

Day One

Bedroom

- Jesse overhears their parents talking
- Jesse's cat is with them

DAD: Got lost? Can't you see that Jesse was trying to join the rest of the freaks?

MOM: I can't even remember the last time you were sober. I think I've had enough of this.

Classroom

- The chalkboard says "Press J to paint with blue"
- Jesse paints a sad clown

TEACHER: Great work, Jesse! Just using blue for now? Maybe you'll be the next Picasso!

And... Jesse? Ms. Kim told me about your family's incident. If you ever need someone to talk to, I'm here, okay?

Schoolbus

- Jesse can leave the schoolbus without talking to the kids

CLASSMATE: Hey, did you guys hear? The circus is in town! I hope my parents take me.

Hey Jesse, didn't your family go to the circus already?

Home

- Jesse's mom has her bags packed

MOM: Oh, Jesse. You're home. I- I'm going away for a while. With everything that's been going on lately, I just need some time to myself...

I know this is a big surprise, but it's what I need right now. I promise it's not your fault, despite what your dad might say...

And Jesse... You have to stop painting those clowns - it's really not funny.

Bedroom

- Jesse is upset, and sheds a tear
- Jesse's cat meows

CAT: Meow...

Night One

Jangles' Studio

- Jangles dances while explaining canvases to Jesse
- Jesse must paint one blue springboard to exit the room

JANGLES: Why hello there, youngster! Welcome to my circus! Doctor Jangles, at your service!

Say, you look a bit glum there, pal... Hey, I hear you like to paint! I got you some nice blank canvases - maybe that'll put a smile on your face...

Each canvas has just about enough space for one splash of colour. They say that blue gets you down, but down here it'll have you jumping for joy!

Jistle in the dark

- Jistle looms in the shadows

JISTLE: Hee hee hee! A new clown joins the circus eh? What a surprise!

You love surprises, don't you Jesse? Mother dearest certainly does! Hee hee hee!

Defeated Jistle

- Jistle is stunned
- Jangle's faces emerges from the shadows after Jistle speaks
- Jesse can leave after Jangles speaks

JISTLE: W-what? That wasn't part of the routine... Aren't you sad? Talk about a surprise...

You're really just going to leave? Don't you remember what happened last time you ran off at the circus?

JANGLES: Now, now, Jistle, let's not remind Jesse of any painful memories. It's best to forget such things...

If it hurts to think about, just paint over it! You don't have to worry about ANYTHING down here. We'll see you soon, Jesse...

Day Two

Bedroom

- Jesse overhears their brother talking to their dad

BROTHER: Dad? Where's mom? I need a ride to practice...

DAD: Why don't you ask Jesse where your mom went? And get me another beer, punk...

Classroom

- The chalkboard says "Press K to paint with red"
- Jesse's teacher expresses concern about their family life
- Jesse paints a blue and red clown

TEACHER: Wow, Jesse! Your paintings are really incredible. Maybe a little spooky...

Hey, Jesse? You seem a bit... tired. Is everything okay at home? I know you've always been quiet, but you can talk to me...

Schoolbus

CLASSMATE: Oh, Jesse! I saw your painting! So creepy! Really good, though...

I think clowns are kinda scary, but I guess you like them...

Home

- Jesse's brother speaks, then punches Jesse
- After Jesse gets punched, they drop their paintbrush (death animation) and go straight to the night sequence

BROTHER: There you are, freak! Mom's gone now, and it's all your fault! I hate you!

Night Two

Jangles' Studio

- Jesse is upset in front of Jangles
- Jangles wants Jesse to stay in the circus

JANGLES: Yowza, kid! Can't catch a break up there! I'll tell ya what though, you put on such a good show last night, I thought I'd get you another canvas.

Looks like you're seein' red! Can't blame ya! You want my advice? Block it out! HAHAHAHA!

You might be a little scrawny up there, but down here in the circus, you've got some weight to throw around!

Jostle in the dark

- Jostle looms in the shadows

JOSTLE: HOHOHOHO! You must be the new clown I've been hearing so much about. What's your act? Let me guess: feats of strength? HOHOHOHO!

Don't worry Jesse, I don't think you're useless or anything... You made a great punching bag for your brother! HOHOHOHO!

Defeated Jostle

- Jostle is crying
- Jangles intervenes again
- Jesse is able to leave after talking to Jangles
- Clown Jesse is waiting in a mirror on the other side of the room

JOSTLE: B- B- But I'm stronger than you-u-u-u... FINE! You wanna know the truth?

You scare me, Jesse! I heard your family's not too kind to clowns up there...

JANGLES: That's enough out of you, Jostle! Jesse here has had a long night, there's no need to bring up ancient history!

We're down here now! We learned how to block all that baloney out! We're here to stay, right Jesse?

Day Three

Classroom

- The chalkboard says "press L to paint with yellow"
- Jesse paints a Lion

TEACHER: A lion! Jesse, that's amazing! Oh... Jesse, are those bruises?

Ms. Kim and I have been talking about your situation at home, and we want to get you some help, ok? I promise you're not in trouble...

Schoolbus

- Schoolkids are nice to Jesse

CLASSMATE: Jesse, your painting today was awesome! Do you want to come over to my house?

Home

- Dad is drinking heavily

DAD: Look who it is. My little Jesse. I remember when you were just a baby. You cried every night. I guess some things never change.

Some government scumbag came by today. Said they'd take you away from me.

Best news I've gotten in a long time. I'll finally be able to get a good night's sleep.

Bedroom

- Jesse is upset
- Cat is watching

CAT: Meow.

Night Three

Jangles' Studio

- Jangles makes a final effort to convince Jesse to stay
- Jesse can escape after Jangles speaks

JANGLES: Well kid, things couldn't get much worse up there, could they? Hey, look on the bright side! Down here, you can have all the canvases you want!

Yellow, eh? Glad to see you lightening up, kid! You know what, Jesse? I think you've earned it...

I offer you a once in a lifetime opportunity: would you like to join my circus? All I ask in return is that dinky little paintbrush of yours...

Lion

- The lion advises Jesse
- Jesse can leave after talking to the lion

LION: Things aren't looking so good for you up there, Jesse. Maybe you're starting to think that Doctor Jangles is right. That you belong here instead.

Jangles is a fool, Jesse. His advice will trap you in your own mind like some kind of caged beast.

Take it from someone who's been there: sometimes it's better to be wild. Oh, and don't lose that paint brush of yours. It's all you've got.

Jangles

- Just before the boss fight
- Jangles drops his friendly demeanor → scowling sprite

JANGLES: Wow, kid! If I didn't know any better, I'd think you were trying to leave again! Betrayal must run in your family!

Remind me... When you got lost at the circus, who was it that helped you find your parents? A CLOWN, Jesse!

And how did your father repay him? Why, he used the poor bozo's skull as a bottle opener! Are you here to finish the job, Jesse?

Defeated Jangles

- Jangles is angry (stun animation)

JANGLES: Argh! That's not funny! I offered you a way out of your miserable life, and this is what I get in return?

If you trap me in a canvas like you did with the others, you'll never be able to forget what you saw...

Day Four

Park

- Background and teacher are in full colour
- Cat is in the scene

TEACHER: Jesse! I just got off the phone with the agency... The adoption papers went through! We're family now!

I know I'm not your real mom, but I promise I will give you the life you deserve... You've already made so much progress with the nightmares...

I know it feels like those memories are eating you up inside, but with every painting, I can see you moving forwards... I'm so proud of you, Jesse!