here.

DR SAGE

{Laughingly} There is no shortage of reasoning in this laboratory, I can assure you. Shall we suit up?

NARRATOR

And soon all is in readiness and our pair of adventurers have taken their place on the plinths ready to venture once again outwards in time.

SOUND: All the usual buckling in sounds

PROF SAVANT

And where are we off to today, Petra?

DR SAGE

I am continuing to work on my ability to pinpoint eras and attempting to clarify positional targeting as well. I have set a trajectory for 1880 and, if my calculations are correct, once again to the American Southwest.

ABIGAIL

Doctor, I have everything in order for a one-month trip. Recall is set for New Year's Eve at the stroke of midnight as per your request. Mx. Cunningham and Dr. McLeish have been informed that you are away for your winter holidays. I shall be checking in daily to refresh the nutrient bottles and to confirm that all clockwork and electrical systems are performing to standard.

DR SAGE

Thank you, Abigail. Now, I shall just record my notes...

SOUND: Edison Device engage

DR SAGE (CONT'D)

Laboratory of Doctor Petronella Sage, King's College, 1st December, 1894. With the successful first test of the recall mechanism last week I am anxious to expand upon my control of the length and trajectory of the transmigration journey. To this end I have selected a near history destination of 1880 using pitch XXX and the harmonics XXX. To the end of safely expanding the time we can spend in the past, I have employed the research of John Benjamin Murphy into the efficacy of enteral nutrition. In order to test these theories we shall undertake a month long journey. I am enthused by the remit to stay alive in another's body rather than seek the release of death. What things shall we learn when the fear of returning to our own lives has been muted?

SOUND: Edison off, firing up of transmigratory system.

NARRATOR

And so our friends once again  
endure partial death by  
electrocution as the Doctor's  
apparatus work as designed, using a  
tide of electrical violence, to rip  
their consciousnesses from their  
bodies and fling them across time  
and space.

TIME TRAVEL MUSIC

SCENE: THEY COME TO IN A CRAMPED A FETID ROOM ON A RIVER  
BOAT. SLOP BUCKETS OVERFLOWING WITH HUMAN EFFLUVIA ARE LINED  
IN A ROW BY THE SLATTED DOOR. HARSH BEAMS OF LIGHT SLASH  
THROUGH, STRIPING THE ROOM AND CUTTING THROUGH THE OTHERWISE  
STIFLING DARK.

NARRATOR

When they come to awareness once  
again, it is in far less clinical  
conditions.

PROF SAVANT

Ugh! What is that fishy smell?

DR SAGE

{nauseous} Ugh. I don't know, but  
we seem to have been very ill.

PROF SAVANT

{gagging} Have been? Uh! I feel as  
if I have been kicked in the  
stomach. Where are we?

DR SAGE

I do not think we have time to  
figure that out. I am severely  
dehydrated, my head is spinning,  
and my stomach is in full revolt. I  
need to discover what killed us and  
quick, or we shall die before we  
get started. Here let me open that  
door and get some light so I can  
look at you.

SOUND: Crossing cabin, door creaking open.

DR SAGE (CONT'D)

Rice water! Oh, Erasmus, all of  
these buckets are filled with rice  
water. We have the cholera.

PROF SAVANT

Oh God, we won't come back from that.

DR SAGE

I'll be damned if that is the case. We need food and water. {trailing off} Lactic acid...

PROF SAVANT

{Slapping her} Stay sharp, Petra!

DR SAGE

The kitchens, I need to find the kitch...

SOUND: Voices calling, running footsteps

JENNY

{Holding a kerchief over mouth and nose} Tubbs! Hildy! We thought you was a-goners for sure!

DR SAGE

Who are you young lady?

JENNY

{Giggles} Well, I ain't no lady fer darn sures! It's Jenny, Hildy. Mule-Jenny? Queen of the stubborn beasts?

DR SAGE

Yes, well Jenny. It seems myself and Era... Tubbs here have taken quite ill with the cholera. We need food and drink. Brandy, rice pudding, sourdough bread sopped in milk, boiled water, salt, sugar and mashed banana. {when Jenny doesn't move} Go!

SOUND: running feet.

NARRATOR

Cholera is one of the worst intestinal parasite to afflict human kind. In my time, we have completely wiped it from existence, but in the barbaric and unsanitary past, the bug was deadly and far reaching. Cholera thrives where human waste meets water sources.

(MORE)



NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Much like the muck filled waters that the riverboat our adventurers have landed upon plys. As a historian it always fascinates me how willing people are to live in filth. The ancient Romans demonstrated the health and cultural value to be gained from a clean water source but civilization after civilization still falls to disease and improper treatment of sewage.

PROF SAVANT

Uhh... I'm no' well. {retches}

DR SAGE

No, you are not. And there will be a deal more where that came from before you are, I am afraid. The human body can dispel as much as 20 liters of diarrhea each day.

PROF SAVANT

Five gallons?!? How can that be possible?

DR SAGE

Our bodies are made of water, Erasmus. Cholera must be beaten by hydration and nutrition. Since we must eat and drink in order to conquer this sickness, and any amount of eating or drinking will contribute to the fluids we can expel, I am afraid we are in for an unpleasant few days my friend.

NARRATOR

She is right. They will need to consume about 10 percent of their body weight to counter the effects of the infection. They will expel a good part of that in a violent and unpleasant manner, and then must consume again. And Because of that, I think we shall skip ahead. Our temporal explorers have found themselves in the bodies of performers in a traveling circus troupe circa 1880.

(MORE)

## NARRATOR (CONT'D)

The Doctor's trajectories were for the most part accurate, although I believe the Mississippi River Basin qualifies as the Southwest by only the most generous of cartographers. As for the characters our heroes have occupied: Hildy 'Hotpants' Hoffman is the type of scrappy frontier girl who lives by her wits and her looks with little regard to societal views of propriety. She is wife and assistant to Tibaut 'Tubbs' Durand, a French-Creole fancy-man turned showman with a specialty for juggling lighted torches, shooting apples from the heads of volunteers and throwing knives with great accuracy. They are full share performing members in a small time traveling show: Camp's Grand Southern Circus. E. N. Camp, proprietor. Whilst most circus' of this era chose to winter in warm southern climes such as Florida, Camp had discovered a unique way to perform through the winter, touring via steamboat through the southern waters of the delta. Disembarking and pitching tents in such backwater places brought a surprising success to the small outfit. Travelling by river also gave the outfit flexibility. If the weather was mild they could progress further north. If bitter, they could retreat to New Orleans.

## NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Will Sage and Savant be able to recuperate from the cholera and integrate successfully with their performing brethren?... We'll find out after this short musical break.

MUSICAL GUEST INTRO MUSIC

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

And now dear friends we invite you  
to listen to the talented melodical  
expressions of THE NATHANIEL  
JOHNSTONE BAND.

MUSICAL GUEST

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

And now, back to our story.

ACT TWO

INTRO MUSIC

NARRATOR

When we left our pair of  
adventurers they were attempting to  
flush the evils of *Vibrio cholerae*  
from their systems. It has taken  
them five days but the morning has  
dawned on a shaky but determined  
Doctor.

SCENE: ON THE DECKS OF THE RIVERBOAT DELTA BELLE. THE DOCTOR  
AND PROFESSOR SHARE A CRAMPED CABIN ON THE LOWER DECKS. THE  
DOOR OPENS ONTO A FREIGHT DECK COVERED WITH THE CRATES AND  
BUNDLES THAT HOLD THE CIRCUS TENTS, PROPS AND EQUIPMENT.

SOUND: Chirping birds, river sounds.

DR SAGE

Come along, Tubbs. We won't regain  
our strength lounging about in bed  
all day.

PROF SAVANT

{Still unsteady} I am not entirely  
certain that I wouldn't benefit  
from one more day abed, my dear.

DR SAGE

Nonsense! Up and at 'em! It is time  
we face the dawn and determine our  
roles here.

PROF SAVANT

Jenny told us our roles. You look  
ravishing and flirt with the  
punters to get them to part with  
coin, I throw knives and lighted  
torches and other dangerous levels  
of activities.

DR SAGE

And can you juggle lighted torches  
or throw knives with precision?

PROF SAVANT

Of course not!

DR SAGE

Well then, do you not think it wise that we get up about and practice while you can blame any mistakes of weakness from the illness?

PROF SAVANT

AH! Do you think that by practicing I can engage this body's innate skills and actually manage some modicum of performance?

DR SAGE

Well, we have speculated that the mind and the body both hold separate components of physical skills such as playing piano, or holding a sword.

PROF SAVANT

And I was quick to feel at home with a cutlass in my hand!

DR SAGE

And if we are to fit in with a circus troupe, it seems you must access juggling skills.

PROF SAVANT

You are right, as always. Shall I bring this packet of throwing knives?

DR SAGE

There is no time like the present.

Sound: footsteps along the deck. Door creaking open and closing. River sounds.

NARRATOR

A circus at rest is a disguised thing. Indolent and unconcerned, its denizens show no hint of the ferocious energy that will be expended as soon as the call to set the show is sounded. As our heroes venture out of the charnal house that is their cramped quarters and onto the open decks that ring the steamboat they are greeted with lazy waves and head nods from fellow performers and roustabouts.

PROF SAVANT

Well, they seem a friendly sort, if not too energetic.

SOUND: running footsteps

JENNY

Tubbs! And Hildy! So glad to see you two up and about.

DR SAGE

Thank you, Jenny. And thanks for all you did to help us recover from our illness.

JENNY

Aw, tweren't nothin! I had a friend at the orphanage once that got the cholera. Nobody told me that stuff about lac-tate acid nor...

DR SAGE

Lactic.

JENNY

Pardon?

DR SAGE

Lactic. It is lactic acid that helps kill the bacteria.

JENNY

Same and all, I was glad to know there was something that could help. Shucks I was just happy that there was something *I could do* to help.

PROF SAVANT

Jenny, Hildy and I were thinking it might be good to get some practice in. You know, shake out the kinks, hone the ol' aim?

JENNY

Oh sure! There's still a spot up in the bow for you to practice. I'll just get your wheel.

PROF SAVANT

My wheel?

JENNY

Well, Hildy's wheel. So's you can  
git her strapped up and throw  
knives?

PROF SAVANT

Oh, yes, well, no, I mean - I don't  
want to start with Hildy on the  
wheel. I am mighty shaky and I  
would never forgive myself if I put  
a sticker straight in her out of  
clumsiness.

JENNY

Oh, yeah. That makes sense. Start  
small, eh? How about a couple of  
bales of hay with a target  
attached?

PROF SAVANT

That would be splendid, thank you.

JENNY

I'll go get them, and Tubbs?

PROF SAVANT

Yes, Jenny?

JENNY

{Insinuating} Is it on account of  
the sickness you being all formal  
with me? I thought we were friends.

DR SAGE

Yes, Jenny, I am sure you and my  
husband are great friends, but he  
has been through a trial. I am sure  
you understand, there's a good  
girl.

JENNY

{Sputters}

PROF SAVANT

My wife is right, Jenny. I mean no  
offence. Thank you for all you  
continue to do for me.

SOUND: Footsteps leaving.

DR SAGE

Well, that was impertinent!

PROF SAVANT

Now, don't be too hard on the girl, we have no way of knowing what relationships were like for these people before we arrived. There is no reason to create enemies.

DR SAGE

You would say that, you are a man!

SOUND: Progress along the boat, river noises

NARRATOR

This jealous reaction is most unlike our Doctor, one can only assume that the relation between these three people was most complicated before the intrusion of death. The Doctor is definitely picking up on the emotional dregs of this body's previous inhabitant. They make their way to the forward end of the deck where the boards flare out and create a small open area under the cover of the extended upper deck supported by wrought iron poles.

SOUND: Roustabouts bringing hay, dropping it

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

In short order, a couple of roustabouts arrive carrying hay bales, which they stack against the inner cabin walls.

PROF SAVANT

Why aren't you placing those in the bow, in the sun? It would be much easier to target from shade into sun rather than the other way around.

ROUSTABOUT

You suddenly have so many knives you are willing to take the chance of chucking a few into the drink then, fancy-man?

PROF SAVANT

{Seeing his error} Oh, no. You are quite right. The sickness must have scrambled my wits.



SOUNDS: Roustabouts retreat, Jenny arrives.

JENNY

Here I brought a dress we can pin to the bales. That will give you an outline to practice around. You don't mind, do you Hildy?

DR SAGE

Oh no, I am sure it is fine.

JENNY

{Disappointed} Well, sure. If you can't trust Tubbs not to put a hole in your best dress, who can you trust?

DR SAGE

My best dress, hmmm. Yes, one chooses whom to trust and whom not to, doesn't one?

PROF SAVANT

{Uncomfortable} Ladies, let us not bicker. No dress yet, Jenny. I think I need to just throw a few to loosen the wrist if you no what I mean. Run along now, no reason you need to witness my fumbling.

JENNY

If you are sure...

PROF SAVANT

I am sure, lass. Thank you.

SOUND: sullen footsteps away.

DR SAGE

That girl is impertinent, and rude and... {She is interrupted by a kiss}

NARRATOR

{Shocked} Ladies and gentlemen, they are kissing!

PROF SAVANT

{in sexy - growly voice} You are magnificent when you are jealous.

SOUND: Slap

DR SAGE

How are you doing?!?

PROF SAVANT

I had an uncontrollable need to kiss you. So I kissed you. If I had to hazard a guess, I would assume that these bodies enjoyed a very passionate relationship.

DR SAGE

That's not... that's just... I don't...

PROF SAVANT

But you do. A bright spot of color has risen to your cheeks, your breathing is shortened and your pulse is racing. You feel it too.

DR SAGE

Yes, but. No! This body feels it, that is not the same as ME feeling it.

PROF SAVANT

Oh now you are simply being unscientific.

DR SAGE

Unscientific, how?

PROF SAVANT

You hypothesize that the consciousness needs a body to exist. You also have theorized that the nerves and muscles of a body work to maintain some measure of the sense of self - skills, reactions and whatnot.

DR SAGE

Yes, but...

PROF SAVANT

If it is possible to consider that a body might remember the feel of a sword, or the skill of throwing knives, why then would it be impossible for the body to recall the sensual thrill of a loved one?

DR SAGE

Love is not a physical thing.

PROF SAVANT

Oh but it is. What the mind feels  
the body responds to. What the body  
feels the mind perceives. The two  
are interlinked. This body  
obviously lusts after that one.  
Were the two of us strangers, or  
enemies then we might not respond  
so strongly to the bodily signals.

DR SAGE

But you think that since we already  
hold each other in high regard...

PROF SAVANT

For goodness sake, Petra, call it  
what it is. We love each other.

DR SAGE

I, but, I...

PROF SAVANT

You love me. You kissed me. You  
begged me to come back to you.

DR SAGE

That didn't work! You didn't...  
know, you didn't know that I kissed  
you!

PROF SAVANT

I dreamed it. I heard you, I *felt*  
you. I just thought it might have  
been my imagination.

DR SAGE

It only meant that I wanted you  
back.

PROF SAVANT

Because you love me.

DR SAGE

No! Well, yes - but you know how I  
feel about my work.

PROF SAVANT

I do, and I respect that. But here,  
now - we have a month with no work  
obligations, we are in bodies that  
already gravitate towards each  
other, what plausible reason can  
you give me for not indulging in  
our feelings for each other?

NARRATOR

We will leave the Doctor, teetering on the precipice of giving in to her desires, and pause for a word from our sponsor.

ADVERT

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Yes, dear friends, you heard it here. EDGE SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY PUBLISHING for STORIES THAT STIR YOUR PASSION FOR ADVENTURE. And now, back to our show.

ACT THREE

INTRO MUSIC

NARRATOR

When we left our heroes they were locked in passionate argument which the Doctor has once again managed to work her slippery way out of by reminding the Professor of the trouble that will ensue if he cannot manage the feats of showmanship that will be expected of him at the very next port of call. With great reluctance, he has turned his focus towards his task.

Sound: Knife thunking into wood.

DR SAGE

You are still pulling to the right.

PROF SAVANT

I am aware of that, thank you.

DR SAGE

It is your wrist. You hold the knife as you hold a pen. I think if you were to turn your palm inwards...

PROF SAVANT

Petra! That is quite enough help and advice.

DR SAGE

This is physics, Erasmus. I can help.

PROF SAVANT

No, Petra, you cannot. I understand the physics, but I need to find a way to relax and let this body do what it does - you are not helping in that adorable cotton frock, with your hair wantonly free down your back.

DR SAGE

I cannot help that my wardrobe choices were severely lacking. And that there was not so much as a single hairpin to be found in our room.

PROF SAVANT

I know, love. Still, it might help me work if you were willing to take a stroll, maybe get to know some of our fellow travelers? After all, we plan to be with them for the next month; we might as well begin to learn how we might fit in.

DR SAGE

This all feels like a clumsy redirection, but if you need me to leave you alone, I shall.

SOUND: footsteps along deck

NARRATOR

Though she obviously did not want to leave her partner, Sage knew how easy the presence of another could distract from work at hand. She made her way along the deck until she came to the staircase and trod her way upwards to meet the other members of the circus troupe she found herself a member of.

SOUND: Knife thunking into hay-bale

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

The Professor continued his practice until his muscles began to respond with fluidity and he found a modicum of control over the knives' trajectory.

Sound: Thunk, thunk, thunk!

JENNY

{Clapping} That is the Tibault Durand I know so well.

PROF SAVANT

{flustered} And how well is that?

JENNY

Well enough to know you like it when I do this!

PROF SAVANT

{Yelping as she strokes his person} I do! I mean, I do? Wait, Jenny - I am a married man!

JENNY

Like that stops us. You know how she is, not meeting your needs, not caring when you need attention...

PROF SAVANT

I don't think...

JENNY

That's when I like you best!

SOUND: belt being undone

PROF SAVANT

Wait! Jenny, No. Not now. I am still week from being sick...

JENNY

{Tearful} You don't want me?

PROF SAVANT

Not at this moment, no!

JENNY

I'll tell Hiram! I'll tell Hiram you abused me!

PROF SAVANT

Who?

JENNY

My boss? Hiram Marks? The Equestrian Director and personal friend to N.E. Camp himself. I'll tell him and he'll get you kicked off this outfit!

PROF SAVANT

Jenny, calm down. How old are you?

JENNY

I am sixteen! Six months older than when you told me fifteen was the perfect age for a girl's first experience.

PROF SAVANT

{Horrified} Jenny, oh Jenny, I have done you wrong. Here, let me wipe your tears. There now, you don't need to do anything to please me. I am still caught in the grip of my sickness is all.

(MORE)

PROF SAVANT (CONT'D)

You and I will have to enjoy each others company in other ways now. We can talk if you'd like?

NARRATOR

And slowly, choosing his words carefully, the Professor walked the girl back from the edge of hysteria with inanities and soft tones. Eventually she calmed enough to leave him and he gathered his knives and went back to his own cabin.

SOUND: Footsteps and door creaking open and closed.

DR SAGE

This is a very colorful group of people we find ourselves amidst, Erasmus. I met Rosa, the bearded lady, Raul, the aerialist and Gus the head clown.

PROF SAVANT

{distracted} Uh? That's nice.

DR SAGE

Erasmus? What's wrong? Are you feeling sick again?

PROF SAVANT

No, no - my body is fine. I just discovered that this man is a disgusting cad!

DR SAGE

What do you mean?

PROF SAVANT

Evidently, this wretch is a defiler of children!

DR SAGE

Erasmus! Whatever do you mean?

PROF SAVANT

According to young Jenny we are in an extremely graphic relationship.

DR SAGE

Carnal? You've had carnal relations with that child?



PROF SAVANT

Not I! But, at least according to the child and her overly nimble fingers, Tubbs has enjoyed the pleasures of her company many times, in every possible manner.

DR SAGE

That is not right!

PROF SAVANT

And I owe an apology to you, dear friend.

DR SAGE

Whatever for?

PROF SAVANT

I had assumed that it was the true emotions of my consciousness that spearheaded my attraction to you this afternoon - but it turns out that I am in the body of a sexual degenerate and I cannot trust the reactions of this form.

DR SAGE

Oh, Erasmus - that cannot be wholly true. Yes, the biological pull of the body is strong - but 100% of the actions taken are in the realm of the mind. What you will to happen or not happen is entirely in your control.

PROF SAVANT

Yes, but this man, this Tubbs was obviously not in control.

DR SAGE

You are wrong, Erasmus. He was very much in control. And he is dead - no longer in a position to wield this body as a weapon against young girls. You can simply choose to act differently.

PROF SAVANT

Not to be indelicate, but this body did respond to the child - it grew tumescent...

DR SAGE

Physical responses are the province of biology - a sort of 'ready when you are' mechanism - but if you were not ready...

PROF SAVANT

Not at all. She threatened to expose my actions to the bosses.

DR SAGE

Is that the only reason you stopped?

PROF SAVANT

No! She threatened me because I stopped.

DR SAGE

Do you see? Mind over biology.

PROF SAVANT

Easy enough for you to say. Now, let's talk of happier things. Tell me about our new compatriots.

NARRATOR

And so the two settle in to a more comfortable discussion of their new compatriots and set aside the subject of sexual tension expressed and otherwise until another time. Will the Doctor and Professor finally come to a physical understanding of their love? Will they succeed in becoming active and successful performers in Camp's Grand Southern Circus? We'll find out in the next episode of THE TALES OF SAGE AND SAVANT.

END MUSIC STARTS

CREDITS

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

The TALES OF SAGE AND SAVANT is a Twinstar production, brought to you on the first of each month from our Southern California studios.

(MORE)

## NARRATOR (CONT'D)

Starring Eddie Louise as Sage, Chip Michael as Savant, Emily Riley Piatt as Abigail, and Justin Bremer as Narrator.

Soundtrack music, sound design and audio engineering by Chip Michael.

Special music in this episode was provided by NATHANIEL JOHNSTONE BAND. Check them out at XXX.

We would like to extend our gratitude to this month's sponsor EDGE SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY PUBLISHING.

Episode 205a CIRCUS OF DREAMS was written by Eddie Louise. Are you interested in the historical and scientific information we included in this episode? Like us on Facebook or check out our website [www.SageAndSavant.com](http://www.SageAndSavant.com) to find the facts behind the fiction.

Finally, as always, we urge you to remember that: DEATH IS NO BARRIER TO SCIENCE.