

Herodian - Act 6

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Romantic Play

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ACT 6

Scene 1:

We see that we are at a wonderful lake house. We can see sail boats in the distance and trees line the lake. It looks like a very expensive area to live in. Inside the house we see the decor is equally expensive and there is a bed and in it is Jerry and Malindaâ they have just finished making love. Malinda gets out of bed she is nude or scantily clad. She gets a drink of water from the joining bathroom and returns to bed with Jerry.

Malinda:

All this timeâ weâ ve been wanting each other and now the time has come for the truth to be made known. Now that weâ ve made loveâ you can tell your wife the truthâ that it is me that you want and not her.

Jerry:

Wellâ erâ it might prove to be a little more complicated than that.

Malinda:

Why? Look at usâ we are sleeping together. You and I have had our way with each other. Weâ ve been in the throngs of love making and our passions have elevated us to a new height.

Jerry:

Yes but you donâ t understandâ Herodia is not going to let me just walk away from her. She has big plans for me and her family is nothing to be messed with. Believe me when I say that.

Malinda:

But you are in love with me.

Jerry:

Now I realize that more than everâ but what do we do about it? You seeâ sheâ s not the type pf person that takes lightly to people stealing what she believes belongs to her.

Malinda:

I understand.

Jerry:

You do?

Herodian - Act 6

Malinda:

Yes. She is a very rich and powerful wifeâ hellâ I get it. (She gets up and casually paces the room.) Iâ d be a fool if I really thought that you were going to leave your rich and beautiful wife.

Jerry:

Malinda, itâ s not like that.

Malinda:

No? Then enlighten me as to what it is likeâ because all this morningâ weâ ve been hereâ in this bedâ making love and not once did she come up. But nowâ now you are feeling guiltyâ but Iâ m not! Because I know in my heart how I feel about youâ Iâ ve always felt this wayâ that was why it was so hard to understandâ when you announced that day that you had married someone else. I was confusedâ because I had always felt that we were going to be the ones who got marriedâ of our group of friends.

Jerry:

I kind of felt that way tooâ I guess we were both trying to wait until we graduated collegeâ found good jobsâ and then would come the settling down.

Malinda:

But that bitch beat me to the punch! Thereâ s something about her that I still canâ t put my finger on. Ohâ sheâ s obviousâ she knows how to use her wealth and influenceâ sheâ s managed to hook you in and keep you there. Sheâ s got a hold on youâ thatâ s for sure.

Jerry:

There are things about her that are hard to explainâ in factâ they are better not explainedâ Iâ ve come to know this because of a new business friend.

Malinda:

Ohâ you mean the owner of the gallery where you sell your paintings. He seems like a together manâ kinda mysterious at timesâ but nice enough.

Jerry:

Yeahâ it seems like everybody in my life nowâ is either mysterious or deadly or somethingâ I donâ t know anymore. But Herodia wants me to dump him and go with some of her parentâ s friends that own galleries.

Malinda:

Are you your own man?

Jerry:

Herodian - Act 6

What?

Malinda:

Are you in charge of your life?

Jerry:

There was this cop onceâ he wanted to come into my house without a search warrantâ he was yelling and screaming at the top of his voiceâ when Iâ m hereâ Iâ m in charge!

Malinda:

Thatâ s bullshit! The law is in chargeâ heâ s got to obey the law just like everybody else. Ohâ they all think that they are mightyâ full of power tripsâ few of them are free from corruption of some sort. They like to use various acts of governmentâ to bend or violate individual citizenâ s rights. And governmental institutionsâ like the Army Corps of Engineersâ when they let the levies fail and all those poor people got killedâ they lie to cover up their sinsâ but it is their fault!

Jerry:

You are right! The only people who suffered were the poor! The rich got away in there fast planes and helicopters. Hellâ you hang around the wealthy long enoughâ and you start to forget that there are real people out there who canâ t do betterâ and all because of the system! A system that thinks that poor people somehow donâ t have the same sensibilities of the richâ the rich think that disasters translated into vacations for the refugees of terror!

Malinda:

But it is the rich who corrupt the systemâ they manipulate the findings on civil rights hearings to favor the government and the richâ while trampling on the rights of the poorâ by accepting testimony that is obviously corrupted! Old mean Judge Green!

Jerry:

Or--so as the song goes!

Malinda:

But no matter whatâ we have each otherâ ohâ I knowâ Herodiaâ is the wife that you need in order to succeed. That is why you are were you are today and your future with her and her family looks bright. But it is me that will comfort you in the nightâ when she is out doing her strange waysâ it is my love that you will seek out. We can have thatâ canâ t we?

Jerry:

We do have that, Malindaâ itâ s just that I donâ t want anything to happen to you.

Malinda:

Herodian - Act 6

Don't worry about me because I worry about you. I think sometimes that you are in way over your head, not with your career, no, you worked hard to get there. Hell, we all went to college together, but the rest of us are struggling in that super competitive economic environment to find the real jobs that we really want. The ones that we all studied and trained for. Seems like more and more foreign people are taking away what once belonged to us.

Jerry:

It wasn't that way back in our parents' day. Seemed like the government knew to hold on to the important jobs and keep them here, but now, even the good jobs go to the ones that don't belong to the system, that weren't born and brought up in this country!

Malinda:

Makes you wonder why are we working so hard to get an education that is meaningless, not that knowledge is worthless, but that our schools are really training us for the real world, the foreigners excel in test taking and that is because their whole system of study is centered around taking test. But over here, it's like our educators are retarded or something! Can't they see that when we enter the work force, test taking is how one goes about getting a good job, and those who can pass the test are the ones who get the good jobs. They need to change their way of thinking, do what the foreigners do, center the education to the final result, taking the test. What good is knowledge if you can't demonstrate it in a tangible way or fashion?

Jerry:

You are right.

Malinda:

But you don't have to worry about any of that, you married money...

Jerry:

Whoa, that was out of left field! Where is all of that coming from?

Malinda:

Would you have been so successful if you and I had gotten married?

Jerry:

What? I don't know, I guess we may never find out, because it didn't happen like that. Not that I really wanted it to happen like this either. But you said yourself, she is a wife of convenience and I am a husband of manipulation.

Malinda:

Come away with me!

Jerry:

Herodian - Act 6

Whyâ where would we go?

Malinda:

I donâ t knowâ I just know that Iâ d rather be poor and happy with you in my arms and sharing a bed at nightâ than to be rich and miserableâ sleeping with someone I hateâ or dislikeâ Iâ m not really sure how you feel about her.

Jerry:

I donâ t hate herâ sheâ s complicated. She saved my dadâ s life when he was having a heart attack. I guess it was then that I saw some good in her.

Malinda:

So thenâ you love her more than you love me?

Jerry:

Noâ I didnâ t say that either! I guess Iâ m confused! I know that you and I are good togetherâ we make love beautifully together.

Malinda:

But you also make love beautifully to your gorgeous and wealthy wife!

Jerry:

No!

Malinda:

What?

Jerry:

I mean yes!

Malinda:

Okayâ so that is the picture here!

Jerry:

No it isnâ t. Iâ m not trying to have it both waysâ donâ t forgetâ you are the one who pursued me!

Malinda:

And in thatâ it makes adultery justified? Because we are committing adulteryâ no matter how we try and disguise itâ she is the legitimate spouse! She it is who won your heart and stole you away from meâ God I hate that bitch! If I had the wealth and power to compete with herâ Iâ d show her another thing!

Herodian - Act 6

Jerry:

Is that what this is all aboutâ€” you trying to get back at Herodiaâ€” because you feel she stole something from youâ€” me?

Malinda:

You can use logic to try and explain away my actionsâ€” but I am beyond logic and trainingâ€” Iâ€” m filled with passionâ€” I canâ€” t sit back and watch what should have been my life taken away from me by some bitch with money and fancy toys.

Scene 2:

We are still at the lake house that belongs to Jerry and Herodia. His wife is home now and she is as happy as can beâ€” sheâ€” s been shopping and has bought some new thingsâ€” she shows them off for her husband. Herodia isnâ€” t acting like a killer demonâ€” sheâ€” s acting like a young woman in loveâ€” in love with her husband.

Herodia:

Oh, darling I had the most wonderful time with my friendsâ€” you really must meet them sometimeâ€” you knowâ€” when you are ready. Iâ€” ve donâ€” t nothing but tell them good things about youâ€” they canâ€” t wait to meet you in person. Do you think we can have them over for dinnerâ€” you knowâ€” show off our new lake home?

Jerry:

(Reacting.) Oh sureâ€” that would be greatâ€” Iâ€” d love to meet some more of your friends...

Herodia:

(Reacting.) Iâ€” m sorryâ€” I guess Iâ€” ve been a selfish little bitch! All this time Iâ€” ve been thinking about myselfâ€” how I can make you fit into my crowdâ€” my friends and I havenâ€” t even given any consideration as to how you feelâ€” about your friends. I know whatâ€” why donâ€” t we have some of your friends over along with some of my friends. We can pick and choose the ones that might fit the bestâ€” with each otherâ€” I meanâ€” I have earthy friends too.

Jerry:

(Going to the barâ€” getting a drink.) Yeahâ€” real earthy...

Herodia:

(Genuinely concerned.) Are you okayâ€” because you seem distant. Is there anything I can do to make you happy? I knowâ€” I can fix your favorite meal...

Jerry:

No!

Herodian - Act 6

Herodia:

Oh?

Jerry:

No! I mean sure! that would be nice! I love your cooking! you are like some kind of super chef or something! you! ve got real talent.

Herodia:

(Hurries and puts her things away.) Okay great! I! ll change and get right on it! truth be told! I got so caught up in shopping! I forgot to eat anything myself.

Jerry:

Yeah! that can happen.

Herodia:

You know! I know we have this understanding that I am not suppose to read your mind or the mind! s of some of your close friends! but it would make things easier for both of us if you! d just give in and let me see what! s wrong! I can adapt in an instant and make everything better! just like I always do.

Jerry:

(Snaps.) No!

Herodia:

Huh?

Jerry:

We have an agreement! I won! t give you a hard time about the things that concern Herodian! and you won! t use your powers to violate certain things that should not be violated! We have an agreement!

Herodia:

(Smiles.) You are right! we do! Boy! not using my powers! is really hard! but when you love someone like I love you! you! d do anything for that person.

Jerry:

That! s what I don! t understand! how can you be so evil and yet! claim to be in love with me?

Herodia:

I! m not evil! I! ve told you before! it all has to do with point of view! how you see things. I! m from a race of people that have been historically mislabeled and misunderstood. Back in the ancient times! people didn! t understand about science and things like they do today! but like I said! we

Herodian - Act 6

understood that and evolved throughout nature it is that evolution that has led to where we are today and were we are at the brink of a new tomorrow!

Jerry:

Yes but is the human race ready for world peace and an end to world hunger? Maybe we like our misery?

Herodia:

(She's managed to change into something very revealing and sexy but functional. As she goes she brushes up against her husband in a effort to arouse him.) You know I can get the meal started and then we could go into the bedroom and make love I can think of nothing more I'd rather do right now than to have my husband in bed with me.

Jerry:

(Trying to resist.) I don't know maybe after dinner.

Herodia:

(Reacts.) Really you'd rather eat than make love to me right now?

Jerry:

Well no...

Herodia:

I don't understand?

Jerry:

You are so sexy and well hot maybe you are too much woman for me.

Herodia:

(Making dinner.) You know some of my more cynical friends because not all of my friends are Herodian some of them think you can't handle me either.

Jerry:

(Going over to the window viewing the scene outside.) Well there you go I'm not the only one who seems to think that perhaps this is a one sided relationship specially when it comes to sex. I mean you are like some super dynamo!

Herodia:

What I am is your wife! I chose to be with you as much as you did to be with me. When you first set eyes on me I read your mind you couldn't think of anything else except how much you wanted to touch my ass. You were out of your mind with lust.

Herodian - Act 6

Jerry:

And lust is a bad thing.

Herodia:

The bed in a marriage is not defiledâ and Heaven or hell help the person who comes between a man and a womanâ a husband and wife. Thatâ s how I feelâ how do you feel, Jerry?

Jerry:

(Becoming concerned that Herodia has begun to read his mind.) Erâ wellâ I know that Iâ d be a fool to ever give you upâ I see how men look at you when we walk down the street together. They look at me and wonderâ how did that little piece of shit get such a gorgeous woman like you to be by his side.

Herodia:

A little piece of shit like you? Where is all of this coming fromâ because the last time I checkedâ Iâ ve done nothing but try and build up your confidence. Iâ m not that type of wifeâ to secretly call her manâ that son of a bitch! Or trash you in front of strangers or my friendsâ in factâ I do just the oppositeâ I constantly develop a fine opinion of youâ becauseâ no matter how they might not like itâ you are a very talented and nice guyâ a little shyâ a little low on the self esteem scaleâ but what the hellâ Iâ d be lacking too if I were born poor.

Jerry:

Itâ s not all about wealth, Herodia!

Herodia:

(Coming from around the counter with a kitchen knife in her hand.) No, Jerryâ it is not about wealthâ it is about a wish I granted youâ but I did it wilfullyâ you and I are married and in loveâ forever. I will always love youâ and we will be married foreverâ no amount of torment can ever separate us.

Jerry:

Torment? This is the second time Iâ ve heard you mention thatâ what do you mean by that?

Herodia:

(Returns to her cooking.) Nothing!

Jerry:

Now whoâ s holding out? Why torment?

Herodia:

It all has to do with the enemy of the Herodians. Our enemy wants to torment us forever. But we canâ t let that happenâ can we, dear?

Herodian - Act 6

Jerry:

Er...

Herodia:

I mean we love one another so much I love you so much, Jerry that it make me cry sometimes I hurt inside longing to have you to make love to you over and over I never grow tired to us together. It's all I think about when I'm away from you and when I'm with you like right now the only thing that motivates me to kindness.

Jerry:

(Shocked.) Wow. I didn't realize how much you cared for me I mean I know that you need me because I'm suppose to be some kind of catalyst but I always thought deep down inside that was all the relationship was.

Herodia:

(Coming from behind the counter and embracing her husband.) No! No I love you so deeply that I can't imagine feeling any other way. Because of you, dear husband the wish that you wanted may have saved me in some way that I'm not sure of yet. And if not then we shall have a love that will go on forever no matter what fate befalls us.

Jerry:

Saved you what do you mean saved you you are a demon you are damned to hell.

Herodia:

That is what I've been trying to tell you I'm changing from what I understand when a man and a woman marry they become as one flesh one being. Even if one of them is sinful the good one you can save the bad one me. You through your faith in God can save me as well as yourself just don't do anything stupid.

Jerry:

Define stupid?

Herodia:

You know sinful keep a pure and clean heart towards your God and Savior the Lord Jesus Christ forgives sins. Maybe not my transgressions but yours and I'm married to you. So then I'm forgiven because the two of us are one. So now do you see why I've been so happy? What started out as an assignment in order to manipulate you to perform a duty might have been a way for me to be free of my own damnation.

Jerry:

And if you are wrong?

Herodian - Act 6

Herodia:

(She kisses him like she wants to make love to him.) Then we burn for all eternityâ togetherâ but we love one another to comfort one another from the torment.

Jerry:

(Reacting.) Thenâ this marriage really has taken on a life of its ownâ I meanâ this is not for showâ or because I was drunk and made a stupid wish.

Herodia:

(Taking hold of his hands and guiding him towards the bedroom.) Noâ noâ we really are a couple, Jerry. We need each otherâ for whatever reasonsâ at lease we know that love is stronger than anything. Iâ ve always secretly believed itâ but now Iâ ve experienced it first handâ I can never let goâ Iâ d do anything to keep our love strong and us together. I pity whatever fool would be so stupid as to stand in our way!

Herodian - Act 6

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