

## Electric Edward

(Music up: "Over the Sea" on carnival calliope)

At one time in the not-too-distant past, it was popular for young men to shock themselves with electric shock machines at carnivals and circuses. This was done as a test of strength and endurance; it was done to impress the girls.

(Calliope music swells. Barker's voice is heard)

"Hurry , hurry, hurry! Step right up, step right up! Who'll be next? Only costs a nickle! So hurry, hurry, hurry! He's unbelievable! He's amazing! He's electrifying! He's . . . Electric Edward! Here he is, folks . . . your opportunity to experience first hand the wonder of the new Age of Electricity! Yes! That ethereal fluid that flows through the earth like a great dragon! Step right up folks and grasp the lightning from the sky . . . if you dare try! Feel that primeval power for yourselves! Produced for you upon this stage by means of a harmonious blending of beauty and efficiency! A gracefully woven sphere of gleaming copper wire which we set to spin inside a perfectly circular ring of magnets ! Touch the lightning from the sky! If you dare try! Step up, step up and take him by the hand, if you can! Who'll be next? Who'll be next? Only costs a nickle! These elemental bolts will make your hair stand on end! Your eyes will bug out, your body will tremble violently all over! It's wonderful!! So . . . who'll be next! Hi, there, young man!"

"Only costs a nickle, thanks, son! Now . . . all you have to do is . . .step up to Edward here . . . walk up to him, that's right . . Now, grasp him firmly by the hand and say, 'Hello, Edward!' while I pull this switch! Ready? Here we go!"

There are a few seconds of electrical humming and crackling, an eerie blue light of jumping sparks, and the strong, tang of ozone), "How about that! Wasn't that wonderful!? Yes indeedy! Look at that, folks, he's speechless! Must have made quite an impression! Well, now . . .who'll be next? He's amazing! He's unbelievable! He's . . . ELECTRIC EDWARD!!