



BANG!

THREE JUGGLERS

tumbled onto the stage to the pounding beat of a drum. Skittles flew, fast and furious, BACK AND FORTH, UP AND OVER. Tambourines rattled, loud and louder; skittles spun, high and higher; the jugglers twisted, fast and faster. THEN BANG THE SKITTLES WENT UP...

...but they didn't come down!

EVERYBODY CHEERED AND CLAPPED.
The jugglers bowed and bounced away.

ONCE MORE THERE WAS ONLY DARKNESS.

FOLD OUT ➡

NOW ONE DIM SPOTLIGHT
found a barrel organ, still and silent on the stage.

EVERYONE
HELD THEIR BREATH.

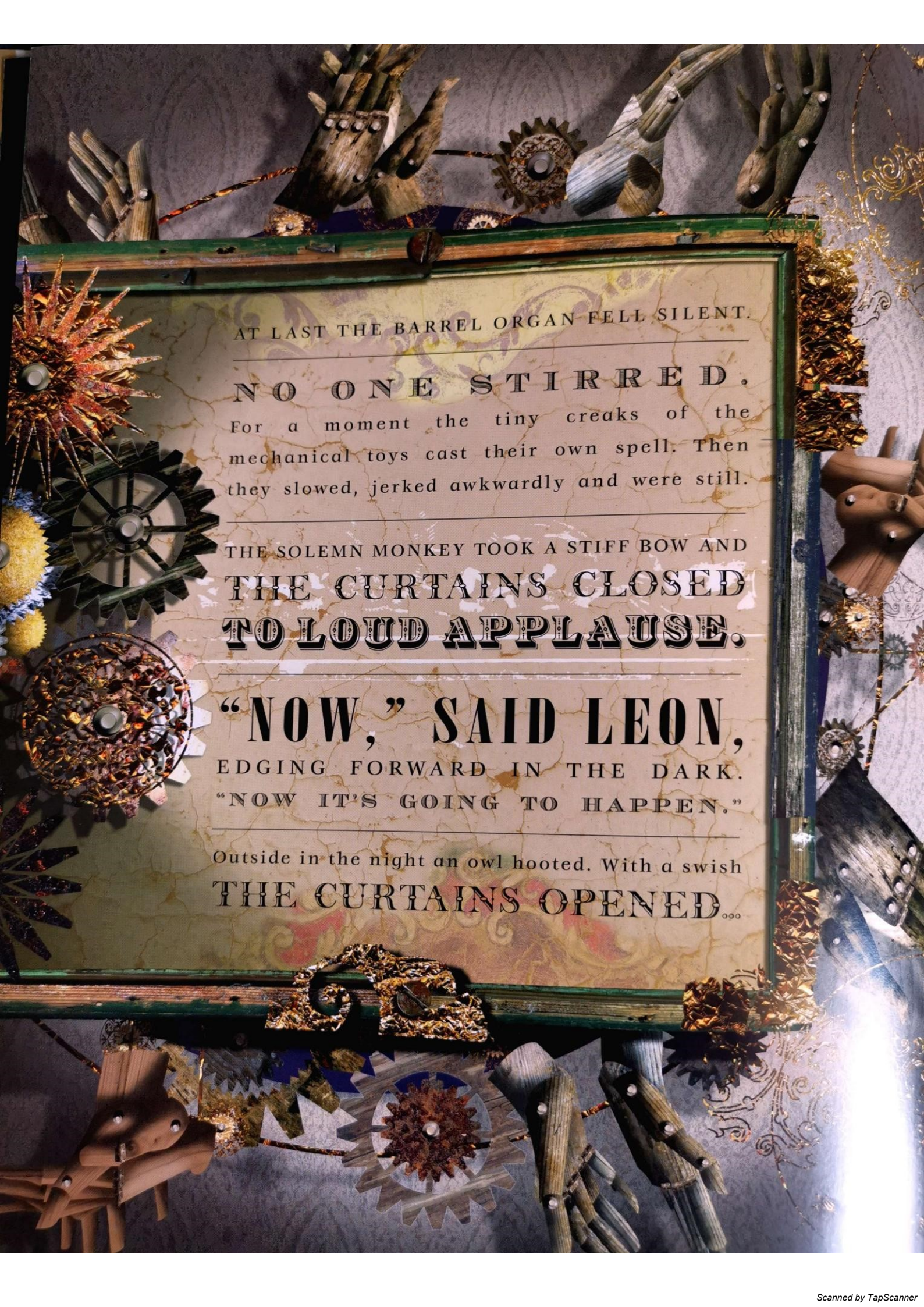
THE HANDLE BEGAN TO TURN
but there was no hand upon it. ➡

NOTE BY NOTE
the tinkling song of a carousel started
to dance from the pipes...

UP JUMPED A BARREL ORGAN MONKEY,
all made of wood and tiny hinges.
**HE BECKONED
THE MOON**
TO LIGHT THE MECHANICAL TOYS...

A red-eyed crocodile snapped at a running boy's heel.
A ballerina turned on her pink satin shoe.
Painted animals paraded into the ark and
A FLYING MACHINE LURCHED THROUGH THE AIR,
UP, UP AND OVER THE MOON.





AT LAST THE BARREL ORGAN FELL SILENT.

NO ONE STIRRED.

For a moment the tiny creaks of the mechanical toys cast their own spell. Then they slowed, jerked awkwardly and were still.

THE SOLEMN MONKEY TOOK A STIFF BOW AND
**THE CURTAINS CLOSED
TO LOUD APPLAUSE.**

“NOW,” SAID LEON,
EDGING FORWARD IN THE DARK.
“NOW IT’S GOING TO HAPPEN.”

Outside in the night an owl hooted. With a swish
THE CURTAINS OPENED...