

## SCENE 4 SIDES

(We hear the sound of GARRETT BREEDLOVE running, whooping, and then diving into his pool with a tremendous splash.)

GARRETT  
(Offstage:)

Whoa shit, that's cold!

(AURORA crosses over to Garrett's playing area. Again, we hear GARRETT splash in the pool)

GARRETT  
(Offstage:)

Ah shit, freeze your nuts off!

(AURORA can take no more)

AURORA

Would you hold it down over there?!

GARRETT  
(Offstage:)

Sorry, I can't hear you.

AURORA

I said, hold it down. Have some respect for other people's feelings.

GARRETT  
(Offstage:)

Hey, come a little closer. Hey, you. I can't hear ya.

(GARRETT approaches, toweling himself off. He is in his bathing suit, and his gut pours over the strained elastic.)

GARRETT

Sorry, I couldn't help yelling. You know, when you hit the water and it's cold like that, especially with a hangover, I mean Jesus, you know.

(AURORA just stares at him and says nothing.)

GARRETT

You're not just gonna ignore me when I speak directly to ya, are you?

AURORA

I'm not ignoring you, I'm speechless. That's all. I mean, what am I supposed to say...that it's hard not to yell when you hit that cold water, especially when you have a hangover?

(GARRETT just grins. His grin is both annoying and ingratiating at the same time.)

GARRETT

Hey...uhh...Come here.

AURORA

Hey, come here?!

GARRETT

Yeah, what's your name? Aurora?

AURORA

Greenway.

GARRETT

Yeah. You want a shock?

AURORA

Not particularly.

(GARRETT breezes past that.)

GARRETT

They were gonna have this NASA dinner at the White House? Some cosmonauts and all of us, and I didn't know who I could take. Because everybody I flew with, their wives would have given me bitch bites up and down my ass if I showed up with one of my regular girls. And I didn't know anybody old enough, so I thought what the hell, I'll ask my next-door neighbor.

(AURORA looks at him in astonishment)

GARRETT

Yeah, anyway, they canceled the dinner. But I was really thinking about asking you out. Isn't that a shocker?

AURORA

Yes. Imagine you having a date with someone where it wasn't necessarily a felony.

GARRETT

Yeah, what would you have said if I had asked you? Seriously.

(AURORA is a bit unnerved, thinks for a beat, and then:)

AURORA

I would have said I'd like to see the White House.

GARRETT

So you would have come. Well, what the hell. You wanna have dinner out, sometime?

AURORA

(Almost automatically:)

No, no thank you.

GARRETT

What about lunch? You ladies...you like to have lunch a lot, don't you?

AURORA

You know, your manner...it's like you...you're trying to toy with me.

GARRETT

That's right Aurora. I'm playing with you. You want to play, Aurora? You wanna go to lunch?

AURORA

Now, this is just the element I mean. This is exactly ...

(AURORA stops, takes a deep breath, and then continues.)

AURORA

If you want to have lunch at some pleasant restaurant, in order to improve the atmosphere in the neighborhood, I suppose I wouldn't exactly say no.

(GARRETT motions for her to come closer)

GARRETT

Come here, we're too far apart.

(She moves closer to GARRETT.

GARRETT now is at his smarmiest and most on-the-make self.)

GARRETT

Now Aurora, since you've agreed, why don't we just skip the rest of it?

AURORA

I beg your pardon.

GARRETT

I know how you feel. There were countdowns when I had my doubts, but then I just said to myself, look, you agreed to do it, you're strapped in and you're in the hands of something bigger and more powerful than yourself, so why not just lay back and enjoy the ride?

(AURORA is horrified to the point of speechlessness.)

AURORA

I'm not going. There's something...very wrong with you.