

ABBY, MARILYN

MARILYN I think we're a fine match.

ABBY I don't enjoy your company.

MARILYN That's alright. I like the view, and the sunshine. And I don't mind your personality.

ABBY I don't like you. It's that simple. I don't like you, and I want you to go.

MARILYN If you're so unhappy, maybe *you* should take Mrs. Moore's bed.

ABBY *(Beat.)* Oh my god, is that what this is? A shakedown? Are you trying to take this room for yourself?

MARILYN No.

ABBY Because I have been here for four years, and you are not going to displace me! I have *earned* this room, and I am *staying* in it!

MARILYN Oh good. I'm glad to hear you say that. I prefer you stay as well, but you seemed intent on our not living together.

ABBY You prefer I stay.

MARILYN I do.

ABBY Why?

MARILYN Because you remind me of my husband.

ABBY *(Beat.)* Oh, lord.

MARILYN He was all pushback and bluster too. And I got very good at working around that. It's sort of my area of expertise. If I lived with him, I can certainly live with you.

ABBY Marilyn—

MARILYN You need to stop. Because I'm not leaving.

(A stalemate. Neither woman budes. A few moments pass, and then Abby reluctantly has to accept that it's come to this...)

ABBY What if I took your bet?

MARILYN *(Beat.)* My bet?

ABBY If I win, will you go?

MARILYN Which bet are you talking about? Balancing the slipper?

ABBY No, the one you made at the spook house.

MARILYN Where I try to scare you?

ABBY If you can do that, then you win. Unless I make you angry first.

MARILYN Then *you* win.

ABBY Nice and simple.

MARILYN *(Beat.)* What are the ground rules?

ABBY Scotty can't know.

MARILYN Oh, I'd hate to keep a secret from / Scotty.

ABBY Scotty. Can't. Know. If he does, he'll blab it to Larusso, and she'll shut it down.

MARILYN *(Beat.)* Okay. What else?

ABBY Just that you agree to leave this room if I win.

MARILYN And what if / I win?

ABBY You get to stay.

MARILYN But I *already* get to stay. I *live* here. What *more* do I get?

ABBY *(Beat.)* What more do you *want*?

MARILYN I want the bed by the window.

ABBY *(Beat.)* Okay.

MARILYN Then I'm in. Bet?

ABBY Bet.

(Blackout.)