

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN 5 - 1

HE

I have to know.

SHE

Why?

HE

Paulina, I love you. I need to hear it from your lips. It's not fair that after so many years the person to tell me should be him. It would be... intolerable.

SHE

Whereas, if I tell you it would be... tolerable.

HE

More tolerable than if he tells me first.

SHE

I told you some of it already. Wasn't that enough?

HE

Fifteen years ago you started to tell me and then....

SHE

Did you expect me to keep on talking to you with that bitch there? That bitch came out of your bedroom half naked asking why you were taking so long, and you expected me to....

HE

She wasn't a bitch.

SHE

Did she know where I was? Of course she did. A bitch.

D-1

GERARDO
PAULINA

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN 5 - 2

HE

We're not going to start all this again.

SHE

You're the one who started.

HE

How many times do I have to...? I'd spent two months trying to find you. Then she came by, she said she could help. We had a couple of drinks. My God, I'm also human.

SHE

While I defended your life, while your name stayed inside me and never left my mouth. Ask him, ask Miranda if I ever so much as whispered your name. While you....

HE

You already forgave me, you forgave me, how many times will we have to go over this? Let's finish this. Let's close this book once and for all and never speak about it, ever again.

SHE

Forgive and forget?

HE

Forgive yes, forget no. But forgive so we can start again.

SHE

What did you want me to do, to talk in front of her? To tell you what they did to me, in front of her. How many times?

HE

How many times what?

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN 5 - 3

SHE

How many times did you fuck her?

HE

Paulina...

SHE

How many?

HE

Baby....

SHE

How many times did you do it? How many, how many? I tell you, you tell me.

HE

Pauline, you want to destroy me? Is that what you want?

SHE

No.

HE

Well, you're going to. You're going to end up in a world where I don't exist, where I won't be here. Is that what you want?

SHE

I want to know how many times you fucked that bitch.

HE

Don't do this.

SHE

That wasn't the first night, was it? You'd seen her before, right? The truth.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN 5 - 4

HE

Even if it destroys us?

SHE

How many times? You tell me, I tell you.

HE

Twice.

SHE

That night. What about before that night?

HE

Three times.

SHE

What?

HE

Three times.

SHE

She was that good? You liked her that much?
And she liked it too. She must have really
enjoyed it if she came back for...

HE

Do you understand what you're doing to me?

SHE

Beyond redemption, huh?

HE

What more do you want from me? We survived
the dictatorship, we survived, and now we're
going to do to each other what those bastards
weren't able to do to us. You want that?

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN 5 - 5

SHE

No.

HE

You want me to leave? Is that what you want?
You want me to go out that door and never see
you again? God in Heaven, is that what you
want?

SHE

No.

HE

That's what you're going to get. People can
also die from an excessive dose of the truth,
you know. I'm in your hands like a baby, I have
no defences now. You want to treat me like you
treat the man who....

SHE

No. (pause) I want you. You. I want you
making love to me without ghosts in bed and I
want you on the Commission defending the
truth and I want you in the air I breathe and I
want you in my Schubert that I can start
listening to again and I want you adopting a
child together...

HE

Yes, Paulina, yes.

SHE

....and I want to care for you minute by minute
like you took care of me.