

Excerpt from Act 1 - Scene 5 of THE ROYAL UNALASKA | Copyright 2022

Lights come up downstairs, where the guests and staff are waiting.

CHIP

Been a while hasn't it? Maybe Glasses is the killer and frenchie is never coming down.

JEAN

Your blatant racism is almost comedic, monsieur.

LOUISA (*passionate*)

Milo's not a killer! (*Realizes she came on too strong*) Emile wouldn't have him tagging along if he suspected him.

LORETTA

Besides, I don't believe that small man would hurt a fly.

LOUISA

Exactly.

LORETTA

Oh wait, my mistake. I meant couldn't. That small man could not hurt a fly.

TRAVIS (*very serious*)

I could... but it'd have to be an accident.

LORETTA

That I easily believe.

Emile and Milo descend the stairs.

EMILE

I would be careful with my words Madame Morietta. They can be as suffocating as a delicious blueberry flan. Something, perhaps, you would know about?

LORETTA

I say, what are you getting at detective?

EMILE

I am merely setting the scene. A wealthy woman with a tongue like a sword finds her way to a remote location, where she commits a terrible crime, and leaves this...

He reveals the book from upstairs and the torn page.

EMILE

A calling card, a torn page, taunting both the deceased and the living.

Beat of stunned silence.

LORETTA

I say, did you just accuse me of murder?

EMILE

I am attempting to put together puzzle pieces Madame.

LORETTA

Well your puzzle is stupid!

EMILE

Is this not your copy of the Scottish play?

LORETTA

I've never seen it before in my life! It does not belong to me.

EMILE

Then why is your name in it?

LORETTA

I have seen it before and it definitely belongs to me.

TRAVIS

It's like a metaphor.

EMILE

Not even close. Why lie Madame?

LORETTA

What do you expect! It's my book but you can't really believe that I killed Sarah.

TRAVIS

Wait! How'd you know her name?

MINDY

We all know her name.

TRAVIS

Oh yeah. Carry on.

LORETTA

Someone clearly took my book and is attempting to frame me. I would never be so obvious as to leave it there.

JEAN

What if you are using, how you say, reverse psychology?

TRAVIS

That's what I said!

LOUISA

You called it a metaphor.

TRAVIS

Oh yeah. Carry on.

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End excerpt.