

Fleshcreep:

Another crack of thunder and evil music as Fleshcreep enters DSL.

Fleshcreep: Oh look at you brainless buffoons! I thought I could smell something rotting! I am Fleshcreep, Henchman to the terrifying Giant Blunderbore! *(To the adults)* I see some of you have been let out for the day again! *(To the kids)* And there are some sweet, innocent young faces too...for now! The Giant's feeling particularly peckish today and he just *loves* to eat children for his lunch! So watch out! You better stop your pathetic booing and show me some respect or I'll be taking you up to Cloudland ready to boil your bones! I see you old'uns have perked up. He doesn't mind eating *you* too...you're just not as tasty as you've gone past your 'Best Before' date! Actually, I might just take a few of the kiddies now as an appetiser!

He moves towards the audience as Patch the Vegetable Fairy jumps in SL with a puff of smoke.

Patch: Not so fast, you horrid brute! You leave them alone!

Fleshcreep: Oh, look who's shown up! Suppose you were getting bored in your dressing room?

Patch: *(To the audience)* Hiya folks! I'm Patch the Vegetable Fairy. *(Gesturing to Fleshcreep)* Don't mind him...he's just angry he didn't get cast as the *real* villain in this show. You're nothing more than the Giant's valet. Why don't you scurry off back to your master? No one wants you here.

Fleshcreep: I think you forget who *really* pulls the strings. Think of me as the Dominic Cummings of Cloudland. But unlike him, at least *I've* kept my job! There's more in store than you could ever imagine. Now, let me just take a couple of the kiddiewinkles and I'll be on my way...

Patch: You won't take a single one. Oh no you won't!

Fleshcreep: Oh yes I will!

Patch: *(Encouraging the audience to join in)* Oh no you won't!

Fleshcreep: Oh yes I will!

Patch: Back away, Fleshcreep! Don't you dare put your hands on them!

Fleshcreep stops and looks bemused at Patch.

I bet you haven't washed them for 20 seconds either!

Fleshcreep: Oh come on, Coronavirus was so 2020!

Patch: Oh I don't know. I've been social distancing from you for *years!*

Fleshcreep: Hah!

Patch: I might only be a Vegetable Fairy but I'm not as dainty as I look!

Fleshcreep: Why, what are you going to do? Throw a potato at me?

Patch: I'll have you know I've been taking self-defence classes. I needed something to do while in lockdown apart from stare at Joe Wicks.

She zones out, gazing lovingly out into the audience. A few seconds later she catches herself.

Patch: Where was I? Oh, yeah. So watch out! *(striking a martial arts pose)*

Fleshcreep: I'm quaking in my boots...

Patch: *(annoyed)* What are you doing down here anyway?

Fleshcreep: The Giant's sent me down to tell the King the rent's going up.

Patch: Again?! It went up only last week! Don't you think you've made the poor folk of Merryhale suffer enough already?

Fleshcreep: Oh, cry me a river! You know the arrangement. As long as the King keeps up the payments, the Giant won't take any of the villagers to snack on.