

Prologue

The autumn air is so crisp that I can practically taste it.

Autumn is the time of year where things prepare to die. When leaves fall from trees to expose bare branches.

The same goes for people. I now face my devastation, a smile on my face, gleefully embracing the--

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Lord Talbot Your bedevilling smirk makes me question your remorse! Lady Harclaw, do you understand the implications of your actions?

Catherine Well, I—

[Meg Enters]

Meg, my handmaid, is shooting me a look that positively drips with venom!

Catherine Oh dear Lord Jack, if your ego insists I apologize, I—

[Screen flashes red]

Catherine Oww!

You can't just kick people! Meg!

[Meg Exits]

I'm going to skin her alive...

Catherine —Lord Talbot, I know you see a machiavellian betrayal of catastrophic proportions, but since we are no longer children playing soldiers in the scullery...

No, scratch that, Meg is going to skin me, not the other way around.

Way for her to gang up on me when I am defending my honor, and then to quite literally kick me when I'm down.

Catherine I'm not sure how losing our engagement ring—

Lord Talbot —The diamond of our affections?

Catherine Well... weren't you planning on just giving me another one at the altar? So—

Lord Talbot Lady Harclaw, our engagement ring represents the pure love I harbor for you. To throw it away...

Lord Talbot To throw it away is to also throw away my love.

Lord Talbot Goodbye Catherine, I shall be speaking to your father.

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Did he just...

Catherine ... Catherine?

Hearing Jack casually overstep my family name brings back memories of climbing trees, and playing swords with sticks in the orchard. It's a shame he's so petulant now.

[Meg Enters]

Meg If now that you are finally free of your marital contract you decide to develop feelings for Lord Talbot, I shall be quite annoyed by your decision.

Meg Hmm... This is interesting I think I might then be...

Meg Perhaps even angry.

Catherine Angry? Why would you be angry? I'm the one who just—

Meg ...

Catherine Staring is rude. Only degenerates and lechers stare.

Meg Degenerates and lechers are one and the same. However, I can comprehend your confusion.

Meg One cannot identify a lecher when they are living the life of one. Similar to your affections for Lord Talbot.

Catherine Well if you truly care about my affections so much...

#1 I'm frankly thrilled to be free grazing once more. (

Meg Agreed, this is an improvement. Lord Talbot was too good for you.

Meg You would be better suited to a long and miserable life as an old maid.

Catherine Your concern is gracious, just make sure you don't choke on your kind words...

Meg I do in fact care about you very much Lady Catherine.

Meg The fact I know you so well is why I understand that if your suitors knew what was good for them, they would flee as swiftly as possible.

Catherine Your ceaseless positivity is why father pays you so well, isn't it?

Meg It's my pleasure to serve Lady Catherine.

Catherine I love you, too.

Meg ...

)

#2 He's just... really hot. That's all. (

Meg You know, not knowing what you treasured until you lose it is a cliché.

Meg Cliches are both boring and predictable, and you should endeavor harder to avoid them.

Catherine Are you actually judging me? Be level Meg.

Meg Yes, Lady Catherine. And for the record, I am most pleased about your betrothal being terminated. I—

Meg ... Lord Talbot can do better.

Catherine You're so clever Meg... Was it in shining my boots that you learned to strike so low?

Meg You would be amazed what you can see while polishing milady's shoes...

Meg Current matters aside, I would not want you to doubt my devotion to you, Lady Harclaw. However...

Catherine Yes?

Meg If I may be so bold, your mother never beat you enough.

Catherine Thank you for your well considered opinion.

Meg It is my pleasure.

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Catherine I believe I shall take a walk through the gardens. Alone.

Meg Of course Lady Catherine. Simply call if I am needed.

[Meg Exits]

Ugh... I had been dreading my marriage to Jack Talbot ever since my father gave his blessing.

So, if that's the case, why do I feel so... strange?

Why is it that I feel like a failure? It's hardly my fault that my blasted engagement ring was stolen!

How can he blame me?

Ha! I'm like a bird that's had the cage door opened, but won't spread its wings.

Jack was at least a friend at some point. Now that is through, I'm sure father will simply marry me
off to the first lord who will take me.

The duchy of Drollshire is hardly wealthy, and my marriage to Jack was supposed to be the remedy
for that.

Jack... Lord Jack Talbot, our neighbor and my childhood best friend... I think he always liked me.

He stopped calling me by my first name when he started courting me, and it's been Lady Harclaw
ever since...

I hate that. All of it. The manners, the courtly dances, the politics, and the fact it is no longer
befitting of a young woman to chase loose chickens.

I don't understand any of it. Most of all though, I still don't understand why some ruffian robbing
me means that—

Randall [Obscured, off Screen] Ho there, Kitten!

Catherine Who—

[Randall Enters]

Randall Randall Quick, at your service milady.

Catherine You stole... You're...

Randall Dashing? Exquisite? Looks handsome enough to steal the heart of every maid in the empire?

Randall And, if I may be so bold, a handful of dowagers as well...

Catherine I see... In addition to being a thief, you possess an inflated ego in need of bursting..

Catherine Was that stolen too, or just my engagement ring?

Randall Ha! That trifle! Yes, well, I can't swoop into just any lady's boudoir without business...

#1 Guards! A ruffian has beset me! (

Randall Shh, fair dame... I may have administered to your guards a... rather swift jab to the cranium.

Randall There's no assistance coming, even if you whail like a babe. There shall be no interruptions while give you the offer of a lifetime!

Catherine I'm so giddy with enthusiasm I could sprout wings and fly... somewhere my time would be better used.

)

#2 Thank you so much for stealing my ring! (

Randall I... Well...

Catherine Dear sir, how you have lifted a weight from my chest!

Catherine Truly, without this anchor to hold me back, who knows what jubilant heights I may attain.

Randall Ha! Well, I... Suppose...

Catherine My apologies. Was your upbringing so impoverished as to not provide you a summary education in sarcasm and wit?

Catherine Or, instead, is it that your ego is too bloated for my words to puncture?

Randall This changes nothing!

Randall Even if you are a bizarre and intriguing young woman who has piqued my attention to a fiery tempest...

Randall For shame, I have a proposition, and you shall hear me out!

Randall Yes, ehm...

)

Randall For the return of your precious ring...

Randall and if I overheard correctly, your sweet fiancé, as well...

[Meg Enters]

Randall What a shame he left you... it's so difficult to imagine why.

Randall Well, for all of this, I merely ask for a measly sum of—

[Screen flashes red]

Meg Lady Catherine, I have apprehended this criminal who was accosting you.

Meg Were you harmed by this twisted hog of a man?

Randall I... Hello... My name is Randall, and you are?

[Screen flashes red]

Meg ...

Catherine Oh dear, my Meg, I am unharmed...

Catherine I believe that this wolf is quite old, and is missing his fangs.

Catherine I would mount his head as a trophy, but it's rather flea bitten...

Randall So... about returning your ring...

Randall Since I'm returning it out of the kindness of my heart, old dog that I am, have you considered a reward?

Meg You mean this?

Randall Ahh, I see you've found the false ring that—

Meg Please don't lie to Lady Catherine you disgusting gutter dweller. Lying causes nasty wrinkles.

Catherine I don't think...

Meg It's true, Lady Catherine, and you should remember it as well.

Meg Now then, what should I do with this thing?

What would I like her to do with him?

I have so many obligations today... and he did successfully get me out of my engagement to Lord

Talbot ...

Catherine Ahem! From this moment onward, you, Randall...

Catherine Will be my personal errand boy! Yes, this is perfect!

Catherine I could have so much time on my hands...

Meg You'll probably just waste it.

Catherine Shhh...

Randall Ha... You're joking, right?

Meg Lady Catherine rarely jokes...or shows other human qualities, for that matter.

Catherine What shall you do first for me? Hmm...

Obligations

Father's Birthday Party

[Description of event] Ah yes, my father's birthday party. I'm sure he will be terribly upset about my engagement. Hopefully I can leave before he has a chance to reprimand me for betraying my birthright. I'll at least have to attend for the cake... however, once he's talking, I can slip away! Simple as that.

My father, the duke of Drollshire's, birthday celebration. It's an event children wait for all year.

As a dumb infant, I was one of them. The screaming, heckling, happy children.

But now, I dread it... After all, my father is going to rage over my engagement with Jack...

not being an engagement anymore.

Truly, the English language is not so broad as to avoid redundancy in my lexicon!

Catherine I adore my dear father, but friends, glorified footstool, how am I getting out of this one?

Meg In case you didn't realize, you're the footstool, errand boy.

Randall I had in fact figured that one out. I might not be blue blooded, but—

Meg Actually, blue blooded is a misnomer. Nobody's blood is blue, it is red both in and out of the body.

Meg The appearance of blue blood, especially in those of noble lineage, is because of their access to superior skin care and hygiene.

Meg Your skin is so coated with grime and acne that nobody could see your veins.

Meg Conversely, Lady Catherine has excellent skin, and due to light being diffused through the skin, thus making her veins appear blue.

Randall I... did not know that.

Catherine Ha, plebe! My flesh is immaculate and unstained

Meg It would be even better if you bathed more often.

Catherine You snake tongued—

Randall Regardless, I'm the one with the rippling biceps that will allow me to spirit you from the palace balcony...

Meg ... I still believe that Lady Catherine should speak with her father.

Meg I understand your reluctance to speak with Duke Harclaw, and I fully support leaving once you have...

Meg However, your father is most likely more concerned about you than angry.

Randall I wouldn't go near this situation with a ten foot pole. Make an appearance and dash before he opens his mouth.

Meg That's easy for you to say. I'm sure your family abandoned you to die on the streets like a mangy pug.

Randall They did... It was tragic actually. My father died in a farming accident, and my mother had to walk the streets to feed us.

Randall That is, before the wasting disease took her. I was left all on my own, my only possessions...

Randall My father's blade, and my own wit. I've made my—

Meg A peasant possessing a sword is a major crime. In fact, it can be punishable by execution for treason.

Meg Do you mean to pass off that your father was both a farmer, and armed?

Randall He was... a passing nobleman who died in a farming accident. I'm actually of an esteemed lineage that—

Catherine Leave off, peasant. Your lies shall not befoul my perfectly pert ears.

Catherine Returning to the matter at hand, we will cut through the party, be seen and adored, and exit via the second story drawing room balcony.

Randall Of course, madame.

Meg The simple memorization of titles and proper etiquette is common knowledge to all but the mentally infirm.

Randall What? Captain Catherine? I don't know what you speak of.

Catherine Ugh. I'm leaving, you petulant parasites. Heel!

Meg Of course Lady Catherine.

[Meg Exits]

Randall Whatever...

[Randall Exits]

My father's birthday always makes me feel like a child again.

I always liked being at the childrens' table at events... It was only last year I was forced to sit with the adults.

Adults always talk around things, and it's infuriating. Worse, they expect you to follow suit.

If I had to put a finger on it, that's when I started hating my station. At least Meg still treats me the same as ever.

Lord Talbot [Obscured, Offscreen] Ehem, Lady Harclaw?

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Lord Talbot Ahh, I, ehm. I just wanted to say hello.

Catherine Ja—Lord Talbot. What a surprise.

[Meg Enters]

Meg Seconded. Your presence is distasteful.

(IF megBool1) {

Meg How are your... Amenities healing Lord Talbot?

Lord Talbot ... I have no need to speak with you, foul wench.

Lord Talbot I'm still half tempted to have you hanged!

Catherine Oh my... This is getting so heated! Maybe we should all—

Meg Finish what we started? I am amenable to the idea.

}

[Randall Enters]

Randall Catherine, darling... Right this way?

Lord Talbot I cannot—Wait...

Lord Talbot 'Darling...' I'm...I'm feeling rather faint.

(IF randallBool1) {

Lord Talbot I thought you... I thought I meant...

Lord Talbot Regardless... Randy...

}

Lord Talbot I should... I...

#1 We should be going. Goodbye, Jack. (

Lord Talbot Wait, what do you—

Lord Talbot First you snub my love, and then... After all this...

Lord Talbot You're just going to leave me? Your fiancé?

Catherine Ex-fiancé... And, I do believe that was your decision to make.

Catherine Goodbye Lord Talbot.

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Randall Completely frigid... I do like you from time to time.

Randall Shall we?

Catherine That was refreshing. I believe we shall.

Catherine The drawing room is right this way...

[Randall and Meg Exit]

It was honestly exhilarating, informing Jack that his own bullheaded stupidity has cost him dearly.

Meg always hated Jack for reasons I cannot fathom, but this darkness has only begun to fester recently in my heart.

I've always tried to wear my heart on my sleeve, bon vivant, but this is different. It's not familiar schadenfreude, so what is this?

Am I bitter? Well, there's no helping it now, I suppose. Truly, I've passed into adulthood.

[Randall and Meg Enter]

Catherine We're here! Now it's just a matter of—

Meg Lady Catherine... Your father has seen us.

Randall Quick, let's go.

Meg Lady Catherine, I believe that he deserves to speak with you, if only for a moment.

Meg He is your father.

Randall Alternatively...

Catherine Well, I just—

#1 Let's go. I see my father daily. (

Meg ... How is it that your boundless narcissism can still astound me?

Randall Come now fair dame... take my arm.

It's so... fit. I hadn't realized until now just how muscular Randall actually is.

Catherine Your body is like that of a hunting dog.

Randall Sleek and muscular? Groomed for pleasure?

Catherine More fleabitten and knotted with disgusting musculature!

Catherine You truly are a beast of a man. Do they even consider such breeds human?

Catherine We should ensure peasant stock is more pleasant to the eye going forward.

Meg Lady Catherine, the selective breeding of humans for aesthetic purposes is generally frowned upon.

Meg It is a line I would recommend you not cross. Otherwise, the peasants might revolt.

Randall On the other hand, who wouldn't want to breed this?

Meg Myself for one.

Randall Well, that's because you're not interested in my...kind, or is that wrong?

Meg ...

Catherine Quick, my father truly is coming!

Swooped off of my feet by a scoundrel? Spirited from the balcony?

My shining hair flowing in the wind, free from the clutches of responsibility and station.

I could find myself getting used to this.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

[Free Time]

)

#2 Hold, just a moment... (

Randall We should be leaving...

[Randall Exits]

Meg Thank you, Lady Catherine.

Catherine You owe me.

Meg I—

Catherine Father! Over here!

[Father Enters]

Father Catherine, darling.

Father I heard about earlier...

Catherine Yes Father.

Father Catherine, my dearest daughter.

Father This is not your fault. The duchy of Drollshire will continue, and
while we may not prosper...

Father We will persevere.

Father I hope you know how proud of the woman you've grown into I am.

Catherine Father, I—I'm so glad. I thought you would be angry.

Father Angry? Dearest... If this is the man Jack has grown into, I don't want
him anywhere near my daughter.

Catherine But, the fortune—

Father We will find another way, as we always have.

Father As for you, Meg, thank you for always keeping my daughter safe.

Father I worry so much, but with you here, I worry...less.

Meg Duke Harclaw, I—

Father It's all right, Meg, I know.

Randall Are we leaving or not? I'm not going to wait here all day.

Catherine I can stay and—

Father You've had a long day, and I'm sure that there's something you'd prefer to be doing than keeping your old man company.

Father And besides...this means I can get drunk without setting a bad example.

Catherine I'm glad to see you are full of cheer Dad... Happy Birthday, OK?

Father Ha! Go! Be free!

[Father Exits]

Catherine Did you hear that? You keep me safe, Meg.

Meg It... It would be a shame if anyone else were to injure you.

Meg I've taken the time to memorize all your weaknesses, and if someone else got to you first, it would be for naught.

Randall I am leaving in ten seconds!

Catherine Shall we?

My father truly is a man of many surprises...

On the balcony, a cool wind tousled my hair. What shall I do now?

There are so many places in this vast world...

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

[Free Time]

)

)

#2 It's... not like that. Can I get you a drink? (

Meg Lady Catherine, I don't think...

Lord Talbot I... Yes, thank you very much Lady Harclaw. I would much appreciate a drink.

Randall I don't think—

Lord Talbot Your servants have a way of talking out of place, don't they?

Catherine I...

[Randall Exits]

Meg Lady Catherine...

#1 Leave us, please. (

Meg ...

Meg ...

Catherine Meg?

[Meg Exits]

Lord Talbot I believe the bar is just this way...

Father Well now, it's great to see you children making up.

[Father Enters]

Father You know... As youngsters, Catherine would always beat you with sticks, Lord Talbot...

Father Do you remember that? I would tell her to stop, but she is persistent.

Father That's my girl for you!

Father Anyhow, how about a hug from my darling daughter?

Catherine Ehm, of course Father...

Damn! I'm stuck here. There's no getting away, now Father has seen Jack and me together.

I suppose it's worth it, though... Jack looks uncomfortable, but the two of us being embarrassed by Father, well...

It sort of feels like we're children again. Father was always exuberant.

I think... I think I'm happy right now.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Lord Talbot]

[No Free Time]

)

#2 You know, Jack, that drink will have to wait. (

Lord Talbot Wait, what do you—

Lord Talbot First you snub my love, and then... After all this...

Lord Talbot You're just going to leave with that man?

Catherine You mean, with Meg.

Lord Talbot You value a servant over your fiancé?

Catherine Ex-fiancé... And, I do believe that was your decision to make

Catherine Goodbye Lord Talbot.

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Meg Lady Catherine, that was incredibly foolhardy. Given the chance to attempt to reclaim—

Catherine It's fine. Come on, let's go.

Meg I don't think—

Catherine Are we leaving or not?

Father Not so fast.

[Father Enters]

Father I heard about earlier...

Catherine Yes Father.

Father Catherine, my dearest daughter.

Father This is not your fault. The duchy of Drollshire will continue, and while we may not prosper...

Father We will persevere.

Father I hope you know how proud of the woman you've grown into I am.

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Father Angry? Dearest.... If this is the man Jack has grown into, I don't want him anywhere near my daughter.

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[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

[Free Time]

)

)

Sorting Affairs with Jack Talbot

[Description of event] The trick to a good apology is avoiding doing it altogether, and instead making the other party apologize to you instead. Only one of the many skills of the aristocracy honed through generations of fine breeding and cutthroat luncheons.

Jack Talbot... My best friend from ages three through twelve.

That is, until he hit puberty. Not that anyone would tell me what puberty was.

After all, it would be unclean for a fine lady like myself to know that giggly bits doth drop, and..

Fur... grows.

I learned that his awkwardness was relatively normal for a thirteen year old boy going through puberty—from Meg.

Now, I suppose I have to sort our final affairs. Not that he won't still be our neighbor.

After all, I'm most likely going to see Jack across the moor until I keel over and join the good lord Jehivus.

[Meg Enters]

Meg You mean either Jehova, the father; or Jesus, the son.

Catherine Hmm? I'm unsure what you're speaking of, my dear Meg.

Ugh! I was too busy thinking about hide and seek! Damn him!

Catherine Ehh, no Jack, I was...

Catherine —Just here to apologize!

Damn it! That was exactly what he just said! I'm flustered now... Think of things that make me
happy...

Hmm, what about when I was named must beautiful girl west of the divide, and east of that big rock
whose name I can't remember?

Sadly I only won because Meg slipped something in Bess Morton's stew, and tripped Jennet Darby
so her nose broke. As much as I savor the victory, I was like a wizened hag to them.

Oh, how about when Meg and I snuck into the dungeons to inspect the devices, and then Jack got
beat for it because we said he dared us?

No, that one involves Jack... I don't want to think about him.

What about all of the things I will do upon leaving these premises with my freedom? Just focus on
spreading my wings, the wind in my feathers.

Catherine Fantastic, it's your turn now.

Lord Talbot Lady Harclaw, I shall not be belittling my injury, nor shall I drag myself
through the mud for your gratification. I am a man, damn it! I have my dignity.

Catherine ... What? Jack, you're ridiculous. Dignity?

Lord Talbot After everything, do you really expect me to apologize? If so, you are sorely
out of line.

[Meg Enters]

Meg Lord Talbot, you should be ashamed of yourself.

Meg Your behavior today has not been that befitting a man of your stature.

Meg In fact, I would venture that you are a man ill-suited to his birthright!

Lord Talbot This is preposterous! Control your dog, Catherine.

Meg The lowliest mutt knows her owner. Who do you come to heel for, Lord Talbot?

How is this going so poorly? What do I say?

Lord Talbot I will not tolerate being insulted like this. Catherine!

#1 No, I believe Meg has a point. (

Lord Talbot Excuse me?

Randall A point? More than a point...

Lord Talbot What the devil—

[Randall Enters]

Randall If I may be so bold, I don't think our dear gentleman here has been entirely faithful in his affections.

Randall See, some of you might call me a filth dwelling beastman—

Meg —I simply state what is obvious—

Randall —However! While you oblivious aristocrats were arguing at the top of your lungs, I crept on my feet and—

Meg You could have at least *attempted* a simile. They are common, even if you lack the education to know what one is.

Randall Ehem, would you like to tell us about your stableboy, Martin?

Randall These letters from your chambers tell a rather interesting story.

Catherine Martin? The... The...

Meg I cannot believe my ears, and I'm shocked by this suddenly illuminated depravity.

Catherine I know! The ugly one? How dare you!

Meg That would be the implication of this news.

Catherine You defiled your 'pure love' for me with the worst stable boy?

Catherine I at least—

Randall Ehem...

Catherine —Would never!

Catherine Lord Jack Talbot, what say you!

Lord Talbot I... I...

Lord Talbot I challenge this ruffian to a duel! His honor against mine!

Lord Talbot Yes... We'll just sweep it all...under...the rug. Ha... Haha...

Lord Talbot Ha.

Randall Declined. I haven't even held a sword before. You can't seriously—

Meg That is irrelevant, Lord Talbot is a Lord, and if he wishes to duel you over his honor...

Catherine Oh, Randall... She is correct. You're going to have to fight Jack.

Lord Talbot I'll fetch the swords... Yes, the swords...

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Meg I do suppose that this is the end of the road for you.

Meg I would say it was a pleasure knowing you, however, as we are just acquainted...

Meg Instead, we will simply refer to this as a memorable day in my life.

Catherine If Randall knew someone who could substitute... You can substitute in a duel with compelling reason.

Meg Barely qualifying as human seems sufficient to me.

Randall I-I'm sure that my roguish charms will save my hide yet again.

Catherine Hmm... Well...

#1 Fine, let us see those charms in action Randall. (**randallBool1 = true**

Meg I look forward to watching you be dismembered.

Randall Don't be so sure, us roguish sorts do have nine lives.

Randall And I intend to live all nine to the fullest...

Catherine That might be the dumbest thing I've ever heard.

Meg Seconded.

Randall Watch and learn my kittens, watch and learn...

Catherine Why are you undoing your buttons? This is...

Randall Art, that's what it is.

Randall This body is like a masterpiece by a famous sculptor. Perfect.

Catherine A famous sculptor? Which famous—

Randall Exactly.

Lord Talbot I return! Now then, shall we...

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Randall Sword fight? My honor is ready for you.

Randall But the more pressing question is...

Randall Is yours ready for me?

Lord Talbot Oh Lord and savior, Jesus Christ in heaven...

Meg Drooling while you pray renders it ineffective in the eyes of the Lord.

Meg You should pray either before or after your lust is sated. Your current tactic makes you seem shallow.

Meg The same goes for you Lady Catherine...

Catherine And, now kiss...

Randall So—ignoring them! What say you, rich boy? Are you going to teach me what a filthy scoundrel I am?

Randall Catch me if you can!

[Randall Exits]

Lord Talbot Lord, please forgive me!

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Catherine ...

Meg ...

Meg Shall we leave, Lady Catherine?

Catherine Hmmm? Oh, I suppose.

Catherine I'll leave a note.

Meg Reasonable.

'Dear Randall,'

“Assuming you have not been skewered—lethally that is—please meet us in town. I
will be thinking of you intensely.”

“Thoughts and prayers.”

“- Lady Catherine Harclaw”

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

[Free Time]

)

#2 This has gone on too long, substitute for him Meg. (**megBool1 = true;**

Meg With pleasure Lady Harclaw.

Randall Oh thank you. I was never a religious man, but I have witnessed a
miracle.

Randall So, now it's Meg that dies instead, correct?

Catherine Meg, do you feel ready?

Meg ... Of course Lady Catherine. This is what I am employed to do

Meg I see no reason I would be unprepared.

Randall You're acting unconcerned, so I assume that I'm missing
something...

Meg I wouldn't want to ruin the surprise.

Lord Talbot I return! Are you ready to recant your words?

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Catherine Lord Talbot, I regret to inform you that while Randall will be—in spirit—your adversary...

Randall I've never touched a sword before.

Catherine —He's struck dumb by God, and has an infirmity of the constitution..

Catherine This infirmity means he has called a champion to duel in his stead.

Lord Talbot I see no infirmity! This man is fit and spry as the day he was born.

Meg By your own logic, he should be unfit. Nobody would challenge an infant to the blade.

Lord Talbot This... That... This is ludicrous. I see no infirmity of the body.

Randall Ehm, the constitution, apparently. Does that help?

Lord Talbot Who would even champion for this rascal?

Meg As this matter has also besmirched the honor of Lady Catherine Harclaw, I volunteer to represent this ruffian.

Meg ... Abased deviant though she may be, your treatment of Lady Catherine shows your true depravity.

Meg I look forward to seeing you squirm like a stuck pig for besmirching my Lady's person.

Lord Talbot This is a sick joke.

Catherine I fail to see the humor in this situation. Meg, I shall be your second.

Lord Talbot A woman cannot serve as a second! Wait, no, let alone a first! This is preposterous!

Meg Are you afraid that I will maim you?

Lord Talbot I will not duel a woman!

Randall I don't know much about duelling... however, you're still technically duelling me, yes?

Randall She's just fighting for me. I guess I'll just... sit down.

Randall Best of luck!

[Randall exits]

Catherine It's settled then. By the king in heaven—

Meg Lord in heaven.

Catherine —Lord in heaven guide the best woman's hand.

Lord Talbot I refuse to strike women.

Catherine Paces!

[Meg exits]

Lord Talbot Is nobody listening to me?

Catherine Get set!

Lord Talbot Meg, it is unbecoming of a lady to—

Catherine Stab each other!

[Meg Enters]

[Screen flashes red, and Lord Talbot falls]

Meg ...

Lord Talbot Oh God in heaven! My... my...

Randall I'm going to barf... I can't look.

Randall I'll meet you both outside.

Lord Talbot Augh!

Lord Talbot You depraved witch! Why would you stab me there?

Lord Talbot What cruel joke is this, you hag?

Meg Lady Catherine, was the duel to first blood, or the death?

Meg I had hoped for a more enduring sense of catharsis from depriving
him of his noble lineage...

Meg But sadly, I feel nothing.

Catherine I think he's bleeding enough...

Catherine This duel has officially been won, by myself—ehm—by Randall, via
his proxy Meg. He is now cleared of all slander in the eyes of God.

Meg Amen.

Lord Talbot Jesus, I didn't even have a second! Just... Go! Get out!

Catherine Ehm... Jack... Would you like me to call a doctor?

Lord Talbot Leave!

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Meg Lady Catherine, I hope you comprehend that I did not do this out of
any love for the street scum you have taken in.

Meg This was a matter of your honor, which I take very seriously.

Catherine I understand, Meg.

Meg Good.

[Meg Exits]

I suppose we should get out of here... I would say poor Jack, but...

He should truly hold himself to a higher standard.

Martin?

Of all the stable boys...

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

[Free Time]

)

)

#2 It's fine Meg. (

Lord Talbot Thank you Cath-Lady Harclaw.

Meg ... Yes Lady Catherine. I spoke out of turn.

Lord Talbot The way you refer to Lady Harclaw by her first name is unbecoming someone of your station.

Lord Talbot While you are under this roof, refer to your betters with due reverence.

Meg ... Yes, Lord Talbot. You have my...

Meg ...

Lord Talbot Yes?

Meg ... Most sincere apologies for my wrongful outburst.

Meg Lady Ca-Harclaw, may I take my leave.

Catherine Yes, of course Meg!

[Meg Exits]

Lord Talbot Now then... Lady Harclaw.

Catherine Lord Talbot, Jack, I'm sorry for all of the trouble you have been through.

Catherine I won't pretend to understand, or justify your reaction to the theft of our ring...

Catherine However, here it is. Better?

Lord Talbot You recovered it? You recovered my love?

Truly amazing. How can an adult man throw a temper tantrum and then turn a hundred and eighty degrees in an instant?

Catherine It...wasn't hard you dumba—

Catherine —Lord Talbot.

Lord Talbot Catherine, I—

[Randall Enters]

Randall If I may be so bold, I don't think our dear gentleman here has been...

Randall I'm just going to leave. All right?

Lord Talbot I believe that would be for the best.

[Randall Exits]

Lord Talbot I will...need some time to consider things, Lady Harclaw.

Lord Talbot That is, both your actions and... mine.

Lord Talbot Thank you though. Maybe...a walk through the gardens?

Ugh! It's going to take forever!

Catherine Hehe... You never change Jack!

If you need time to think why do I have to walk with you through the blasted gardens?

Don't you think we both have better things to do than have an awkward not-conversation?

How much must I endure?

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Lord Talbot]

[No Free Time]

)

The Young Girls' Choir

[Description of event] Why does my mother still force me to sing in the choir?

These are the sorts of mysteries that great alchemists should be puzzling over. However, in my pitiable life, the choir is a recurrent threat of public humiliation. What if I sneezed?

The Sunday choir... An omnipresent threat that shrouds my weekends in dark clouds.

Should I escape its clutches, my weekends would finally be bliss.

But until then, my life is a tragedy of poetic proportion.

Catherine Ehem, Randall. Boy, come here.

[Randall Enters]

Randall Yes, your highness—

Catherine I'm not that tall! I'm delicate like a morning bloom whose petals are weighed down by the stubborn dew that clings to it!

Catherine ...

Randall ...

Catherine I was referring to you, boy, but I understand nuance is not taught among your class.

[Meg Enters]

Meg I think you were the one who failed to comprehend how a plebian might address you, Lady Catherine.

Meg If you had ever spoken with your subjects, you would know 'your highness' is a term of deference.

Catherine If you had ever learned some proper manners, we wouldn't be having this conversation, Meg!

[Meg Exits]

Randall Madame, Lady, and darling of my eyes Catherine, I understood you perfectly well.

Randall Now then, what shall we do at this fine temple of our Lord and savior...

[Meg Enters]

Meg Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice redeemed our souls from damnation and sin, hallowed be his name?

[Meg Exits]

Randall That would be the one.

Damn, I was really hoping someone else would come up with an idea here.

Catherine Well...

#1 Meg poisons the Eucharist. (**storyBool1 = true;**

Randall Ehm, poisons? I don't think killing—

Meg Okay.

Randall I'm a criminal, a scoundrel, a charismatic antihero perhaps...

Randall And yet, I am the only one not all right with this?

Meg Catherine was raised to believe that peasants like us were disposable.

Catherine And Meg is a sociopath.

Meg Your supposition is incorrect, Lady Catherine.

Meg It unjustly shifts the focus from my single-minded loyalty to a supposed deficit in my moral fiber.

Meg Regardless, it is more than possible to poison someone non-lethally.

Meg ... I suppose.

Randall The sooner we get this done the bet—

)

#2 Randall pretends to be me. (**storyBool1 = false;**

Randall Hold now... I know that I'm beautiful, and I could play the part...

Randall But you think I can articulate such a nuanced performance?

[Meg Enters]

Meg The thieving bastard you are coercing into your service has a point.

Meg After all, his figure—

Randall I mean, I'm confident being a woman in these arrangements, however...

Randall Well, it's a little embarrassing.

Catherine More embarrassing than what I'm capable of having done to you?

Randall Well, you see...

Randall I can't sing.

Meg Oh.

Meg That's perfectly acceptable. Neither can Lady Catherine.

Catherine I see, and your voice could conjure wild animals to attend you, Meg?

Meg Yes, in fact—

)

[Lord Talbot enters]

Lord Talbot Ah, Lady Harclaw, you seem... well.

Lord Talbot I suppose I'll—

Lord Talbot See you inside.

#1 Yes, most definitely. (

Lord Talbot I shall... see you inside then.

)

#2 Only if it can't be avoided. (

Lord Talbot I see. Some things never change, I suppose.

)

(IF randallBool1) {

Lord Talbot And, I s-suppose I'll see you as well—

Lord Talbot M-Mr. Quick...inside. You.

Randall Sure thing, scrumptious.

}

[Lord Talbot exits]

Lord Talbot Goodbye.

Meg The way you lie to a man who has known you since you were a toddler makes me wonder...

Meg Do you truly have no limits?

#1 What can I say? I was born to be bad. (

Meg You truly are deplorable.

Catherine Deplorable gets results.

Meg Indubitably.

Randall I feel like I'm interrupting something ladies...

Meg You are.

Catherine Meg!

Randall But isn't the event about to begin?

)

#2 I...can't go through with this. (

Meg Oh, all right.

Randall Wait, hold on!

Randall You've blackmailed, abused, and disgraced me, and then at this crucial moment—

Randall You abandon all pretense of determination at the mere sight of a boy?

Catherine My fiancé...

Randall Ah! Ex-fiancé! I feel almost offended here.

Meg You shouldn't. Catherine has never had a spine. It's nothing personal.

#1 To hell with the both of you, I'll see you later. (

Meg Fine. I'm leaving, though.

Meg Come boy.

Meg There's no saving her from her self-destructive tendencies here.

Randall It's her choice to make...

[Randall and Meg Exit]

Well then... I suppose, for once, it's time to be a proper lady.

Perhaps this is turning over a new leaf...

I never thought I would willingly go to choir.

Is this what growing up feels like?

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Lord Talbot It's good to see you, Catherine...

Catherine You mean Lady Harclaw?

Lord Talbot Er, yes.

Lord Talbot Good luck performing. Not that you'll need it.

Lord Talbot You have a beautiful singing voice.

I don't...

Catherine Hardly, and we both know it!

Lord Talbot Well, it would be by no means proper for me to say that to my

fiancée!

Lord Talbot Ex-fiancée...

I probably shouldn't read into this at all.

Definitely not. It's a common mistake. Who wouldn't call their ex-fiancée their...

Fiancée. That's all. A slip of the tongue.

Lord Talbot I'll... Take my leave.

Catherine Probably best.

[Lord Talbot Exits]

Well I suppose this is it. No use thinking about Jack. If I normally sound like a dying cat...

Thinking about it I'll sound like a dead cat instead. No, not a dead cat, that would be silent... Something worse.

Catherine! Catherine Harclaw, prepare to face your nemesis in head to head combat...

The Drollshire girl's choir...

Why do I do these things to myself?

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Lord Talbot]

[No Free Time]

)

#2 Ha! Fooled you, didn't I? (

Meg See? God has placed Lady Catherine on this earth in order to make slugs, snails, and other invertebrates look courageous.

Randall Aren't you...being a little harsh?

Randall After all, aren't most damsels malleable? Call it a feature.

Catherine Who are you calling malleable, you two two-bit pickpocket?

Meg ...

Meg Lady Catherine, shall we begin?

)

)

IF (storyBool1 == true) {

Randall So, what's the plan?

Meg I thought this was already decided.

Meg One moment, Lady Catherine.

[Meg Exits]

Randall We can't poison an assortment of faithful churchgoers simply—

Catherine They were planning on poisoning my day. I hardly see the problem.

Randall Yes, how—Wait, no Catherine! Poisoning an entire congregation is not comparable to you having to act like an adult for once!

Catherine Your accusations are unfounded. You've only known me for a day. I could have, for instance, acted like an adult yesterday.

Randall Look, I...

Randall This is amoral.

[Meg Enters]

Meg Like robbing a poor, gentle Lady of her prospects and her property in a single cruel act?

Randall I would venture that Lady Catherine is neither poor, nor gentle...

Meg You are, in fact, correct regarding Lady Catherine. I will need to find a new avenue of debate...

Catherine You can't agree with him, Meg!

Meg ...

Randall Well then, if there's not a counter argument, we can safely—

Meg You stated that this gross act of poisoning would be amoral, and therefore verboten, correct?

Randall Ehm... Yes?

Meg And you agree to hold to this logic?

Randall Yes!

Meg Then we should have no problem. An amoral act is one unconcerned with right or wrong.

Meg It's not like we're doing anything immoral...

Meg That would be truly abysmal. After all, we would be putting our immortal souls at risk.

Randall That's a steaming pile of cat scat!

Catherine Fair point... It did rhyme.

Meg If you would like a brief aside, both 'immoral', and 'immortal' share the latin prefix 'imm'.

Meg ... As in, the opposite of.

Meg The auditory similarities between ‘moral’, and ‘mortal’ on the other hand are purely coincidental.

Catherine I knew you would come in clutch, Meg!

Meg Thank you Lady Catherine, but your utilization of the word ‘clutch’ confuses me.

Meg I don’t believe—

Randall Oh for heaven’s sake give me the poison!

[Screen Shake]

Randall I’ll be back...

[Randall Exits]

Meg ... I prefer things without him.

Catherine That’s very rude, Meg.

Meg Also a brief aside, Lady Catherine, I’m not paid to be polite. In fact, the word polite was never written once in my contract.

Catherine I’m going to have to speak with father about that...

Meg Which wouldn’t be very polite, now would it? Sadly, your terms of contract aren’t written like mine.

Meg You are bound by the laws of social decorum due to your status.

Meg If you were to run away with your most trusted consort, you wouldn’t have to be, though.

Catherine That’s sudden... Where did—

Meg Hmmm... I think I see your errand boy returning.

[Randall Enters]

Randall Lets go...

Meg But don't we want to stay for the performance?

#1 Yes, I would rather like to see these results... (

Randall I can't watch. I'll wait outside.

[Randall Exits]

Meg ... Shall we?

I hope it's dramatic...

...

...

Catherine Meg, are you sure—

[Vomit Effect]

Catherine Eww, Meg! I'm covered in the stuff!

Meg This is highly amusing. Let me help you.

Meg ...

[Vomit Effect Ends]

Meg ...

Meg You have a little here.

Catherine Meg, that's under my—

Meg And?

Catherine All right...

Once Meg's done cleaning me up, I suppose I have limitless possibilities...

)

#2 Or... I could not have to wash this dress. (

Meg Your wisdom on this matter far exceeds your general intellect.

Meg Shall we?

Catherine Yes. Yes, we shall...

Hmmm, now then... What shall I do while they're all turning out their stomachs?

[Meg and Randall Exit]

So many options...

)

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

[Free Time]

}

IF (storyBool1 == false) {

Catherine Right, let us enact our plot! Randall, strip!

Randall ... Lady Harclaw. Here?

Catherine Is there a problem, or are you a quitter?

Meg There are bushes, yes? You menfolk always seem to be looking for a chance to strip in the bushes and show off your...vulgarity...to the world.

Randall You really have no conception of the average man's motives, do you?

Meg Don't let his honeyed words tempt you, Lady Catherine. All men walk the path of perversity.

Randall Because we pee in bushes?

Catherine This debate is irrelevant to my agenda! Which involves you donning my clothing and performing in the choir.

[Randall Exits]

Ugh, I should have known...

Meg Do you have feelings for the deviant man you have adopted?

Catherine Feelings like disgust?

Meg ...

Meg I'm disappointed in you, Lady Catherine. May I take my leave? I have other business in the village to attend to.

Catherine If I did have feelings for him, you would leave us unchaperoned?

Catherine I thought better of you, Meg... How scandalous.

Meg I will speak with you after you're free. Goodbye, Lady Catherine.

[Meg Exits]

What in the ninth circle of hell is her problem? It's like the devil is chewing her arse.

Meg has always been temperamental, but—

[Randall Enters]

[Randall Drag Skin]

Randall Ehem, Lady Harclaw... H-how do I look?

Lord in heaven, J-Jeho...Whatever, Father, forgive me, for in my mind I have sinned...

Also, I've sinned a lot normally.

But in my head I just did a really bad thing. Is there redemption for the likes of me?

Catherine You look...really good.

Randall Did you just compliment me? Is that what I heard?

Randall I thought it would never happen...

Catherine Shut up you egomaniacal dolt! Just because you look vaguely hot while dressing up like me means nothing.

Catherine If anything, it's a testament to my own style and regal poise you can only imitate.

Randall Ahh, milady Catherine, that is the most...self centered perspective I think I've ever heard. And that's coming from me!

Randall And yet you call me, a meager ruffian—nay, your errand boy—egomakneekle?

Catherine It's 'egomaniacal', you uneducated manchild.

Randall The language of aristocracy is meant only to oppress the common man.

Catherine It's not the language of the aristocracy, it's the language of anyone with a dictionary.

Randall Reading is yet another tool of the elite.

Catherine Nearly half of the men in the empire are knowledgeable of the word! You can hardly call it the elite.

Randall It depends which half! And besides, what of the female sex?

Catherine Why would a poor woman need to read?

Randall My point exactly, noble scum! Now then, I have a choir to sing in!

[Randall Exits]

He is infuriating! I'm not sure if I want to beat him into a pulp or...

No, there's not an or, I simply want to beat him. I'll have to take a pointer or two from

Meg...

Regardless, I'm free of my obligation due to that beautiful man's...

I'm leaving. Randall can catch up when he's done singing!

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

[Free Time]

}

Goals

Cemetery

[Description of event] The old cemetery on the hill is where all of the village girls my age go to vent their woes and drink away their sorrows! I've never been, and I shall not let my youth slip from me without indulging these desires!

Until now, father has sheltered me in our ivory castle from the standard depravity of teenage delirium.

Now, I will reclaim my vanishing youth! Eventually I'll be weighed down with responsibilities, so

I should seize the moment. Today, I will accomplish a staple of misspent upbringings.

Catherine And ta-da! We're here.

[Randall Enters]

Randall It's a graveyard. Huh.

Catherine Why of course. Devilish misfits of my generation have always come to the
graveyard to...

Catherine Do counterculture things.

Randall Your generation? How old—

Meg It's rude to ask a lady her age, Randall. Even you should know that, no
matter how mentally retrograde you are.

[Meg Enters]

Randall You know, using big words don't make your insults any more biting.

Randall Why don't you just use some dirty words and yell at someone like anyone
else?

Meg Because cursing condemns one's soul to the fiery pits of hell for all eternity.

Randall Right... So, cemetery. What are we doing here?

Catherine We're—Well, we are going to—ehm, I—

Meg Lady Catherine is an incredibly sheltered and delicate flower who does not
understand the true depravity of the world.

Meg Lucky for her, I brought a picnic complete with a three course dessert.

Catherine What kind of desserts?

Randall Oh, damn this! What are we, the aristocracy?

- Meg** Yes.
- Randall** Look, if you want to spend your youth in a slummy fashion, you need to buck up a little.
- Catherine** I hardly think that I, Catherine, queen of adventure and mischief, require your tutelage.
- Randall** Just saying that makes me think you could loosen up a bit.
- Randall** Take it from me. Let's cause a little trouble, yeah?
- Meg** ... I have pudding, and—
- Randall** Damn the pudding, and whatever else you have! I'm talking about vandalism!
- Randall** You've got to live a little.
- Meg** I brought a number of books of poetry as well. I believe we could perform readings of—
- Randall** Don't listen to her, listen to the allure of bad behavior. Do something terrible, pee on a headstone, something!
- Meg** Only someone truly unredeemable would do such a thing.
- Catherine** Quiet, the both of you.
- #1** Let's start with the Harclaw crypt. (
- Randall** That's the spirit! Get a personal stake in it!
- Meg** I certainly hope no spirits are involved.
- Meg** I don't believe Lady Catherine's ancestors should have to witness the deplorable creature she's become.

Catherine It's all right, Meg, I'm sure your ancestors have the utmost respect for your illustrious career in abetting me.

Catherine Now then, how does one... do a 'vandalism'?

[Meg Exits]

Randall Well you see, it's simple really... You just break something. Like this.

[Screen Shakes Effect]

Oh heavens, he just kicked a grave over!

Hide your surprise. This is what my peers would do. I'm living my best youth!

Catherine Like so?

[Screen shakes]

Randall Perfect! You're a natural.

Catherine Well of course I am.

Catherine My noble blood means I'm naturally superior at most endeavors.

Randall Or maybe it's your naturally rebellious spirit trying to find its way out.

Randall Have you considered that maybe the things you're good at are the things that...

Randall Ehm, aren't regal things?

Catherine ...

Catherine I'm going to perform another vandalism and not think about this.

Catherine Actively.

Randall Go ahead. Denial's a good first step.

He's not right, but maybe... Maybe he has a point.

Or not! We're just having fun here after all. This is what misfits my age do, yes?

Am I overthinking this?

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

)

#2

You did say pudding, correct, Meg?

(

Meg Pudding, eclairs, and miniature cheesecakes decorated with chocolate curls.

Randall You rich people are ridiculous.

Meg There is a nice patch of grass here, and...

[Meg Exits]

Meg Here, let me start unpacking.

[Meg Enters]

[Randall Exits]

Catherine Oh Meg, you truly did think of everything!

Catherine This is an extraordinary outing.

Meg This is simply my gainful employment, Lady Catherine.

Randall Would it kill you to just say job?

[Randall Enters]

Meg Here, despicable burglar, try this?

Randall ...

Randall This is filthy delicious! And you rich ladies have these—

Catherine Hmmm... Chef could have done better.

Meg I concur. She could have—

Randall You hear yourselves, right?

Meg Shall I read first?

Catherine Hmmm, more Milton? You always reach for the Milton first...

Catherine Come now, sit Randall. Let us teach you the glories of verse.

Meg ... Lady Catherine, eat another pastry.

Catherine I suppose there's no harm in another.

This, indeed, is the life of a vagabond romantic.

If I could spend every afternoon like this—a luncheon and poetry with my love, well...I

would be a happy woman.

I did say love... I suppose that just snuck in there. I suppose my mind has been on the topic.

I wonder what he'll look like... I hope he makes me picnics just like this. Maybe he'll like

Milton, too.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

)

Ritual

[Description of event] The order of The Red Goat is meeting today, isn't it? I've never been a part of a ritual apart from communion, mass, my baptism, confession, and... all the other ones. I simply must attend!

I've always wanted to attend a cult meeting. I have so many questions...

Luckily for me, Meg knows someone through a friend of a friend involved with the Order of the Red Goat.

I can't wait to see the ritual!

[Meg Enters]

Meg Lady Catherine, you understand that this ritual is very sacred to the Order of the Red Goat, yes?

Catherine Of course I do! I can't wait to see it...

Meg That means we must be respectful.

[Randall Enters]

Randall If I'd steal a pastor's wife, why wouldn't I steal a devil pastor's wife?

Meg The Order of the Red Goat aren't devil worshippers. Instead, they worship a red-furred goat god of darkness and fire.

Meg You should really do your research.

Randall ... I'm sorry, I have no idea why I was confused on the matter.

Randall Catherine, are we really sure we should be...

Catherine Who cares! It's a fertility ritual, right?

Meg Correct. My understanding of the tradition is that every quarter—

Catherine Cute girls doing pole dances? Naked young lads... Screw church, this is going
to be my kind of scene!

Randall I mean... I'll never say no to...wow.

The woods give way to a massive clearing with a fire pit and a big rock. No wonder Mother and
Father said never to play in the woods.

I totally would have played here! Has the Order of the Red Goat been doing this for long?

To think, my entire childhood passed with a cult right in my own backyard.

Meg That is not saying much. After all, technically the entire duchy is your
backyard.

Randall Err... You may have been thinking out loud again. You do that a lot.

Damn! I really need to quit doing that.

Catherine Whatever are you speaking of? Let's go get drinks!

Lead Cultist Assembled brethren. It is time we begin our sacrament.

[Meg and Randall Exit]

[Lead Cultist Enters]

Lead Cultist Blessed be we, Red Goat, for these Thy gifts which we are about to
receive...

Lead Cultist ... from thy bounty. Through the blazing beast, our master. Amen.

Catherine Huh... It's just like our prayer at supertime—

Meg You're being disrespectful.

Randall I have to agree with Ms. Catherine... It's kind of—

Meg You can keep your mouth shut, you filthy heathen. You wouldn't understand.

[Sacrifice Enters]

Randall ... Says the one with the invitation to the cult ritual.

Catherine Ehm... I rescind my statement.

Meg Both of you, be quiet. You're disturbing these degenerate cultist's ceremony.

Randall Just listen—

Lead Cultist Feast now, for the goat hath provided!

Sacrifice No... Please, oh God have mercy!

Randall Wait, there's a literal human sacrifice!

Catherine I—

Meg This must be part of the custom... How gruesome.

Lead Cultist Form a line for the sacrament.

Lead Cultist And you in the back, will your group please be quiet?

Randall We have to do something! Meg? Catherine?!

Meg You're right... As guests I had hoped to simply observe, however, this ritual does appear to require audience participation...

Meg As participation would seem likely to damn my immortal soul however, I'm torn on—

Randall We have to stop this! This is murder! That's considered horrendous for rich people too, right?!

Meg Consider though that we don't know the cultural background for this ritual, nor its rich history.

Meg In fact, I don't believe it would be morally right to judge them for their actions from outside their culture.

Meg Only our Lord and savior can do that.

Randall They're a cult in our home town... Catherine?!

#1 Randal's right, this is wrong. (

Meg Of course... The lowlife luddite and the egocentric dilettante are going to save the day...

Meg What is the point?

Catherine The point is that no beautiful and romanceable damsel should go unsaved!

Randall Finally, some common decency!

Catherine Don't let it go to your head. After all, it's my good graces that will save that delectable morsel of a—

[Randall Enters]

Sacrifice Please, h-help me! I beg of you!

Lead Cultist Look, good sir. I know that it can be disconcerting your first time, but I promise, we sacrifice our victims in the most humane—

[Flashes Red]

Lead Cultist Oww! That's terribly un-

Randall Come with me, milady!

Sacrifice My hero!

[Randall Exits]

[Sacrifice Exits]

Lead Cultist Damn it all, bring her back here!

[Lead Cultist Exits]

Catherine ...

Catherine ... It was heroic, I suppose.

Catherine Shall we head back?

[Meg Enters]

Meg Whatever you desire, Lady Catherine.

Meg That much is abundantly obvious.

Catherine Has anyone ventured to tell you that you have an awful personality?

The hike to the village is a long way, but all I can think about is that heroic leap...

He really is an idiot.

Randall Did you miss me?

[Randall Enters]

Catherine Haven't thought about you once.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

)

#2 No, I think Meg is right here. (

Catherine Or, at least... I didn't come here not to see a human sacrifice.

Catherine Call it a sudden and unexpected perk.

Randall I... I can't watch.

Catherine What are you, twelve?

Meg That would make sense. Boys going through puberty are usually despicable deviants.

Meg It's amazing any of them survive.

Randall That's hardly fair! You women have all sorts of disgusting stuff.

Meg Such as? Name one way that women—Lady Catherine excluded—are not pure and wholesome creatures?

Catherine You're on thin ice, Meg...

Randall Well... What about...

Randall The blood?

Lead Cultist Forsooth, this land shall have borne fresh fruit!

[Blood Splatter]

[Sacrifice Dies]

Randall Oh, gods! I'm leaving. I'll meet you on the way out.

[Meg Enters]

Meg Lady Catherine, isn't it simply—

Meg —Exquisite?

Catherine You can compliment a dead girl, but not your Lady.

Meg She has more natural color to her cheeks. I would say even a deep crimson flush...

Catherine You really are the worst...

Meg I'm simply stating the facts.

Megs eyes are dancing with an easy exhilaration that puts me to shame. There's something strange about how she's looking at me.

I'm not sure what these feelings are, I feel giddy. I feel like I'm going to vomit, but I don't feel sick at all. I hate it.

I really should be more like her. Meg always has her emotions under control, and mine are a wreck.

It sounds like love, but... This would be an inappropriate time to feel something like that. There are supposed to be dances, and poems and that lot.

It's unfair. That's all. Getting back to town should help clear my senses.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

)

Seduction

[Description of event] Joan, sweet shepherd's daughter, oh how I love those sweet summer days we spent together! When I meet you again years from now, I'm going to say something like that. If I can find the opportunity...no mortal man or woman can withstand my beauty.

Ahh, Joan... Sweet apple of my eye... Candy of my heart, scrumptious.

How I have yearned for your touch these countless long and steamy nights...

How I have watched you from afar ever since the last girl—Anne—moved away last Tuesday.

Today, I intend to make my move. I will make you mine!

[Randall Enters]

Randall That pose looks uncomfortable... Gas?

Randall When I'm struggling, I lay on my stomach, and tuck my arms in like—

[Meg Enters]

Meg She's daydreaming. A hobby which requires aspirations.

Catherine I'm not daydreaming, I'm romanticizing.

Randall You know... I could give you a few pointers about romance...

Randall The sweet touch of—

Catherine Never fear boy, that's why I am going to sample my darling Joan.

Randall I didn't know you—

Meg Lady Catherine is an equal opportunity pervert. It's amazing that her parents
 haven't disowned her.

Randall Parents are overrated.

Meg This may be the first time I agree with you, doorstep.

Randall Doorstop?

Meg Yes, an item whose sole purpose is to sit on the floor and hold the door for
 more important things.

Randall That's so rude! I'm genuinely hurt that—

Catherine Who cares about rudeness! Joan is finally going to confess her hot and steamy feelings to me.

Meg Like Anne?

Randall Who's Anne?

Meg The last girl she scared away. Also, Joan isn't going to confess anything to you, she hasn't met you.

Catherine Love at first sight. Now off I go! Wish me luck!

[Meg and Randall Exit]

I'm going to do it! This is the day I finally seduce a peasant girl!

I've had my dalliances, yes, but the illustrious allure of the power imbalance between the working girl who toils in the fields, and I—

—a rich, powerful, and beautiful duchess apparent... It's so romantic!

[Joan Enters]

Catherine Hello, Joan, do you know who I am?

Joan Ehm, no milady... And it's Jeanne.

Catherine Joan, my sweet, nubile, plebeian truffle, I am Lady Catherine Harclaw.

Catherine I've seen you staring into the distance from afar... What exotic delights do you dream of?

Joan Only how to please the good Lord best, milady! Also, again, it's Jeanne.

Catherine And you have no other...deep, intimate desire?

Joan Well... Maybe one...

Catherine Mhhhm, I will make your secret pleasures into reality, never fear.

Joan Well you see... I kind of...

Joan I've always fantasized about driving the English from this holy land and securing a future for my people.

Catherine ...

Catherine The English?

Joan Oui!

Catherine ... You do realize that this is England, don't you?

[Meg Enters]

Meg Lady Catherine, she is obviously deranged, mentally unstable, and most likely violent.

Meg I would strongly advise that...if you want to sleep with a peasant girl...

Meg You could most likely find an outlet for your sick power trip fantasy elsewhere.

[Randall Enters]

Randall I know it is unconventional wisdom, however... I've never had a problem foining my fang in crazy.

Randall In fact, the tougher the saddle the harder the buck...

Meg Only fools use fancy language to obscure their depravity.

Randall Or us fools just like having a good time.

Meg Besides, I-I'm sure that Lady Catherine can fulfill her deplorable power trip fantasy with more known subordinates.

Joan Shall we speak inside? Our home is small, but my parents are both
out...

Joan I am ready to receive your divine wisdom!

[Joan Exits]

Catherine I truly am the queen of the world, attended by the most delicate
angels.

My dreams have all come true, and even if she's completely insane, Randall's right: that will
just—

[Joan Enters]

Joan Madame Angel, I've fetched my Bible, and I am ready to interpret
your wisdoms.

Joan Please, show me the correct verse! Guide my hand, oh great divine!
Through our chaste virtue we will persevere.

I take it back, there's no way this is going to work, is there?

When will my filthy fantasies resolve to reality? I deserve better than this!

I'm going to have to lie to Randall... He can never know the truth of this matter.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Randall]

)

What in all the empire has gotten into that woman? I've ne'er seen Meg blush that hard before.

And moreover, running like that? My grand romantic overture may have been a wash, but whatever just happened...

I think that made it all worth it in the end.

[End Scene]

[+ Romance Meg]

)

Ending

[Description of event] I suppose it's getting late, and all my obligations are wrapped up. It's time to bring this glorious day to an end.

Randall Ending

Back home again, everything feels so...normal.

This day has been so exciting, so filled with memories that I...

I wish it didn't have to end.

[Meg Enters]

Meg I suppose it's time we part ways for the evening. Lady Catherine, do you—

Catherine I'm fine, Meg. I think I have everything.

Meg ... All right then. Good night.

Catherine Good night, Meg.

[Meg Exits]

Regardless, it's time to get some rest. Tomorrow will be a big day, too.

I wonder what it will bring? I can't imagine it will be so enrapturing as all this.

Randall Oy, Catherine!

Randall Over here! Out the window!

Catherine Randall? What in all the world—

Randall Lower a rope or something, would ya?

He's such an oaf. A lowlife rascalion. In fact, I hate him, don't I?

Yes, as he's terrible, the worst kind of man. I should turn him away this moment.

Why is my heart beating so quickly it hurts?

Catherine Fine, you ridiculous excuse of a man! Climb up...

[Screen Shakes]

Catherine There!

Randall Good evening, milady.

[Randall Enters]

Randall You know, something odd struck me today, and I couldn't get it out of my
brain.

Catherine That's rich, assuming you had a brain.

Randall Not as rich as a beautiful, clever, and funny young woman who I know
happens to be single.

Randall Catty, what do you say that you and me...maybe have a spark?

Randall I've felt it for a while now. What about you?

#1 Finally! Of course! (

Catherine I've wanted you since...well, I'm not sure. But I have wanted you!

Randall Lord almighty, you are adorable.

(IF randallBool1 == true) {

Randall Speaking of which, is whatever this is open?

Randall Your ex is adorable, too...

Catherine No, we're not, however—

Randall Forget I asked.

}

Randall So, a dance?

Catherine Of sorts.

Randall Are you alluding to what I think you're alluding to?

Randall Because you rich ladies do a lot of alluding to things that are—

Catherine Yes, I am you dolt, now come here!

Randall Well, I suppose if you insist.

[Randall Exits]

I'd hardly thought today could be any more exciting.

The addition of my new and improved extramarital affair should be a good added spice.

I wonder how long I can keep it from my father...

Ultimately, this was a beautiful day, wasn't it?

Randall Get over here! Stop romanticizing and let's start romancing!

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)

#2 Why do you men always want romance? (

Catherine Can't a woman simply wish to be friends?

Catherine You're just like Jack...

Catherine I thought we were friends, I thought I'd made a breakthrough.

Catherine I guess in the end, all you care about is—

Randall All right, maybe I got a case of the feelings! Don't mean we can't be friends though.

Randall This isn't the first time I've been turned down. I'd barely know anyone if I couldn't be friends after getting shot down.

Randall So what do you say, partners in crime?

Catherine You're taking this...

Randall Surprisingly well? Yeah, well, you get used to rejection eventually.

Randall I didn't figure I had a chance with you really, but, I thought I should shoot my shot.

Randall I'll see you tomorrow, how about? I had a lot of fun, and...

Catherine Maybe we can do it all again?

Randall Yeah, I'd like that.

Catherine I would... I would enjoy that too.

(IF randallBool1 == true) {

Randall If that's that, I'm going to go try my luck with your ex.

Randall That's fine, right?

Catherine I'm not Jack's keeper.

}

Randall Right, well, good night!

[Randall Exits]

Catherine Good night!

Truly now, the night draws to a close...

At least, tomorrow, I have something to look forward to.

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)

Jack Ending

I've bid farewell to Randall, and Meg has gone to her chambers...

I suppose now that I'm finally alone, I—

Lord Talbot Ehem, Catherine...

Catherine Ja—Lord Talbot!

[Lord Talbot Enters]

Lord Talbot Jack is fine, I—Well, I'm—

Lord Talbot I'm sorry I behaved in a way unbecoming my station today. I'm planning to, well, I...

Lord Talbot Catherine Harclaw, I'm here to ask for your forgiveness, and your hand in marriage.

Lord Talbot There, I've said it.

#1 Of course, you silly boy! (

It's funny when you look at it objectively. This morning, I would have done anything to get out of our engagement.

Now, though, I'm willingly accepting his proposal... now for a second time. Why do I do these things?

I'm sure I'll regret this tomorrow, but right now, I simply want this.

I hate how feelings just... worm their ways into our hearts without us even realizing that they're invading.

Lord Talbot Well, I'm not sure I'm really a silly boy...

Catherine It's true, you've never been funny, Jack.

Lord Talbot I think... I've lost sight for a long time now of why I adored you.

Lord Talbot I hope that over time, maybe... we can find those things worth loving once more.

Catherine That's romantic Jack. I never knew...

Lord Talbot I... Ehm, I stole it.

Catherine Well, I suppose some things will never change.

That's right, I do suppose some things never change.

Jack and I are meant to be together, I suppose, and Meg will always be there watching out for me, and there will always be lowlife scum.

It's strange... Looking at Jack, he's grown up so much in the last few years. Sure, he's still a petulant, spoiled brat.

But he's also beautiful. That's right, he's... beautiful.

I wonder, if I can love him as an adult, maybe I can... grow up a little too.

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)

#2

Jack, let's be friends again. (

Lord Talbot I simply, I—

Catherine You've always been my best friend. Even if—even if sometimes you're a mule of a man.

Catherine Jack, I never loved you in a romantic way. I never wanted to be your wife.

Catherine I've missed my best friend though.

Lord Talbot I've, I—Well. I missed you too, Catherine. If I'm being honest, I've missed you a lot.

Lord Talbot Ever since we got engaged, I feel like we've been digging at each other. I think..

Lord Talbot I've been afraid of it, actually. I've been looking for an excuse to let things go back to normal.

Catherine You could have just asked, you neurotic mess of a man.

Lord Talbot Your handmaid truly has rubbed off on you.

Catherine Some things never change between us, do they?

Lord Talbot I hope they never will.

Today has been a good day. I hung out with Meg, I made a new friend, and I recovered something...

Something I thought I'd lost a long time ago.

I think that sometimes it's easier to put something that's been smashed to smithereens back together than something that has a small crack.

Cracks grow though, and... I'm glad Jack and I are whole again.

Yes, today was fantastic. Simply fantastic.

I hope tomorrow will be just as amazing.

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)

Meg Ending

It's been such a thrilling day, but I suppose, all good things must come to an end.

It's time to go home, isn't it? And tomorrow...

Randall Anyway, so I was thinking that tonight, maybe—

[Randall Enters]

Meg Randall, may I have a word aside with you?

[Meg Enters]

Randall You're not going to beat me, are you?

Meg I endeavor to avoid unnecessary violence in front of Lady Catherine... lest she be encouraged.

Randall Right, glad to know I'm never safe.

[Meg and Randall Exit]

What the devil are those two talking about?

Is Meg blushing?

Randall is waving goodbye...

Meg Lady Catherine...may we, possibly...

[Meg Enters]

Meg Speak in your chambers?

Catherine What is going on, Meg?

[Meg Exits]

Catherine Damn it, Meg!

Having to run after her like this is ridiculous!

Catherine Meg, what in the world are you thinking, I—

Meg Lady Catherine, I love you.

[Meg Enters]

Catherine You... love...

Meg I'm sorry, Lady Catherine, I understand that these feelings are unprofessional, and...

#1 I think... I feel that way too, Meg. (

Meg Lady Catherine, y-you?

Catherine Oh dear, I've finally found the thing to fluster you?

Meg H-Hardly, I simply thought your reprehensible moral fiber incapable of expressing such nuanced feelings.

Catherine My reprehensible moral fiber is capable of all sorts of things.

(IF megBool2 == true) {

Catherine Actually, thinking of it, didn't you say I could find a more readily available subordinate?

Catherine That was rather forward of you in retrospect!

Meg It's simply my pleasure to enlighten you as to the services I am able to provide. That's all.

}

Meg It's undeniable that you are a disgusting lecher of a woman, Lady Catherine.

Catherine Shouldn't you be past calling me 'Lady Catherine' now, my Meg?

Catherine After all... we're lovers now, aren't we?

Meg Shall I retire to my chambers or—

Catherine No, stay.

Meg Yes, La—Yes, Catherine.

I think deep down I've always known my feelings towards Meg.

It's different now that I've said it out loud though. Better.

All of these feelings, I feel like I'm drowning in them. I've been afraid to grow up for so long... and I was told a hundred times how I must, but--

I think I'm finally ready to move forward on my own terms.

Somehow, the thought of waking up next to her in the morning makes me extremely...

Happy.

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)

#2

I don't feel that way, I'm sorry. (

Meg I know, but I simply couldn't keep these feelings secret anymore.

Meg Simply being close to you is enough. I wish to continue in your service, Lady Catherine.

Meg I like being able to watch you sleep.

Catherine Watch me—

Meg Someone needs to ensure your safety, don't they, Lady Catherine?

Meg That is my job, is it not? I take my job very seriously. Hah...

Meg Hahah. Hah. This is funny, isn't it?

Catherine Meg—

Meg I'll be going. I'll make sure to have your breakfast ready in the morning, good night!

Catherine Meg, wait!

[Screen Shake]

Meg Y-Yes?

Catherine I don't feel like you do, but... I still need you.

Meg I'll treasure your words... Always.

[Meg Exits]

Somehow, I think things are going to be more complex going forward.

That's all right, though—all of these things are things I can handle tomorrow.

But perhaps it might be prudent to lock my door tonight...

[End Scene]

[End Game]

)