

KAY

I love that poem. But Robert, I got a call again today about Ezra Pound. They say they're willing to release him from the asylum, but they're still waiting for that letter you promised.

FROST

What I'd like to do is bring Ezra out into the open to stand trial like an honest traitor. That's what they would have done too if they weren't cowards. The obscure go to prison, the famous to an asylum. It's just like religion: Your enemies go to hell but your friends go to purgatory.

KAY

Robert, you promised to write the letter. Remember everything he did for you at the beginning. He really cared.

*[Kay returns to the bedroom.]*

FROST

Yeah, yeah, yeah. *[Muttering he goes to the table and opens the drawer, removing a pen and paper. As he sits down, he discovers a letter on fancy stationery, which he removes and begins to read.]*

*[Putting letter away.]* Kay, come down here a minute.

KAY

*[Offstage.]* What did you say?

FROST

I said, 'Come down here.'

KAY

*[Offstage.]* I'm getting dressed. Can it wait, darling?

FROST

No, God damn it, it can't wait. I need you to come down here now.

KAY

*[Comes downstairs wearing a bathrobe.]*

What Robert? What's so important?

FROST

How long have you been sleeping with him?

KAY

What are you talking about. Who?

FROST

You know damn well who I'm talking about. I know all about it, so you might as well be honest.

KAY

*[She paces, considering different courses of action. Several times she starts to speak, then stops. Finally, she resolves to tell the truth.]*

Alright, It started six months ago. But really Robert, he doesn't mean anything to me. It was just some occasional sex, and it wasn't even any good. Nothing like you and me.

FROST

But with my own friend? Not even the decency to stay away from him? I'll get my revenge on that bastard. I'll call his publisher. I've got some pull with them.

KAY

No Robert, it wasn't his fault. Lawrance just happened to be here. I initiated things.

FROST

*[Flabbergasted.] Lawrance? I was talking about DeVoto. [Realization dawning.]* My God, are there any of my friends you haven't been sleeping with?

KAY

Well, there's Edmond.

FROST

*[FROST sits down with his head in his hands, defeated and dejected.]*

Oh, that's something we can be proud of. *[Sarcastic imitation.]* 'There's Edmond.'

KAY

But he's homosexual. Does he still count?

FROST

Oh for God's sake!

*[Blackout.]*