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Proof

A PLAY

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大衛·奧本

Proof

劇本中譯

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Act One

Scene 1	1
Scene 2	59
Scene 3	93
Scene 4	115

Act Two

Scene 5	221
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第一幕

第一景	2
第二景	60
第三景	94
第四景	116

第二幕

第五景	222
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Act One

Scene 1

Night.

CATHERINE sits in a chair. She is exhausted, haphazardly dressed. Eyes closed. *ROBERT* is standing behind her. He is *CATHERINE*'s father. Rumpled academic look. *CATHERINE* does not know he is there. After a moment;

ROBERT: Can't sleep?

CATHERINE: Jesus, you scared me.

ROBERT: Sorry.

CATHERINE: What are you doing here?

ROBERT: I thought I'd check up on you. Why aren't you in bed?

CATHERINE: Your student is still here. He's up in your study.

ROBERT: He can let himself out.

CATHERINE: I might as well wait up till he's done.

ROBERT: He's not my student anymore. He's teaching now. Bright kid. (Beat.)

CATHERINE: What time is it?

【第一幕・第一景】

夜晚。

Catherine 坐在一張椅子上，看起來很疲倦。她穿著非常隨便的家居服，閉著眼睛。Robert，Catherine 的父親，年約五十多歲，穿得很輕鬆，但是一看就知道是學術界的人。Catherine 並不知道她爸爸站在後面。

【譯注：地點及環境是美國芝加哥市郊一幢平房的後陽台。】

Robert：睡不著嗎？

Catherine：【驚呼一聲】你嚇了我一跳。

Robert：對不起。

Catherine：你在這邊做什麼？

Robert：我想起來看看妳啊。怎麼還沒睡？

Catherine：你學生還在這裡啊，他在你的書房裡面。

Robert：他自己可以出去的。

Catherine：我想我還是在這裡等他做完。

Robert：他不再是我的學生啦，他已經在教書了。

一個聰明的年輕人。【停頓】

Catherine：現在幾點了？

ROBERT: It's almost one.

CATHERINE: Huh.

ROBERT: After midnight...

CATHERINE: So?

ROBERT: SO: (He indicates something on the table behind him: a bottle of champagne.) HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

CATHERINE: Dad.

ROBERT: Do I ever forget?

CATHERINE: Thank you.

ROBERT: Twenty-five. I can't believe it.

CATHERINE: Neither can I. Should we have it now?

ROBERT: It's up to you.

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: You want me to open it?

CATHERINE: Let me. Last time you opened a bottle of champagne out here you broke a window.

ROBERT: That was a long time ago. I resent your bringing it up.

CATHERINE: You're lucky you didn't lose an eye.

(Pop. The bottle foams.)

ROBERT: Twenty-five!

CATHERINE: I feel old.

ROBERT: You're a kid.

CATHERINE: Glasses?

ROBERT: Goddamn it, I forgot the glasses. Do you want me to—

CATHERINE: Nah.

Robert：快要一點鐘了。

Catherine：喔。

Robert：過了午夜。

Catherine：那又怎樣呢？

Robert：生日快樂。【Robert 伸手指著前頭桌子上擺著的一瓶香檳酒。】

Catherine：喔！爸爸。

Robert：難道我曾經忘記過嗎？

Catherine：沒有，謝謝你。

Robert：二十五歲了，我真是難以相信。

Catherine：我也難以相信。我們現在就打開它嗎？

Robert：妳決定好了。

Catherine：好，我現在就要開。

Robert：妳要我幫妳開嗎？

Catherine：喔，不必了，我自己來開好了。上次你開香檳的時候打破了一扇窗戶，你記不記得？

Robert：那是很久以前的事了，妳還提它幹嘛。

Catherine：那一次，你沒有傷到眼睛算是幸運的。

【砰，酒瓶溢出泡沫了。】

Robert：二十五歲。

Catherine：我老了！

Robert：妳還是個孩子。

Catherine：酒杯呢？

Robert：啊，真是的，我忘了拿酒杯出來。妳要不要我去……

Catherine：不必了。

(*CATHERINE* drinks from the bottle. A long pull. *ROBERT* watches her.)

ROBERT: I hope you like it. I wasn't sure what to get you.

CATHERINE: This is the worst champagne I have ever tasted.

ROBERT: I am proud to say I don't know anything about wines. I hate those kind of people who are always talking about "vintages."

CATHERINE: It's not even champagne.

ROBERT: The bottle was the right shape.

CATHERINE: "Great Lakes Vineyards." I didn't know they made wine in Wisconsin.

ROBERT: A girl who's drinking from the bottle shouldn't complain. Don't guzzle it. It's an elegant beverage. Sip.

CATHERINE: (*Offering the bottle*) Do you—

ROBERT: No, go ahead.

CATHERINE: You sure?

ROBERT: Yeah. It's your birthday.

CATHERINE: Happy birthday to me.

ROBERT: What are you going to do on your birthday?

CATHERINE: Drink this. Have some.

【Catherine 對著瓶口咕嚕咕嚕地長長飲了一口。

Robert 看著她】

Robert：希望妳喜歡，其實我並不清楚到底應該幫妳買什麼。

Catherine：這是我嚐過最爛的香檳。

Robert：我非常驕傲我不知道有關酒的事情，其實我滿討厭那些一天到晚把品味掛在嘴邊的人。

Catherine：這根本就不是香檳。

Robert：這個瓶子看起來像香檳酒瓶。

Catherine：『大湖區的酒場』，我倒不知道 Wisconsin 產酒。

Robert：一個像妳這樣對著瓶口喝酒的女孩實在也不該再囉嗦什麼了。拜託妳不要牛飲，對這種優雅的飲料，要慢慢喝。

Catherine：【將酒瓶舉向 Robert 的方向】你要不要…

Robert：不必了，妳自己喝吧。

Catherine：確定？

Robert：對啊！這是妳的生日。

Catherine：祝我生日快樂。

Robert：妳在生日這天要做什麼？

Catherine：就喝這個啊。來點吧。

ROBERT: No.

I hope you're not spending your birthday alone.

CATHERINE: I'm not alone.

ROBERT: I don't count.

CATHERINE: Why not?

ROBERT: I'm your old man. Go out with some friends.

CATHERINE: Right.

ROBERT: Your friends aren't taking you out?

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: Why not?

CATHERINE: Because in order for your friends to take you
out you generally have to have friends.

ROBERT: (*Dismissive*) Oh—

CATHERINE: It's funny how that works.

ROBERT: You have friends. What about that cute blonde,
what was her name?

CATHERINE: What?

ROBERT: She lives over on Ellis Avenue—
you used to spend every minute together.

CATHERINE: Cindy Jacobsen?

ROBERT: Cindy Jacobsen!

Robert：不要。

難道妳要一個人過生日啊。

Catherine：我不是一個人啊。

Robert：我不算啦！

Catherine：為什麼不算。

Robert：我是你老爸耶。跟一些朋友出去吧。

Catherine：是啊。

Robert：妳朋友不來約妳出去嗎？

Catherine：不會。

Robert：為什麼不會？

Catherine：因為要朋友約你出去玩的前提是，首先你要有朋友啊！

Robert：喔。【一副不太相信的樣子】

Catherine：本來就是這樣嘛。

Robert：妳有朋友啊。那個很可愛的金髮女孩，叫什麼名字來著的？

Catherine：什麼？

Robert：她不就住在 Ellis 街上，妳們整天混在一起。

Catherine：Cindy Jacobsen？

Robert：對啊！辛蒂賈柯布森。

CATHERINE: That was in *third grade*, Dad. Her family moved to Florida in 1983.

ROBERT: What about Claire?

CATHERINE: She's not my friend, she's my sister. And she's in New York. And I don't like her.

ROBERT: I thought she was coming in.

CATHERINE: Not till tomorrow.

(Beat.)

ROBERT: My advice, if you find yourself awake late at night, is to sit down and do some mathematics.

CATHERINE: Oh please.

ROBERT: We could do some together.

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: Why not?

CATHERINE: I can't think of anything worse. You sure you don't want any?

ROBERT: Yeah, thanks. You used to love it.

CATHERINE: Not anymore.

ROBERT: You knew what a prime number was before you could read.

CATHERINE: Well now I've forgotten.

ROBERT: (*Hard*) Don't waste your talent, Catherine.

(Beat.)

Catherine：那是小學三年級的事情了，老爸。她們家
1983 年搬到 Florida 去了。

Robert：那 Claire 呢？

Catherine：Claire 不是我朋友，她是我姊姊，
她現在在紐約。而且我不喜歡她。

Robert：我記得妳姊姊要來。

Catherine：明天才到。

【停頓】

Robert：我的建議是，如果很晚還睡不著，就做點數
學吧。

Catherine：喔，拜託。

Robert：我們可以一起做點數學。

Catherine：不要。

Robert：為什麼不要？

Catherine：我實在想不出比做數學更糟的事情。
你真的不要喝一點？

Robert：真的，謝謝。妳以前很愛做數學的。

Catherine：我不再喜歡了。

Robert：妳在識字之前就知道什麼是質數了。

Catherine：那我現在忘記了。

Robert：不要這樣浪費妳的天份嘛！Catherine。

【停頓】

CATHERINE: I knew you'd say something like that.

ROBERT: I realize you've had a difficult time.

CATHERINE: Thanks.

ROBERT: That's not an excuse. Don't be lazy.

CATHERINE: I haven't been lazy,

I've been taking care of you.

ROBERT: Kid, I've seen you. You sleep till noon, you eat junk, you don't work, the dishes pile up in the sink.

If you go out it's to buy magazines.

You come back with a stack of magazines this high—

I don't know how you read that crap. And those are the good days.

Some days you don't get up, you don't get out of bed.

CATHERINE: Those are the good days.

ROBERT: Bullshit. Those days are lost.

You threw them away.

And you'll never know what else you threw away with them—the work you lost, the ideas you didn't have, discoveries you never made because you were moping in your bed at four in the afternoon. (*Beat.*) You know I'm right. (*Beat.*)

CATHERINE: I've lost a few days.

ROBERT: How many?

CATHERINE: Oh, I don't know.

ROBERT: I bet you do.

Catherine：我就知道你會這樣說。

Robert：我知道妳最近過得不太好。

Catherine：謝謝。

Robert：那不是藉口，不要這麼懶嘛！

Catherine：我沒有懶啊，

我都在照顧你。

Robert：孩子，我都在觀察妳。妳睡到中午，吃垃圾食物，不做事，廚房水槽裡堆滿了盤子。

妳出去就是買雜誌，帶這麼高一疊雜誌回來，

我不知道妳要怎樣讀那些廢話。

而那還算是好的呢，有時候妳根本不起床，一整天賴在床上。

Catherine：那些是我的好日子啊！

Robert：狗屁，那些是妳浪費的日子。

妳浪擲光陰。

而且妳永遠不會知道，妳整天賴在床上到下午四點，還磨掉了什麼？妳的成就，妳的點子，妳的發現。【停頓】妳知道我講得對。【停頓】

Catherine：我的確是混掉了幾天。

Robert：幾天呢？

Catherine：我怎麼知道啊！

Robert：我打賭妳一定有算。

CATHERINE: What?

ROBERT: I bet you count.

CATHERINE: Knock it off.

ROBERT: Well do you know or don't you?

CATHERINE: I don't.

ROBERT: Of course you do. How many days have you lost?

CATHERINE: A month. Around a month.

ROBERT: Exactly.

CATHERINE: Goddamn it, I don't—

ROBERT: How many?

CATHERINE: Thirty-three days.

ROBERT: Exactly?

CATHERINE: I don't know.

ROBERT: Be precise, for Chrissake.

CATHERINE: I slept till noon today.

ROBERT: Call it thirty-three and a quarter days.

CATHERINE: Yes, all right.

ROBERT: You're kidding!

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: Amazing number!

CATHERINE: It's a depressing fucking number.

Catherine：什麼？

Robert：我賭你一定有在計算。

Catherine：別扯了。

Robert：妳究竟是知道還是不知道。

Catherine：不知道。

Robert：妳一定知道。妳到底混掉了幾天。

Catherine：一個月，大概一個月吧！

Robert：再精確一點。

Catherine 討厭，我不要…

Robert：到底有幾天？

Catherine：三十三天。

Robert：再精確一點呢？

Catherine：我不知道啊！

Robert：拜託！我就是要妳精確！

Catherine：今天我睡到中午。

Robert：那就算三十三又四分之一天好了。

Catherine：那也還好啊。

Robert：妳胡扯。

Catherine：我沒有。

Robert：那是個很特別的數！

Catherine：那是個他媽的令人沮喪的數。

ROBERT: Catherine, if every day you say you've lost were a year, it would be a very interesting fucking number.

CATHERINE: Thirty-three and a quarter years is not interesting.

ROBERT: Stop it. You know exactly what I mean.

CATHERINE: (Conceding) 1729 weeks.

ROBERT: 1729. Great number.

The smallest number expressible—

CATHERINE: —expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways.

ROBERT: 12 cubed plus 1 cubed equals 1729.

CATHERINE: And 10 cubed plus 9 cubed. Yes, we've got it, thank you.

ROBERT: You see? Even your depression is mathematical. Stop moping and get to work.

The kind of potential you have—

CATHERINE: I haven't done anything good.

ROBERT: You're young. You've got time.

CATHERINE: I do?

ROBERT: Yes.

CATHERINE: By the time you were my age you were famous.

ROBERT: By the time I was your age I'd already done my best work.

Robert：Catherine，如果妳浪費的天數改成年數，那
真就是個他媽的有趣的數。

Catherine：三十三又四分之一年一點也不有趣。

Robert：少來。妳明明知道我的意思。

Catherine：1729 個星期。【做出她認輸了的樣子。】

Robert：1729，了不起的數。

它是一個最小可以…

Catherine：可以寫成兩種不同的立方和的數。

Robert：12 的三次方加 1 等於 1729。

Catherine：還有 10 的三次方加 9 的三次方。好啦，
我們算完了，謝謝。

Robert：妳看到了沒？就連妳的憂鬱都很數學。

別再鬼混開始工作吧。

妳有足夠的潛力…

Catherine：我到現在還沒做出任何好數學。

Robert：妳還年輕，妳還有時間。

Catherine：我還年輕嗎？

Robert：是啊！

Catherine：你在我這個年紀以前，就已經成名了。

Robert：我在妳這個年紀以前，我已經做完最好的工
作了。

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: What about after?

ROBERT: After what?

CATHERINE: After you got sick.

ROBERT: What about it?

CATHERINE: You couldn't work then.

ROBERT: No, if anything I was sharper.

CATHERINE: (She can't help it: she laughs.) Dad.

ROBERT: I was. Hey, it's true. The clarity—that was the amazing thing. No doubts.

CATHERINE: You were happy?

ROBERT: Yeah, I was busy.

CATHERINE: Not the same thing.

ROBERT: I don't see the difference.

I knew what I wanted to do and I did it.

If I wanted to work a problem all day long, I did it.

If I wanted to look for information—

secrets, complex and tantalizing messages—

I could find them all around me. In the air.

In a pile of fallen leaves some neighbor raked together.

In box scores in the paper,

written in the steam coming up off a cup of coffee.

【停頓】【譯注：Robert 自我挖苦，二十五歲已經過了他的顛峰。】

Catherine：那之後呢？

Robert：什麼之後？

Catherine：生病之後。

Robert：妳問這幹嘛？

Catherine：你生病之後就無法工作。

Robert：不。我從來沒有那麼敏銳過。

Catherine：爸。【她忍不住笑了。】

Robert：是啊，嘿，是真的。我腦袋之清楚啊，真是
令人驚訝。毫無懷疑的。

Catherine：你那時候快樂嗎？

Robert：是啊，我很忙。

Catherine：這不是一回事。

Robert：我看不出來有什麼不同。

我知道我想要做什麼，而且能做到。
如果我想要花一整天去做一個問題，
我可以這樣做。如果我想要找資料，
要找那神秘、複雜而誘人的線索，
就發現它們充斥我的四周。在空中，
在鄰人扒成一堆的落葉中，
在報紙上的票房數據中，
寫在咖啡杯上裊裊的熱氣中，

The whole world was talking to me.

If I just wanted to close my eyes, sit quietly on the porch and listen for the messages, I did that. It was wonderful.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: How old were you? When it started.

ROBERT: Mid-twenties. Twenty-three, four. (Beat.)

Is that what you're worried about?

CATHERINE: I've thought about it.

ROBERT: Just getting a year older means nothing, Catherine.

CATHERINE: It's not just getting older.

ROBERT: It's me.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: I've thought about it.

ROBERT: Really?

CATHERINE: How could I not?

ROBERT: Well if that's why you're worried

you're not keeping up with the medical literature.

There are all kinds of factors. It's not simply something you inherit.

Just because I went bughouse doesn't mean you will.

CATHERINE: Dad ...

ROBERT: Listen to me. Life changes fast in your early twenties and it shakes you up.

這整個世界都在對我說話。
如果我恰好想安靜閉目坐在長凳上，
想想這些線索，我也可以。真是一段美好時光。

【停頓】

Catherine：你發病那時候幾歲？

Robert：二十幾。二十三、四歲吧！【停頓】

那就是妳現在擔心的事嗎？

Catherine：我是有這麼想。

Robert：老了一歲不代表什麼，Catherine。

Catherine：那並不只是老了一點的問題。

Robert：那就是我的問題囉。

【停頓】

Catherine：我是有這麼想。

Robert：真的？

Catherine：怎麼能不這樣想？

Robert：那麼如果妳擔心這個，

就表示妳沒有跟上新的醫學文獻。

它有許許多多的病因，並不是單純的遺傳。

不會因為我的精神錯亂，妳就一定會如此。

Catherine：爸…

Robert：聽我說。人在二十歲出頭的時候生命變化快
得讓妳振奮起來。

You're feeling down. It's been a bad week.

You've had a lousy couple years, no one knows that better than me.

But you're gonna be okay.

CATHERINE: Yeah?

ROBERT: Yes. I promise you. Push yourself.

Don't read so many magazines.

Sit down and get the machinery going and I swear to God you'll feel fine.

The simple fact that we can talk about this together is a good sign.

CATHERINE: A good sign?

ROBERT: Yes!

CATHERINE: How could it be a good sign?

ROBERT: Because! Crazy people don't sit around wondering if they're nuts.

CATHERINE: They don't?

ROBERT: Of course not. They've got better things to do.

Take it from me. A very good sign that you're crazy is an inability to ask the question "Am I crazy?"

CATHERINE: Even if the answer is yes?

ROBERT: Crazy people don't ask. You see?

CATHERINE: Yes.

而妳正在消沈，這個禮拜的確不順。
其實這幾年妳都過得糟透了，沒人比我更清楚。
但是妳一定會恢復的。

Catherine：哦？

Robert：我相信一定會的。振作起來，
不要讀那麼多雜誌。
坐下來讓妳的大腦開始運作，我發誓妳一定會覺得
很好。
單單就憑妳可以跟我談論這個問題本身就是一
個好的現象。

Catherine：一個好現象？

Robert：對啊！

Catherine：怎麼可能是個好的現象呢？

Robert：因為啊！一個發瘋的人不會坐在那裡納悶自
己是不是瘋了。

Catherine：他們不會嗎？

Robert：當然不會。他們有更想做的事情。
相信我的話。一個人發瘋的最佳指標就是
無法自問：『我是不是瘋了？』

Catherine：即使答案是『是』嗎？

Robert：瘋人壓根不會問啊。妳懂嗎？

Catherine：懂。

ROBERT: So if you're asking...

CATHERINE: I'm not.

ROBERT: But if you were, it would be a very good sign.

CATHERINE: A good sign ...

ROBERT: A good sign that you're fine.

CATHERINE: Right.

ROBERT: You see? You've just gotta think these things through.

Now come on, what do you say? Let's call it a night;
you go up, get some sleep,
and then in the morning you can—

CATHERINE: Wait. No.

ROBERT: What's the matter?

CATHERINE: It doesn't work.

ROBERT: Why not?

CATHERINE: It doesn't make sense.

ROBERT: Sure it does.

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: Where's the problem?

CATHERINE: The problem is you are crazy!

ROBERT: What difference does that make?

CATHERINE: You admitted—

You just told me that you are.

ROBERT: So?

Robert：所以妳問自己…

Catherine：我沒有。

Robert：但是假設妳有，那就是很好的現象。

Catherine：好現象…

Robert：妳還精神正常的好現象。

Catherine：對。

Robert：妳看吧，妳就是得要用心將這些事情想通。

現在言歸正傳，已經很晚了，妳上樓去睡個覺，
然後早上妳就可以…

Catherine：等等。不對。

Robert：怎麼回事？

Catherine：沒用的。

Robert：為什麼？

Catherine：這沒道理。

Robert：當然有。

Catherine：沒有。

Robert：問題在哪裡？

Catherine：問題就是，你已經是個瘋子。

Robert：這有什麼差別？

Catherine：你承認了——

你剛才承認你是瘋子。

Robert：那又怎樣？

CATHERINE: You said a crazy person would never admit that.

ROBERT: Yeah, but it's . . . Oh. I see.

CATHERINE: So?

ROBERT: It's a point.

CATHERINE: So how can you admit it?

ROBERT: Well. Because I'm also dead. (*Beat.*) Aren't I?

CATHERINE: You died a week ago.

ROBERT: Heart failure. Quick. The funeral's tomorrow.

CATHERINE: That's why Claire's flying in from New York.

ROBERT: Yes.

CATHERINE: You're sitting here.

You're giving me advice. You brought me Champagne.

ROBERT: Yes.

(*Beat.*)

CATHERINE: Which means...

Catherine：你說過一個瘋掉的人絕不會承認自己發瘋了。

Robert：是啊！但是…，喔，我懂了。

【譯注 Catherine 抓到 Robert 邏輯的矛盾。】

Catherine：你還有什麼話說？

Robert:有道理。

Catherine：那你怎麼能承認呢？

【譯注：Robert 已經被認定為瘋子，如果前面說的論述成立（瘋子都不會自己承認），那他為什麼能自己承認呢？】

Robert：好吧。那是因為我也死掉了。【停頓】對不對？

【譯注：Robert 不只是瘋掉了，而且是死掉了，因此不受前面論述的限制。劇情到此之前，看不出來 Robert 是 Catherine 心中的幻想，其實她一直在跟幻影說話。】

Catherine：你上星期死了。

Robert：心臟衰竭，死得很快，葬禮就在明天。

Catherine：那就是為什麼 Claire 要從約紐飛過來。

Robert：對。

Catherine：你卻坐在這裡，
給我建議，帶來香檳。

Robert：對。

【停頓】

Catherine：這意味著…

ROBERT: For you?

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: For you, Catherine, my daughter, who I love very much...

IT COULD BE A BAD SIGN.

(They sit together for a moment. Noise off. *HAL* enters, semi-hip clothes. He carries a backpack and a jacket, folded. He lets the door go and it bangs shut.

CATHERINE sits up with a jolt.)

CATHERINE: WHAT?

HAL: Oh God, sorry—did I wake you?

CATHERINE: What?

HAL: Were you asleep?

(*Beat. ROBERT is gone.*)

CATHERINE: You scared me, for Chris sake. What are you doing?

HAL: I'm sorry. I didn't realize it had gotten so late. I'm done for the night.

CATHERINE: Good.

HAL: Drinking alone?

(*CATHERINE* realizes she is holding the champagne bottle.

She puts it down quickly.)

CATHERINE: YES.

Robert：對妳來說嗎？

Catherine：對啊。

Robert：對妳來說，Catherine，我深愛的女兒，
這真是一個壞現象。

【他們又坐了一會兒。房裡的聲音停止，Hal 走進舞台，
Hal 從二樓走下來，穿著半嬉皮 (semi-hip) 的衣服，背著一個
背包，手裡夾著一件捲起來的夾克。轉到後廳，出來到後陽
台，他沒有扶著門讓它砰的一聲關上。

Catherine 嚇了一跳坐直了起來】

Catherine：啊？

Hal：喔，天哪！對不起——我吵醒妳了嗎？

Catherine：啊？

Hal：妳剛才睡著了嗎？

【停頓。Robert 不見了】

Catherine：你嚇了我一跳，真是的。你在做什麼？

Hal：對不起，其實我沒注意已經這麼晚了。
我做完今晚的份了。

Catherine：那好。

Hal：一個人喝酒嗎？

【Catherine 這才發現自己抓著香檳酒瓶。
她趕快放下。】

Catherine：對。

HAL: Champagne, huh?

CATHERINE: Yes.

HAL: Celebrating?

CATHERINE: No. I just like champagne.

HAL: It's festive.

CATHERINE: What?

HAL: festive. (He makes an awkward "party" gesture.)

CATHERINE: DO YOU WANT SOME?

HAL: SURE.

CATHERINE: *(Gives him the bottle.)* I'm done.

You can take the rest with you.

HAL: Oh. No thanks.

CATHERINE: Take it, I'm done.

HAL: No, I shouldn't. I'm driving. *(Beat.)*

Well I can let myself out.

CATHERINE: Good.

HAL: When should I come back?

CATHERINE: Come back?

HAL: Yeah. I'm nowhere near finished. Maybe tomorrow?

CATHERINE: We have a funeral tomorrow.

HAL: God, you're right, I'm sorry.

I was going to attend, if that's all right.

Hal：香檳，是吧？

Catherine：是。

Hal：慶祝什麼嗎？

Catherine：沒有，我只是喜歡香檳。

Hal：它帶來歡樂氣氛。

Catherine：什麼？

Hal：歡樂。【他擺出一個笨拙的派對手勢】

Catherine：要喝點嗎？

Hal：當然好啊！

Catherine：【拿酒瓶給他】我喝夠了，

你可以把整瓶帶走。

Hal：喔，不用。謝了。

Catherine：拿著吧，我喝夠了。

Hal：不用，我不該喝太多，我還要開車。【停頓】

我知道怎樣自己出去。

Catherine：那好。

Hal：我什麼時候可以回來？

Catherine：回來？

Hal：我距離完成還早呢。明天可不可以？

Catherine：明天舉行葬禮耶。

Hal：喔！對啊，我都忘了，抱歉。

我本來也打算要參加的。可以嗎？

CATHERINE: Yes.

HAL: What about Sunday? Will you be around?

CATHERINE: You've had three days.

HAL: I'd love to get in some more time up there.

CATHERINE: How much longer do you need?

HAL: Another week. At least.

CATHERINE: Are you joking?

HAL: No. Do you know how much stuff there is?

CATHERINE: A week?

HAL: I know you don't need anybody in your hair right now. Look, I spent the last couple days getting everything sorted out. It's mostly notebooks. He dated them all; now that I've got them in order I don't have to work here. I could take some stuff home, read it, bring it back.

CATHERINE: No.

HAL: I'll be careful.

CATHERINE: My father wouldn't want anything moved and I don't want anything to leave this house.

HAL: Then I should work here. I'll stay out of the way.

CATHERINE: You're wasting your time.

HAL: Someone needs to go through your dad's papers.

CATHERINE: There's nothing up there. It's garbage.

Catherine：可以。

Hal：那星期天呢？妳在不在家？

Catherine：我已經給你三天了。

Hal：我還希望有更多時間待在那裡。

Catherine：你到底還需要多少天呢？

Hal：一星期吧，至少。

Catherine：你在開玩笑吧。

Hal：不。妳知道那裡有多少東西嗎？

Catherine：一星期？

Hal：我知道妳現在不太喜歡有人打擾妳。我說，過去幾天我只是把東西整理好，大部分都是筆記本。妳爸把每份筆記都寫了日期，我現在把它全部排好了。我並不一定要在這裡工作，我可以帶一些回家，讀完了再拿回來。

Catherine：不可以！

Hal：我會小心的。

Catherine：我爸不會希望任何東西被搬走，而且我也不願意讓任何東西離開這個房子。

Hal：所以我必須在這裡工作。我不會打擾妳。

Catherine：你只是在浪費你的時間。

Hal：總要有人把妳爸爸的筆記全部看過一遍。

Catherine：根本沒什麼東西在裡面，全是垃圾。

HAL: There are a hundred and three notebooks.

CATHERINE: I've looked at those. It's gibberish.

HAL: Someone should read them.

CATHERINE: He was crazy.

HAL: Yes, but he wrote them.

CATHERINE: He was a graphomaniac, Harold.

Do you know what that is?

HAL: I know. He wrote compulsively.

Call me Hal.

CATHERINE: There's no connection between the ideas.

There's no ideas. It's like a monkey at a typewriter. A hundred and three notebooks full of bullshit.

HAL: Let's make sure they're bullshit.

CATHERINE: I'm sure.

HAL: I'm prepared to look at every page. Are you?

CATHERINE: No. *I'm* not crazy.

(Beat.)

HAL: Well, I'm gonna be late...Some friends of mine are in this band. They're playing at a bar up on Diversey.

Way down the bill, they're probably going on around two, two-thirty. I said I'd be there.

Hal：那裡有 103 本筆記本耶。

Catherine：我全都看過了，全是胡扯。

Hal：還是得有人讀一遍。

【譯注：難道 Catherine 不是人嗎？Hal 指的是數學家】

Catherine：他是個瘋子。

Hal：沒錯，但是他還是寫下來了。

Catherine：他是書寫狂，Harold，

你知道什麼意思嗎？

Hal：知道，就是他不自主地一直寫一直寫。

叫我 Hal。

Catherine：字句之間根本沒有關連。

根本就沒有思想。就好像一隻猴子用打字機敲出

103 本充滿狗屁的筆記本。

Hal：請妳讓我確定它們都是狗屁。

Catherine：我確定。

Hal：我已經準備好要讀每一頁。妳有嗎？

Catherine：沒有。我又沒瘋。

【停頓】

Hal：好吧！我有點遲到了。我的一些朋友組了個樂

團，他們要在鎮城外一個酒吧演唱。

他們在節目單最下面，大概兩點或兩點半的時候要

開始。我說了要過去。

CATHERINE: Great.

HAL: They're all in the math department.

They're really good.

They have this great song—you'd like it—called "i"—lower-case I. They just stand there and don't play anything for three minutes.

CATHERINE: "Imaginary Number."

HAL: It's a math joke.

You see why they're way down the bill.

CATHERINE: Long drive to see some nerds in a band.

HAL: God I hate when people say that.

It is not that long a drive.

CATHERINE: So they are nerds.

HAL: Oh they're raging geeks. But they're geeks who, you know, can dress themselves...hold down a job at a major university ...Some of them have switched from glasses to contacts.

They play sports, they play in a band, they get laid surprisingly often, so in that sense they sort of make you question the whole set of terms: geek, nerd, wonk, dweeb, dilbert, paste-eater.

Catherine：很好啊。

Hal：他們都是數學系的同事，

都是些有趣的傢伙。

他們要演唱這首了不起的歌——想必妳會喜歡——叫做『 i 』，小寫的。他們將要站在那邊三分鐘，什麼都不演奏。

Catherine：虛數。【譯注：Catherine 立刻猜到那個歌名 i 的意思是虛數單位，負一的平方根】

Hal：這是一個數學玩笑。

妳現在知道為何麼他們會被排在節目表的最後。

Catherine：開車大老遠去看一群書呆組成的樂團。

Hal：天啊我最討厭別人這樣說。【譯注：指的是稱數學家為書呆】也沒開多遠。

Catherine：所以他們是書呆囉。【譯注：Hal 只抗議沒開多遠，沒有明白抗議書呆的稱呼，Catherine 乘勝追擊說他等於承認了書呆那一部份的說法】

Hal：喔，他們算是極端地呆頭楞腦啦。但是這些呆頭楞腦的人——妳知道的嘛——會自己穿衣服，能在一流大學裡任教，有些還會把眼鏡換成隱形的。他們也打打球，玩玩樂團，而且還出奇地經常有豔遇呢。所以在某種意義下他們相當於挑戰了像呆頭鵝、書呆子、怪胎、弱雞、呆伯特這些偏見。

CATHERINE: You're in this band, aren't you?

HAL: Okay, yes. I play drums. You want to come? I never sing, I swear to God.

CATHERINE: No thanks.

HAL: All right. Look, Catherine, Monday: what do you say?

CATHERINE: Don't you have a job?

HAL: Yeah, I have a full teaching load this quarter plus my own work.

CATHERINE: Plus band practice.

HAL: I don't have time to do this but I'm going to. If you'll let me. (*Beat.*) I loved your dad. I don't believe a mind like his can just shut down. He had lucid moments. He had a lucid year, a whole year four years ago.

CATHERINE: It wasn't a year. It was more like nine months.

HAL: A school year. He was advising students... I was stalled on my Ph.D. I was this close to quitting. I met with your dad and he put me on the right track with my research. I owe him.

CATHERINE: Sorry.

HAL: Look. Let me— You're twenty-five, right?

CATHERINE: How old are you?

Catherine：你也在那個樂團，對不對？

Hal：好吧，對，我打鼓。妳要不要來啊？我發誓，我絕對不會唱歌的。

Catherine：謝了。

Hal：好吧。這樣吧，Catherine，我星期一來，可不可以？

Catherine：你難道不必上班嗎？

Hal：要啊，我這學季教書的時數是滿的，再加上自己的研究。【譯注：美國有些大學一年分成三或四個學季，每學季通常為期十週，每節課 75 分鐘】

Catherine：加上樂團練習。

Hal：我還沒有時間，不過我將會去練習的。請妳容許我。【停頓】我敬愛令尊。我無法相信像他這樣的心靈會這樣就關閉了。他有一段清醒的時間，清醒了一年，四年前的一整年。

Catherine：沒有一整年，說九個月比較接近。

Hal：一學年。他那時可以指導學生…我那時正因為博士論文的延宕差這麼一點點就要放棄了，正好遇見妳爸，他為我開了一條研究的大道。我虧欠他。

Catherine：抱歉。

Hal：妳看，這樣說吧……，妳二十五歲，對吧？

Catherine：你幾歲？

HAL: It doesn't matter. Listen.

CATHERINE: Fuck you, how old are you?

HAL: I'm twenty-eight, all right?

When your dad was younger than both of us,
he made major contributions to three fields:
game theory, algebraic geometry, and nonlinear
operator theory.

Most of us never get our heads around one.

He basically invented the mathematical techniques for
studying rational behavior, which economists have
been milking for Nobels ever since,
and he gave the astrophysicists plenty to work over too.

Okay?

CATHERINE: Don't lecture me.

HAL: I'm not. I'm telling you,

if I came up with one-tenth of the shit your dad
produced,

I could write my own ticket to any math department in
the country.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: Give me your backpack.

HAL: What?

CATHERINE: Give me your backpack.

Hal：這不重要，妳聽我說……

Catherine：幹，你到底幾歲？

Hal：二十八歲，好吧？

當妳爸爸比我們兩個都還要年輕的時候，他就已經在三個領域做出突破的貢獻：賽局理論、代數幾何和非線性算子。大部分人可能在一生中連一個領域都還無法瞭解。他等於發明了一套研究理性行為的數學工具，讓經濟學者可以從那裡擠出諾貝爾獎，也給天文物理學家開創了新的方向。妳知道嗎？

Catherine：別對我說教。

【譯注：言外之意是，他是我爸爸，我豈會不知】

Hal：我沒有。我是在告訴妳，只要我能產出妳爸的十分之一，就等於有一張通往全國任何一個數學系的通行證了。

【停頓】

Catherine：把你的背包給我。

Hal：什麼？

Catherine：把你的背包給我。

HAL: Why?

CATHERINE: I want to look inside it.

HAL: What?

CATHERINE: Open it and give it to me.

HAL: Oh come on.

CATHERINE: You're not taking anything out of this house.

HAL: I wouldn't do that.

CATHERINE: You're hoping to find something upstairs
that you can publish.

HAL: Sure.

CATHERINE: Then you can write your own ticket.

HAL: What? No! It would be under your dad's name. It
would be for your dad.

CATHERINE: I don't believe you. You have a notebook in
that backpack.

HAL: What are you talking about?

CATHERINE: Give it to me.

HAL: You're being a little bit paranoid.

CATHERINE: Paranoid?

HAL: Maybe a little.

CATHERINE: Fuck you, *Hal*. I know you have one of my
notebooks.

HAL: I think you should calm down and think about what
you're saying.

CATHERINE: I'm saying you're lying to me and stealing
my family's property.

HAL: And I think that sounds paranoid.

Hal：為什麼？

Catherine：我要看看裡面。

Hal：什麼？

Catherine：把它打開交給我。

Hal：喔！別這樣！

Catherine：你不可以拿任何東西離開這個房子。

Hal：我不會這樣做。

Catherine：你希望在樓上找到一些可以發表的東西。

Hal：當然。

Catherine：然後你就有一張通行證了。

Hal：啊？不是這樣的！那將會以妳爸的名義發表。

那是為了令尊而發表的。

Catherine：我不相信。你拿了一本筆記在背包裡。

Hal：妳怎麼可以這樣說呢？

Catherine：拿過來給我。

Hal：妳有一點妄想症。

Catherine：妄想症？

Hal：也許有一點。

Catherine：幹。**我知道**你拿了我一本筆記。

Hal：我認為妳該冷靜一下，想想妳在說什麼。

Catherine：我在說，你騙我而且你偷了我家的財產。

Hal：而我認為那聽起來像是妄想。

CATHERINE: Just because I'm paranoid doesn't mean there isn't something in that backpack.

HAL: *You just said yourself there's nothing up there. Didn't you?*

CATHERINE: I—

HAL: Didn't you say that?

CATHERINE: YES.

HAL: So what would I take? Right?

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: You're right.

HAL: Thank you.

CATHERINE: So you don't need to come back.

HAL: *(Sighs.)* Please. Someone should know for sure whether—

CATHERINE: *I lived with him.*

I spent my life with him. I fed him. Talked to him.

Tried to listen when he talked. Talked to people who weren't there ...

Watched him shuffling around like a ghost. A very smelly ghost.

He was filthy. I had to make sure he bathed. My own father.

HAL: I'm sorry. I shouldn't have ...

CATHERINE: After my mother died it was just me here.

I tried to keep him happy no matter what idiotic project he was doing.

Catherine：就算我妄想也不表示你的背包裡沒有東西。

Hal：妳自己剛才明明說那些筆記本裡面什麼都沒有，對吧？

Catherine：我…

Hal：妳沒這樣說嗎？

Catherine：我有。

Hal：那我有什麼可以拿的呢？對不對？

【停頓】

Catherine：你是對的。

Hal：謝謝。

Catherine：所以你不用再回來了。

Hal：【嘆一口氣】拜託！真的應該要有人確定……

Catherine：**我跟他住在一起。**

我花了一輩子跟他在一起，我餵他，跟他說話，當他說話的時候試著聽懂，其實他只是對著幻相說話…

我看他跟個鬼魂一樣晃來晃去，一個很臭的鬼魂，我得確定他洗澡洗乾淨了。那是我自己的爸爸。

Hal：我很抱歉，我不應該…

Catherine：在我媽死後就只有我一個人在這兒，不管他想做多白癡的事情我都盡量讓他滿意。

He used to read all day.
He kept demanding more and more books.
I took them out of the library by the carload. We had
hundreds upstairs.
Then I realized he wasn't reading:
he believed aliens were sending him messages through
the Dewey decimal numbers on the library books.
He was trying to work out the code.
HAL: What kind of messages?
CATHERINE: Beautiful mathematics. The most elegant
proofs, perfect proofs, proofs like music.
HAL: Sounds good.
CATHERINE: Plus fashion tips, knock-knock jokes—
I mean it was *nuts*, okay?
HAL : He was ill. It was a tragedy.
CATHERINE: Later the writing phase:
scribbling nineteen, twenty hours a day...
I ordered him a case of notebooks and he used every
one.
I dropped out of school...I'm glad he's dead.
HAL: I understand why you'd feel that way.
CATHERINE: Fuck you.
HAL: You're right. I can't imagine dealing with that.
It must have been awful. I know you—

他經常讀一整天的書，
不斷要求更多更多的書。
我一車一車地從圖書館載回來，樓上還有幾百本。
後來我才發現他根本不是要讀書，
他認為外星人透過圖書館的書籍條碼傳送訊息給他。
他想要做的是破解那些密碼。

Hal：什麼樣的訊息？

Catherine：美麗的數學。最優美的證明，完美的證明，
像音樂一樣的證明。

Hal：聽起來不錯。

Catherine：加上流行趨勢和冷笑話…

我的意思就是，**瘋子**，好了嗎？

Hal：他那時候病了，那是個悲劇。

Catherine：然後進入書寫期，

一天寫十九、二十個小時，我幫他買了一整箱筆記本而他全寫完了。

我還從學校退學…真高興他現在死了。

Hal：我了解妳為什麼有這種感覺。

Catherine：你才不了解。

Hal：妳是對的，我不能想像如何處理那種狀況。
一定很慘。我知道妳……

CATHERINE: You don't know me. I want to be alone. I don't want him around.

HAL: (Confused) Him? I don't—

CATHERINE: You. I don't want you here.

HAL: Why?

CATHERINE: He's dead.

HAL: But I'm not—

CATHERINE: *He's* dead; I don't need any *proteges* around.

HAL: There will be others.

CATHERINE: WHAT?

HAL: You think I'm the only one? People are already working over his stuff. Someone's gonna read those notebooks.

CATHERINE: I'll do it.

HAL: No, you—

CATHERINE: He's my father, I'll do it.

HAL: You can't.

CATHERINE: Why not?

HAL: You don't have the math. It's all just squiggles on a page. You wouldn't know the good stuff from the junk.

CATHERINE: It's all junk.

HAL: If it's not we can't afford to miss any through carelessness.

Catherine：你不知道我。我想要自己一人，我不想他在這裡。

Hal：【有點迷惑】他？我沒有…

Catherine：你啦！我不想你在這裡。

Hal：為什麼？

Catherine：他死了。

Hal：但是我沒有…

Catherine：他死了，我不需要任何他的**高徒**在這裡。

Hal：那還有其他人。

Catherine：什麼？

Hal：你以為只有我嗎？已經有人研究他的東西，總會有某人要讀那些筆記的。

Catherine：我會讀的。

Hal：妳不…

Catherine：他是我爸爸。我會讀的。

Hal：妳不能。

Catherine：為什麼？

Hal：妳的數學不夠。整頁都是扭來扭去潦草的符號，妳沒辦法從整篇廢物中挑出好東西。

Catherine：那就全是廢物。

Hal：萬一不是，我們不能因為不經心而忽略任何有價值的東西。

CATHERINE: I know mathematics.

HAL: If there was anything up there it would be pretty high-order. It would take a professional to recognize it.

CATHERINE: I think I could recognize it.

HAL: (*Patient*) Cathy...

CATHERINE: *What?*

HAL: I know your dad taught you some basic stuff, but come on.

CATHERINE: You don't think I could do it.

HAL: I'm sorry: I know that you couldn't.

(*Beat. CATHERINE snatches his backpack.*)

Hey! Oh come on. Give me a break.

(*CATHERINE opens the backpack and rifles through it.*)

This isn't an airport.

(*CATHERINE removes items one by one.*

A water bottle. Some workout clothes. An orange. Drumsticks.

Nothing else. She puts everything back in and gives it back.

Beat.)

CATHERINE: You can come tomorrow.

(*Beat. They are both embarrassed.*)

HAL: The university health service is uh very good.

My mom died a couple years ago and I was pretty broken up. Also my work wasn't going that well...

Catherine：我懂數學。

Hal：萬一那裡有些價值就一定頗為高階，需要專業才能辨認出來。

Catherine：我想我能辨認。

Hal：【有耐心地】Cathy…【譯注：Cathy 是暱稱】

Catherine：怎樣？

Hal：我知道妳爸教過妳一些基本的東西，但是算了吧。

Catherine：你不認為我能讀懂。

Hal：抱歉，我知道妳沒辦法。

【停頓。Catherine 突然搶過他的背包】

嘿，別這樣，妳饒了我吧。

【Catherine 打開背包搜查裡面】

那裡面沒多少東西。

【Catherine 把裡面的東西一樣一樣拿出來，

有一罐水，幾件運動衣，一個橘子，兩枝鼓槌，

如此而已。她把每樣東西放回去，然後還給他。停頓】

Catherine：你明天可以過來。

【停頓。兩個人都有點糗。】

Hal：呃，學校的健康中心還蠻好的。幾年前我媽過世的時候我滿沮喪的，那時我的研究也不太順……

I went over and talked to this doctor. I saw her for a couple months and it really helped.

CATHERINE: I'm fine.

(Beat.)

HAL: Also exercise is great. I run along the lake a couple of mornings a week. It's not too cold yet. If you wanted to come sometime I could pick you up.

We wouldn't have to talk...

CATHERINE: No thanks.

HAL: All right. I'm gonna be late for the show. I better go.

CATHERINE: OKAY. (Beat.)

HAL: It's seriously like twenty minutes up to the club.

We go on, we play, we're terrible but we buy everyone drinks afterward to make up for it.

You're home by four, four-thirty, tops...

CATHERINE: Good night.

HAL: GOOD NIGHT. (He starts to exit. He has forgotten his jacket.)

CATHERINE: Wait, your coat.

HAL: No, you don't have to—

(CATHERINE picks up his jacket. As she does, a composition book that was folded up in the coat falls to the floor. Beat. She picks it up, trembling with rage.)

CATHERINE: I'm *paranoid*?

大約幾個月的時間，我都會到那邊去跟醫生談談，滿有幫助的。

Catherine：我沒事。

【停頓】

Hal：運動也很有用。我每星期挑幾個早晨在湖邊跑步，現在還不太冷。如果妳要參加我可以來接妳。妳可以不必跟我說話……

Catherine：謝了。

Hal：好吧，我快要趕不上演出了。我最好還是走吧。

Catherine：好吧。【停頓】

Hal：其實開車真的頂多二十分鐘就到了。

我們上台，表演，雖然我們很白爛但是演完了會補償每個人一杯酒。

妳在四點就會回家，最晚四點半……

Catherine：晚安。

Hal：晚安。【他站起來要走，但是忘了夾克。】

Catherine：等一下，你的夾克。

Hal：喔不要，妳不必幫…

【Catherine 拿起他的夾克。這時一本捲在衣服裡面筆記簿掉到地板上。停頓。她楞了一下，撿起來，渾身氣得發抖。】

Catherine：我妄想症？

HAL: Wait.

CATHERINE: You think I should *go jogging?*

HAL: Just hold on.

CATHERINE: Get out!

HAL: Can I please just—

CATHERINE: Get the fuck out of my house.

HAL: Listen to me for a *minute*.

CATHERINE: (Waving the book) *YOU STOLE THIS!*

HAL: LET ME explain!

CATHERINE: You stole it from *me*, you stole it from my *father*—

(*HAL* snatches the book.)

HAL: I want to show you something. Will you calm down?

CATHERINE: Give it back.

HAL: Just wait a minute.

CATHERINE: I'M CALLING THE POLICE. (She picks up the phone and dials.)

HAL: Don't. Look, I borrowed the book, all right?

I'm sorry, I just picked it up before I came downstairs and thought I'd—

CATHERINE: (On phone) *HELLO?*

HAL: I did it for a reason.

CATHERINE: Hello, police? I— Yes, I'd like to report a robbery in progress.

Hal：等一下。

Catherine：你認為我應該去**慢跑**？

Hal：請妳停一下。

Catherine：出去！

Hal：請妳讓我…

Catherine：你給我滾出我的房子。

Hal：聽我講**一分鐘**就好。

Catherine：【揮舞著那本筆記】你偷了這個。

Hal：妳聽我解釋。

Catherine：你偷了我的、你偷了我**爸爸**的…

【Hal 一把搶過來那本筆記。】

Hal：我要給妳看一件事。請妳先平靜下來好嗎？

Catherine：給我還來。

Hal：一下就好。

Catherine：我要報警。【她拿起電話開始撥號。】

Hal：不要，告訴妳我只是借用一下，好嗎？

真的很抱歉，我剛剛在下樓前拿了它，本來打算…

Catherine【對著電話】：喂？

Hal：我這樣做是有原因的。【譯注：此時 Hal 一定在旁邊猛翻筆記本。】

Catherine：喂，警察局嗎？我……是的，我要報一個現行搶劫案。

HAL: I noticed something—something your father wrote.
All right? Not math,
something he *wrote*. Here, let me show you.

CATHERINE: *A robbery.*

HAL: Will you put the fucking phone down and listen to me?

CATHERINE: (*On phone*) Yes, I'm at 5724 South—

HAL: It's about you. See? *You*. It was written about you.
Here's your name: *Cathy*. See?

CATHERINE: South...

(*CATHERINE* pauses. She seems to be listening. *HAL* reads.)

HAL: “*A good day. Some very good news from Catherine.*”

I didn't know what that referred to, but I thought you might...

CATHERINE: When did he write this?

HAL: I think four years ago. The handwriting is steady. It must have been during his remission. There's more.

(*A moment. CATHERINE hangs up the phone.*)

“Machinery not working yet but I am patient.”

“The machinery” is what he called his mind,
his ability to do mathematics.

CATHERINE: I know.

Hal：我注意到一件……一件妳爸寫的東西，好嗎？
不是數學。

是他寫的東西。這裡，我給妳看。

Catherine：搶劫。

Hal：妳可不可以掛掉那鳥電話聽我說？

Catherine：【仍然對著電話】對，我在 5724 號……【譯注：
英語講地址，先說門牌號碼才講道路名稱。她還沒講完。】

Hal：那東西關於妳，看到沒？妳。他在寫妳，這裡
寫了妳的名字：Cathy。看到沒？

Catherine：南…

【Catherine 停了一下。她好像在聽，而 Hal 繼續讀著。】

Hal：『一個好日子。從 Catherine 聽到一個非常好的
消息。』

我不知道他指的是什麼，但是我猜妳也許…

Catherine：他哪一天寫的？

Hal：我猜是四年前。那時候他筆跡工整。一定是在
他病情好轉的那段時間，這裡還有。

【停了一會兒，Catherine 掛掉電話】

『機械還沒開始運轉，但是我有耐心。』

他叫他的心智『機械』，

就是他做數學的能力。

Catherine：我知道。

HAL: (*Reads*) “I know I’ll get there. I am an auto mechanic who after years of greasy work on a hopeless wreck turns the ignition and hears a faint cough. I am not driving yet, but there’s cause for optimism.

Talking with students helps. So does being outside, eating meals in restaurants, riding buses, all the activities of ‘normal’ life.

“Most of all Cathy. The years she has lost caring for me. I almost wrote ‘wasted.’ Yet her refusal to let me be institutionalized—her keeping me at home, caring for me herself, has certainly saved my life. Made writing this possible. Made it possible to imagine doing math again. Where does her strength come from? I can never repay her.

“Today is her birthday: she is twenty-one. I’m taking her to dinner.” Dated September 4. That’s tomorrow.

CATHERINE: It’s today.

HAL: You’re right. (*He gives her the book.*) I thought you might want to see it. I shouldn’t have tried to sneak it out. Tomorrow I was going to—it sounds stupid now. I was going to wrap it. Happy birthday.

(*HAL exits. CATHERINE is alone. She puts her head in her hands. She weeps. Eventually she stops, wipes her eyes. From off: a police siren, drawing closer.*)

CATHERINE: Shit.

(fade)

Hal：『我知道終將成功。我就像一輛破車，在滿手油污地修理了許多年之後，發動起來聽到無助的喀喀聲音。我還不能上路，但是有理由保持樂觀。跟學生說話蠻有幫助的。出去晃晃，到餐廳吃飯，搭公車，所有這些正常生活的活動也都蠻有幫助。』『特別是 Cathy，為了照顧我，她花費了這麼多年，其實應該說浪費。她拒絕把我送進療養院——把我留在家裡由她親自照顧，絕對是救了我一條命。否則我不可能有機會寫下這些，不可能再想像能夠做點數學。她的勇氣究竟從何而來？我永遠沒辦法回報她。

『今天是她的生日，二十一歲。我要帶她出去吃晚餐。』記下的日期是 9 月 4 日，也就是明天。

Catherine：是今天了。

Hal：對【把筆記本還給她】。我猜妳會很高興看到 這段話。我不該想要偷偷夾帶出去的。我本來想明天——現在說起來有點蠢——我想把它包起來明天當作生日禮物送給妳。

【Hal 走了。Catherine 獨自坐著，把頭放在雙手中啜泣。終於哭完了擦著眼睛。遠方傳來警笛聲，漸漸拉近。】

Catherine：靠。

【燈光漸暗】

Act 1

Scene 2

The next morning.

CLAIRE, stylish, attractive, drinks coffee from a mug.

She has brought bagels and fruit on a tray out to the porch.

She arranges them on two plates.

She notices the champagne bottle lying on the floor. She picks it up and sets it on a table. *CATHERINE* enters.

Her hair is wet from a shower.

Claire: Better. Much.

CATHERINE: Thanks.

CLAIRE: Feel better?

CATHERINE: Yeah.

CLAIRE: You look a million times better.

Have some coffee.

CATHERINE: Okay.

CLAIRE: How do you take it?

CATHERINE: Black.

【第一幕・第二景】

第二天的早晨。

Claire 穿得很時髦，坐在後陽台喝著一杯咖啡，她從房子裡面帶了一些貝果跟水果出來，分放在兩個盤子上。

她注意到地上躺著一瓶香檳酒的瓶子，便把酒瓶拿起來，好好地放在桌上。這時候 Catherine 從房裡出來，到了外面的後陽台【譯注：第一幕的舞台】。

Catherine 的頭髮是濕的，顯然剛剛洗過澡。

Claire：妳看起來好多了。

Catherine：謝謝。

Claire：感覺好一點嗎？

Catherine：是啊。

Claire：我覺得妳看起來一百萬倍的好，喝點咖啡吧。

Catherine：好。

Claire：要加點什麼嗎？

Catherine：不用。

【譯注：英文說 black，意即黑咖啡，什麼都不加。】

CLAIRE: Have a little milk. *(She pours.)*

Want a banana? It's a good thing I brought food:
there was nothing in the house.

CATHERINE: I've been meaning to go shopping.

CLAIRE: Have a bagel.

CATHERINE: No. I hate breakfast. *(Beat.)*

CLAIRE: You didn't put on the dress.

CATHERINE: Didn't really feel like it.

CLAIRE: Don't you want to try it on? See if it fits?

CATHERINE: I'll put it on later.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: If you want to dry your hair I have a hair dryer.

CATHERINE: Nah.

CLAIRE: Did you use that conditioner I brought you?

CATHERINE: No, shit, I forgot.

CLAIRE: It's my favorite. You'll love it, Katie.

I want you to try it.

CATHERINE: I'll use it next time.

Claire：加點牛奶吧。【直接幫她加進去了】

【譯注：由這個小動作可以看出來，這個姊姊比較強勢，她覺得加牛奶比較好就替別人加下去了。】

要根香蕉嗎？還好我帶來一些食物，
這房裡面真是什麼都沒有。

Catherine：我本來就準備要去買菜了。

Clear：吃個貝果。

Catherine：不要，我討厭早餐。【停頓】

Claire：妳沒穿上我給你帶來的衣服？【譯注：下午去參加喪禮要穿的衣服】

Catherine：現在還不想穿。

Claire：妳不想試試看嗎？看看它到底合不合身。

Catherine：我等一下再穿。

【停頓】

Claire：如果妳要吹乾頭髮的話，我還帶了一個吹風機來。

Catherine：不用了。

Claire：妳有沒有試試看我帶來的潤絲精？

Catherine：啊！我忘記了。

Claire：那是我最喜歡的潤絲精，Katie 【譯注：Catherine的小名】。我想讓妳試試的。

Catherine：好啦，我下次會用它。

CLAIRE: You'll like it. It has jojoba.

CATHERINE: What is "jojoba"?

CLAIRE: It's something they put in for healthy hair.

CATHERINE: Hair is dead.

CLAIRE: What?

CATHERINE: It's dead tissue.

You can't make it "healthy."

CLAIRE: Whatever, it's something that's good for your hair.

CATHERINE: What, a chemical?

CLAIRE: No, it's organic.

CATHERINE: Well it can be organic and still be a chemical.

CLAIRE: I don't know what it is.

CATHERINE: Haven't you ever heard of organic chemistry?

CLAIRE: It makes my hair feel, look, and smell good.

That's the extent of my information about it.

You might like it if you decide to use it.

CATHERINE: Thanks, I'll try it.

CLAIRE: Good. (*Beat.*)

If the dress doesn't fit we can go downtown and exchange it.

CATHERINE: Okay.

Claire：妳一定會喜歡的，它有荷荷巴。

Catherine：什麼是「荷荷巴」？

Claire：就是某種東西，可以讓妳的頭髮健康一點。

Catherine：但是頭髮是死的。

Claire：什麼！

Catherine：頭髮是死的組織，

妳沒辦法讓它更健康一點。

Claire：不管它，反正就是某種對你頭髮好的東西。

Catherine：是什麼東西啊，化學嗎？

Claire：不是，它是生機的。

Catherine：可是你知道，生機的東西還是可能是化學的。

Claire：我不知道，我不知道到底什麼啦！

Catherine：妳有沒有聽過生機化學這一行？

Claire：反正我所知道的就到此為止，它就是會讓我的頭髮感覺好一點，看起來好一點、聞起來好一點。妳自己決定妳要不要用它吧。【譯注：Claire 想轉變話題】

Catherine：好啦！謝謝，我下次會用的。

Claire：好。【停頓】

如果這衣服不合身的話，我們可以到城裡去換一件。

Catherine：好的。

CLAIRE: I'll take you to lunch.

CATHERINE: *Great.*

CLAIRE: Maybe Sunday before I go back.

Do you need anything?

CATHERINE: Like clothes?

CLAIRE: Or anything. While I'm here.

CATHERINE: Nah, I'm cool.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: I thought we'd have some people over tonight.

If you're feeling okay.

CATHERINE: I'm feeling okay,

Claire, stop saying that.

CLAIRE: *YOU* don't have any plans?

CATHERINE: No.

CLAIRE: I ordered some food. Wine, beer.

CATHERINE: We are burying Dad this afternoon.

CLAIRE: I think it will be all right.

Anyone who's been to the funeral and wants to come over for something to eat can.

And it's the only time I can see any old Chicago friends.

It'll be nice. It's a funeral but we don't have to be completely grim about it. *If* it's okay with you.

Claire：我帶妳出去吃午餐吧。

Catherine：很好啊！

Claire：也許是星期天吧，在我回去以前。

妳還需要些什麼東西嗎？

Catherine：像是衣服之類的嗎？

Claire：任可東西都可以啊，反正我還在這裡。

Catherine：不必了，我很好。【譯注：英文說 I'm cool 意即我很好，不需要你麻煩。】【停頓】

Claire：我想今天晚上邀一些人過來，
如果妳覺得可以的話。

Catherine：我當然覺得可以啦！

Claire，妳別再像這樣說話了。

Claire：妳沒有什麼自己的計畫嗎？

Catherine：沒有。

Claire：我訂了一些晚餐要吃的，酒、啤酒等。

Catherine：可是今天下午我們要把爸爸下葬耶。

Claire：我想沒什麼關係吧，

來參加喪禮的人可以決定想不想留下來吃點東西、參加今天晚上的派對。而且這也是我唯一一次機會再見一見我在芝加哥的老朋友了，應該會感覺很好吧。雖然說是個喪禮，但我們沒必要完全哭喪著臉。當然，如果妳覺得可以的話。

CATHERINE: Yes, sure.

CLAIRE: It's been a stressful time.

It would be good to relax in a low-key way.

Mitch says Hi.

CATHERINE: Hi Mitch.

CLAIRE: He's really sorry he couldn't come.

CATHERINE: Yeah, he's gonna miss all the fun.

CLAIRE: He wanted to see you.

He sends his love.

I told him you'd see him soon enough.

(Beat.)

We're getting married.

CATHERINE: No shit.

CLAIRE: Yes! We just decided.

CATHERINE: Yikes.

CLAIRE: Yes!

CATHERINE: When?

CLAIRE: January.

CATHERINE: HUH.

Catherine：當然啦，我覺得可以，沒問題。

Claire：這段時間妳壓力很大，

用點比較糜爛的方式來放鬆一下也無所謂啦！

【譯注：Claire 停了一下，換個話題說】

Mitch 要我跟你說 Hi。

Catherine：Hi，Mitch

【譯注：Catherine 俏皮的隔空對 Mitch 打招呼】

Claire：他真的很抱歉不能來。

Catherine：是啊，他會錯過所有的樂子。

【譯注：語氣帶點諷刺】

Claire：他其實很想來看看妳，

他要我代他向妳致意，

然後我跟他說，很快妳就會來跟他見面了。

【停頓】

我們就快要結婚了。

Catherine：妳玩真的。【譯注：驚訝的語氣】

Claire：真的啊，我們已經決定了。

Catherine：太扯了。

Claire：是真的。

Catherine：什麼時候？

Claire：一月。

Catherine：哇。

CLAIRE: We're not going to do a huge thing.

His folks are gone too.

Just City Hall,

then a big dinner at our favorite restaurant for all our friends.

And you, of course. I hope you'll be in the wedding.

CATHERINE: Yeah. Of course.

Congratulations, Claire, I'm really happy for you.

CLAIRE: Thanks. Me too.

We just decided it was time. His job is great.

I just got promoted...

CATHERINE: Huh.

CLAIRE: You will come?

CATHERINE: Yes, sure. January? I mean, I don't have to check my calendar or anything. Sure.

CLAIRE: THAT MAKES ME VERY HAPPY. (Beat. From here on

CLAIRE treads gingerly.)

CLAIRE: How are you?

CATHERINE: Okay.

CLAIRE: How are you feeling about everything?

Claire：我們不會搞得排場很大，
反正他爸媽也都已經過世了，
我們只是會到法院公證而已。

公證之後，在我們最喜歡的餐廳裡面，吃一個豐盛點的晚餐，然後邀一些我們彼此的朋友。
當然，我也希望妳能夠來參加這個婚禮。

Catherine：當然啦！我一定會去的，
恭禧你，Claire，為妳高興。

Claire：對啊！我也為我高興，
我們覺得這時機滿對的，他有個很好的工作，
而我也剛剛升職了……

Catherine：嗯哼。

Claire：你會來嗎？

Catherine：當然，一月嘛！其實我沒有什麼行事曆或其他計畫之類的，當然我一定會去。

Claire：很好啊，那一定會讓我非常高興的。【停頓。
從現在起 Claire 變的拘謹許多】【譯注：Claire 剛剛可能滿輕鬆隨便的坐在後陽台的椅子上面，跟妹妹說話。這個時候她的表情忽然有點莊嚴起來，走靠近妹妹一點。】

Claire：妳還好吧？

Catherine：好啊。

Claire：妳對每件事，感覺怎麼樣？

CATHERINE: About “everything”?

CLAIRE: About Dad.

CATHERINE: What about him?

CLAIRE: How are you feeling about his death?

Are you all right?

CATHERINE: Yes, I am.

CLAIRE: Honestly?

CATHERINE: Yes.

CLAIRE: I think in some ways it was the “right time.”

If there is ever a right time.

Do you know what you want to do right now?

CATHERINE: No.

CLAIRE: Do you want to stay here?

CATHERINE: I don’t know.

CLAIRE: Do you want to go back to school?

CATHERINE: I haven’t thought about it.

CLAIRE: Well there’s a lot to think about.

How do you feel?

CATHERINE: Physically? Great.

Except my hair seems kind of unhealthy,

I wish there were something I could do about that.

Catherine：什麼每件事啊！

Claire：就是有關爸爸嘛。

Catherine：關於他怎樣呢？

Claire：妳對他的過世現在有些什麼感覺，
現在妳還好吧，撐得過去吧？

Catherine：是啊，沒什麼問題啊。

Claire：妳說實話嗎？

Catherine：是啊！

Claire：我覺得如果有個所謂的恰當時機的話，
我覺得他現在過世還算是個恰當的時機。
你知道妳接下去要幹什麼嗎？

Catherine：不知道。

Claire：妳要繼續待在這嗎？

Catherine：不知道。

Claire：妳想回去學校繼續讀書嗎？

Catherine：我還沒想這件事。

Claire：當然，現在有好多件事得要開始想。
妳感覺怎樣？

Catherine：身體狀況當然好的很，
除了我的頭髮有點不健康以外，
我還真希望可以找點東西讓我的頭髮健康一點。

【譯注：Catherine 有點不耐煩了】

CLAIRE: Come on, Catherine.

CATHERINE: What is the point of all these questions?

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: Katie, some policemen came by while you were in the shower.

CATHERINE: Yeah?

CLAIRE: They said they were “checking up” on things here. Seeing how everything was this morning.

CATHERINE: *(Neutral)* That was nice.

CLAIRE: They told me they responded to a call last night and came to the house.

CATHERINE: Yeah?

CLAIRE: Did you call the police last night?

CATHERINE: Yeah.

CLAIRE: Why?

CATHERINE: I thought the house was being robbed.

CLAIRE: But it wasn't.

CATHERINE: No. I changed my mind.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: First you call 911 with an emergency and then you hang up on them—

CATHERINE: I didn't really want them to come.

Claire：少來了啦，Catherine。

【譯注：Claire 當然聽得出來妹妹在諷刺她】

Catherine：妳問這些問題究竟要做什麼？

【停頓】

Claire：今天早上妳在洗澡的時候，有幾個警察過來了一趟。

Catherine：哦，真的？

Claire：他們說他們想要再回頭檢查一下，看這邊到底有沒有什麼問題，看看今天早上是不是什麼都好。

Catherine：很好啊！什麼都很好啊。

Claire：他們說妳昨天晚上打電話叫警察，報警了。

Catherine：哦，是嗎。

Claire：妳是不是真的打電話報警了。

Catherine：是啊。

Claire：為什麼？

Catherine：我當時以為有人在房裡要偷東西。

Claire：但是後來發現不是這樣嗎？

Catherine：對啊，後來我改變主意了。

【停頓】

Claire：妳先打了 119 報警，然後你又把電話給掛了。

【譯注：美國報警專線是 911】

Catherine：我其實並不是真的想要把警察叫來。

CLAIRE: So why did you call?

CATHERINE: I was trying to get this guy out of the house.

CLAIRE: Who?

CATHERINE: One of Dad's students.

CLAIRE: Dad hasn't had any students for years.

CATHERINE: No, he *was* Dad's student.

Now he's—he's a mathematician.

CLAIRE: Why was he in the house in the first place?

CATHERINE: Well he's been coming here to look at Dad's notebooks.

CLAIRE: In the middle of the night?

CATHERINE: It was late. I was waiting for him to finish, and last night I thought he might have been stealing them.

CLAIRE: Stealing the notebooks.

CATHERINE: *Yes*. So I told him to go.

CLAIRE: Was he stealing them?

CATHERINE: Yes. That's why I called the police—

CLAIRE: What is this man's name?

CATHERINE: Hal. Harold. Harold Dobbs.

Claire：那妳當初為什麼打電話呢？

Catherine：我只是想把那個傢伙給趕走，嚇走而已。

Claire：誰啊？

Catherine：是老爸的一個學生。

Claire：可是爸爸這些年來都沒有學生啊！

Catherine：不是啦！他是以前的學生，

現在他是一個數學家了。

Claire：那究竟為什麼他會在我們家裡呢？

Catherine：他來這看爸的筆記，想要檢查他的手稿。

Claire：在半夜裡面嗎？

Catherine：是啊，他在這邊看了很晚了，然後我在這邊等著他，然後我就誤會他，好像要偷走筆記本的樣子。

Claire：偷走筆記本？

Catherine：對啊，所以我想要趕他走。

Claire：那他真的要偷筆記本嗎？

Catherine：是啊，這是為什麼我後來打電話給警察。

Claire：那傢伙叫什麼名字。

Catherine：Hal，Harold，Harold Dobbs。

【譯注：Hal 是 Harold 的簡稱，Harold 是他的 first name。Claire 一直以懷疑的眼神盯著 Catherine 看，所以她依序把全名告訴了 Claire。】

CLAIRE: The police said you were the only one here.

CATHERINE: He left before they got here.

CLAIRE: With the notebooks?

CATHERINE: No, Claire, don't be stupid,

there are over a hundred notebooks.

He was only stealing *one*,

but he was stealing it so he could give it *back* to me,

so I let him go so he could play with his band on the north side.

CLAIRE: His band?

CATHERINE: He was late.

He wanted me to come with him but I was like, Yeah, right.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: (*Gently*) Is "Harold Dobbs" your boyfriend?

CATHERINE: No!

CLAIRE: Are you sleeping with him?

CATHERINE: What? Euughh! No! He's a math geek!

CLAIRE: And he's in a band? A rock band?

CATHERINE: No, a marching band. He plays trombone.

Yes, a rock band!

CLAIRE: What is the name of his band?

Claire：警察說他們來的時候，只有妳一個人在。

Catherine：在警察來以前，我就把他趕走了。

Claire：所以他也帶走了那些筆記本了嗎？

Catherine：沒有啦！別傻了，Claire，

這裡有幾百本筆記本，

他只是想要偷走一本而已，

而且他偷走那一本的目的是想要把它還給我，

所以我就放他走了，讓他可以趕上他在城北樂團的演奏。

Claire：他參加樂團的演奏？

Catherine：對啊！他那時候已經遲到了。

他邀我一起去，然後我就跟他說謝了。

【停頓】

Claire：【試探性的問】那個 Hal 是妳的男朋友嗎？

Catherine：不是。

Claire：妳跟他睡過嗎？

Catherine：什麼？妳少噁心了，他是個數學怪巧丫！

Claire：但他還參加一個樂團，是搖滾樂團嗎？

Catherine：不是，他參加的是管樂團，他是吹長號的。

【譯注：這是 Catherine 不耐煩、調侃 Claire 說的，之後又改口】
是啦是啦，當然是搖滾樂團。

Claire：那樂團叫什麼名字啊？

CATHERINE: How should I know?

CLAIRE: “Harold Dobbs” didn’t tell you the name of his
rock band?

CATHERINE: No. I don’t know. Look in the paper.

They were playing last night.

They do a song called “Imaginary Number”
that doesn’t exist.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: I’m sorry, I’m just trying to understand:
is “Harold Dobbs”—

CATHERINE: Stop saying “Harold Dobbs.”

CLAIRE: Is this...person...

CATHERINE: Harold Dobbs exists.

CLAIRE: I’m sure he does.

CATHERINE: He’s a mathematician at the University of
Chicago. Call the fucking math department.

CLAIRE: Don’t get upset. I’m just trying to understand!

I mean if you found out some creepy grad student was
trying to take some of Dad’s papers and you called the
police, I’d understand,

Catherine：我怎麼會知道啊。

Claire：那個叫 Hal 的傢伙沒告訴妳他的樂團的名字嗎？

Catherine：沒有啊，我不知道，妳自己去看報紙，他們昨天晚上演奏，報紙上應該有，而且他演奏的那一首叫做「虛數」，他們演奏的那一曲根本就不存在的。

【停頓】

Claire：我覺得我還是搞不太懂耶，這一個叫做 Harold Dobbs 的……

Catherine：妳不要再說 Harold Dobbs 了好不好。

Claire：這個人……【譯注：姊姊還想要問，但是 Catherine 已經看得出來姊姊好像不太相信她，覺得她好像有點精神異常，有點虛幻的樣子】

Catherine：Harold Dobbs 這個人是存在的。

Claire：是是是，我當然相信他是存在的。

Catherine：他是芝加哥大學數學系的一個數學家，妳如果不相信妳打電話到數學系去問嘛。

Claire：妳先別生氣，我只是有點搞不懂，我只是有點不明白，如果妳那時候抓到一個鬼鬼崇崇老爸的研究生，來這邊偷老爸的論文，然後妳打電話給警察，這樣子我可以了解。

and if you were out here partying, drinking with your boyfriend, I'd understand.

But the two stories don't go together.

CATHERINE: Because you made up the "boyfriend" story.

I was here *alone*.

CLAIRE: Harold Dobbs wasn't here?

CATHERINE: No, he— *Yes*, he was here, but we weren't partying!

CLAIRE: You weren't drinking with him?

CATHERINE: NO!

CLAIRE: (*She holds up the champagne bottle.*) *This was sitting right here. Who were you drinking champagne with? (CATHERINE hesitates.)*

CATHERINE: With no one.

CLAIRE: Are you sure?

CATHERINE: Yes.

(*Beat.*)

CLAIRE: The police said you were abusive. (*CATHERINE doesn't say anything.*) They said you're lucky they didn't haul you in.

如果妳那時候正在跟妳的男朋友鬼混，混在一起喝酒，喝得爛醉，然後搞錯了一些東西，好，我也可以了解。

但是妳說的這兩件事我覺得拼不起來啊。

Catherine：這是因為妳一直在想他是我男朋友這一類的事啊。跟妳說不是嘛，我就是一個人在這裡。

Claire：那那個 **Harold Dobbs** 當初不在這裡嗎？

Catherine：沒有，他不在……，好，他在這裡，但是他是後來才來的，而且我們沒有在一起轟趴好不好。

Claire：那妳沒跟他一起喝酒嗎？

Catherine：沒有。

Claire：【**Claire** 拿起她剛才放到桌子上空的香檳酒瓶】

可是酒瓶在這兒啊，難道妳一個人喝完了這瓶酒嗎？妳到底那時候在跟誰喝酒？【**Catherine** 就有點遲疑】

【譯注：**Catherine** 有點不想講了，因為當時她精神錯亂地跟爸爸說話，不想要說出來。】

Catherine：沒有，我沒跟任何人喝酒，我自己一個人。

Claire：妳確定嗎？

Catherine：是啊。

【停頓】

Claire：警察說妳妨礙公務喔。【**Catherine** 一言不發。】他說他沒把妳抓起來帶走，算是妳的運氣了。

CATHERINE: These guys were assholes, Claire. They wouldn't go away. They wanted me to fill out a report...

CLAIRE: Were you abusive?

CATHERINE: This one cop kept spitting on me when he talked. It was disgusting.

CLAIRE: Did you use the word "dickhead"?

CATHERINE: Oh I don't remember.

CLAIRE: Did you tell one cop ... to go fuck the other cop's mother?

CATHERINE: No.

CLAIRE: That's what they said.

CATHERINE: Not with that phrasing.

CLAIRE: Did you strike one of them?

CATHERINE: They were trying to come in the house!

CLAIRE: Oh my God.

CATHERINE: I might have *pushed* him a little.

CLAIRE: They said you were either drunk or disturbed.

CATHERINE: They wanted to come in here and *search my house*—

CLAIRE: *You called them.*

CATHERINE: Yes but I didn't actually *want* them to come. But they did come and then they started acting like they owned the place, pushing me around, calling me "girly," smirking at me, laughing; they were assholes.

CLAIRE: These guys seemed perfectly nice.

Catherine：那些傢伙都是些王八蛋。他們都不肯走開，然後還要抓著我寫報告。

Claire：妳有沒有妨礙公務？

Catherine：有一個警察跟我講話的時候，一邊講一邊噴口水，噁心死了。

Claire：妳有沒有用髒話罵他？

Catherine：我不記得了。

Claire：但是他們說妳說了。

Catherine：我大概不是會那樣說的吧。

Claire：妳有沒有打他們其中一個人？

Catherine：他們想要強行進到我房裡來。

Claire：我的天啊。

Catherine：也許我有推他一下下。

Claire：他們說妳那時候看來要不是喝醉了，就是精神異常。

Catherine：他們就想要闖進我房裡，還想要搜索我們家。

Claire：可是明明是妳把他們叫來的。

Catherine：是啊，但是我並不是真的想要他們來。

然後他們一來就好像是他們自己家裡面一樣，把我推來推去的，還叫我小妞，還嘲笑我，這些王八蛋。

Claire：在我看來，這些警察好得很啊。

They were off-duty and they took the trouble to come back here at the end of their shift to check up on you.

They were very polite.

CATHERINE: Well people are nicer to you.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: Katie. Would you like to come to New York?

CATHERINE: Yes, I told you, I'll come in January.

CLAIRE: You could come sooner. We'd love to have you. You could stay with us. It'd be fun.

CATHERINE: I don't want to.

CLAIRE: Mitch has become an excellent cook. It's like his hobby now. He buys all these gadgets. Garlic press, olive oil sprayer...Every night there's something new. Delicious, wonderful meals. The other day he made vegetarian chili!

CATHERINE: What the fuck are you talking about?

CLAIRE : Stay with us for a while. We would have so much fun.

他們剛剛執勤結束的時候還特別繞道過來，想要看看妳好不好，
我覺得他們非常禮貌啊。

Catherine：好像大家對妳總是會好一點。

【停頓】【譯注：所以看得出來，**Claire** 是比較甜，比較正常的女孩子，那 **Catherine** 就是比較尖銳的，講話很容易帶刺，容易諷刺別人。因為她可能太聰明了一點。】

Claire：妳要不要來紐約？【譯注：**Claire** 又換話題了】

Catherine：是啊，我不是告訴妳嗎，我一月會去的。

Claire：妳可以早一點來的，我們都很希望妳來啊，大家在一起生活，妳可以跟我們住在一起，一定有很多樂子的。

Catherine：對不起，謝謝，我不想。

Claire：**Mitch** 最近變的很會煮菜，好像變成了他的嗜好。他買了各式各樣奇怪的廚具，你知道的，像是專門壓大蒜的器具，用來淋橄欖油的帶噴嘴的瓶子…每天晚上他都有新招，做非常非常棒的菜，前幾天他還做了素食的墨西哥辣豆呢。

Catherine：妳跟我說這些幹嘛！

【譯注：**Catherine** 很不耐煩，可能知道姊姊葫蘆裡賣什麼藥了】

Claire：我們就是希望妳來，跟我們住在一起，我們在一起會有很多歡笑的。

CATHERINE: Thanks, I'm okay here.

CLAIRE: Chicago is dead. New York is so much more fun,
you can't believe it.

CATHERINE: The "fun" thing is really not where my
focus is at the moment.

CLAIRE: I think New York would be a really fun
and...safe... place for you to—

CATHERINE: I don't need a safe place and I don't want
to have any fun! I'm perfectly fine here.

CLAIRE: You look tired.

I think you could use some downtime.

CATHERINE: Downtime?

CLAIRE: Katie, please. You've had a very hard time.

CATHERINE: *I*'m perfectly okay.

CLAIRE: I think you're upset and exhausted.

CATHERINE: I was *fine* till you got here.

CLAIRE: Yes, but you—

HAL: (*From off*) Catherine?

CLAIRE: Who is that?

Catherine：謝了，但是我在這邊很好。

Claire：可是芝加哥已經死了，紐約才有很多很多的樂子，妳根本意想不到的。

Catherine：就目前來說，生活中的樂子並不是我最主要追求的目標。

Claire：妳知道紐約真是比較好玩的地方，而且對妳來說也會比較安全一點。

Catherine：我不需要安全的地方，我也不需要找樂子，好不好，我在這邊是過得非常非常好的。

Claire：妳看起來很疲憊。

不妨自己放縱一下吧。

Catherine：放縱？

Claire：對啊，Katie，妳經歷了一段很困難的時間。

Catherine：我剛剛說啦，我在這兒過得非常非常好。

Claire：可是妳看起來又煩躁又疲憊啊。

Catherine：那是因為妳來啦，在妳來以前，我都非常非常的好。

Claire：是啊！可是妳……

【譯注：兩個人幾乎要吵起來了，突然在這時候 Hal 敲門了。其實應該說 Hal 已經進到房子裡面來，敲那個紗門想要到陽台來】

Hal：【從門外】Catherine？

Claire：誰啊？【譯注：Claire 代為回答】

(Beat. *HAL* enters.)

HAL: Hey, I—

(*CATHERINE* stands and points triumphantly at him.)

CATHERINE: Harold Dobbs!

HAL: (Confused) *Hi*.

CATHERINE: *Okay?* I really don't need this, Claire. I'm fine, you know, I'm totally fine, and then you swoop in here with these questions, and "Are you okay?" and your soothing tone of voice and "Oh, the poor policemen"—I think the police can handle themselves!—and bagels and bananas and jojoba and "Come to New York" and vegetarian *chili*. I mean it really pisses me off so just *save* it.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: (*Smoothly, to HAL*) I'm Claire. Catherine's sister.

【停頓。Hal 直接就自己走了進來】

Hal：嘿！

【譯注：Hal 就打了聲招呼，而他顯然也不認識 Claire，也不曉得該說什麼，就傻傻先站在那邊。】

【譯注：這時候 Catherine 彷彿勝利似的站起來指著 Hal，讀者可以想像，剛剛姊姊表現得很不相信有這麼一個人，而 Hal 卻出現在她面前，這下子 Catherine 可以理直氣壯地，手伸的直直的，手跟身體呈 90 度，想像她把頭抬得高高的，然後重重的點一個頭的樣子。】

Catherine：Harold Dobbs！

Hal：【露出疑惑的樣子】嗨。

Catherine：這樣可以了嗎？我真的不需要這些，Claire，我很好，我是非常非常的好，我不需要妳這樣子過來，帶了一大堆奇奇怪怪的問題，一下說妳還好吧，一下說妳覺得怎樣啊。然後又要帶著溫柔的語氣說那些可憐的警察啊，還要塞給我這些貝果，給我吃這些香蕉，又跟我說來紐約啊，來吃你素食的 chili，我告訴妳我受夠了，我不想要這些東西，妳不要再說了。

【停頓】【譯注：Claire 並不理 Catherine，她覺得她這個妹妹已經開始發飆了。然後非常禮貌地轉向 Hal，跟他說話。】

Claire：我叫 Claire，我是 Catherine 的姊姊。

HAL: Oh, hi. Hal. Nice to meet you. (*Uncomfortable beat.*)
I...hope it's not too early. I was just going to try to get
some work done before the uh—if uh if...

CLAIRE: Yes!

CATHERINE: Sure, okay.

(*HAL exits. A moment.*)

CLAIRE: That's Harold Dobbs? ,

CATHERINE: Yes.

CLAIRE: He's cute.

CATHERINE: (Disgusted) *EUGH.*

CLAIRE: He's a mathematician?

CATHERINE: I think you owe me an apology, Claire.

CLAIRE: We need to make some decisions. But I shouldn't
have tried to start first thing in the morning. I don't
want an argument.

(*Beat.*)

Maybe Hal would like a bagel?

(*Beat. CATHERINE doesn't take the hint. She exits. After a
moment of indecision CLAIRE takes a banana and a bagel
and goes inside.*)

(*fade*)

Hal：Hi，我叫 Hal，幸會。【滿無辜的樣子】

Hal：我大概來得太早了一點，我只是想說，趁著下午的…

【譯注：其實 Hal 想說趁著下午的喪禮以前來做點事，但就是支支吾吾地說不出來。】

Claire & Catherine：好啊，沒問題。

【譯注：Hal 只想遠離尷尬，便快步進房上樓去了。】

Claire：這就是 Hal？

Catherine：對啊。

Claire：看起來滿可愛的。

Catherine：【做噁心狀】噁。

Claire：他是個數學家？

Catherine：唉，我想妳應該跟我道歉，Claire。

Claire：當然，對不起，我是稍微急了一點，因為有事情必須要跟妳談，但是當然我不需要一大早就談，我可不想一大早就跟妳吵架。

【停頓】

也許 Hal 想要吃個貝果。【停頓。這是暗示 Catherine 拿個貝果上去。但是 Catherine 故意不領情，並負氣離開現場。

Claire 拿著香蕉和貝果稍作遲疑，而後也進去了。】

【燈光漸暗】

Act 1

Scene 3

Night. Inside the house a party is in progress. Loud music from a not- very-good but enthusiastic band. *CATHERINE* is alone on the porch. She wears a flattering black dress. Inside, the band finishes a number. Cheers, applause. After a moment *HAL* comes out. He wears a dark suit. He has taken off his tie. He is sweaty and revved up from playing. He holds two bottles of beer. *CATHERINE* regards him. A beat.

CATHERINE: I feel that for a funeral reception this might have gotten a bit out of control.

HAL: Aw come on. It's great. Come on in. *CATHERINE*: I'm okay.

HAL: We're done playing, I promise.

CATHERINE: No thanks.

HAL: Do you want a beer?

CATHERINE: I'm okay.

【第一幕·第三景】

第三景的空間還是後院陽台，但是時間到了當天晚上喪禮結束時，大家回到芝加哥的家裡。房子裡有個喪禮晚宴在進行，其中有個水準不高，但演出很認真的樂團演奏著很大聲的音樂，而 Catherine 一個人坐在陽台上，穿著漂亮、耀眼的黑色晚禮服，此時樂團剛結束一首曲子，有人在大叫、歡呼及鼓掌。過了一會兒，Hal 走出來，他穿著深色西裝，領帶已經摘掉了。Hal 流著汗，袖子捲了起來，好像剛剛滿認真在演奏似的，手裡拿了兩瓶啤酒，Catherine 稍微向他打聲招呼。

Catherine：我想對一個喪禮晚宴而言，這似乎有點太過份了。

Hal：別這樣嘛！我覺得它很棒，到裡面來啊。

Catherine：我想待在外面。

Hal：我保證我們的樂團已經不會再演出了。

【譯注：Hal 認為 Catherine 怕吵。】

Catherine：不用了，謝了。

Hal：要不要喝個啤酒？

Catherine：不用了，我很好。

HAL: I brought you one.

(Beat. CATHERINE hesitates.)

CATHERINE: Okay. *(She takes it, sips.)*

How many people are in there?

HAL: It's down to about forty.

CATHERINE: Forty?

HAL: Just the hardcore partyers.

CATHERINE: My sister's friends.

HAL: No, mathematicians. Your sister's friends left hours ago. The guys were really pleased to be asked to participate. They worshipped your dad.

CATHERINE: It was Claire's idea.

HAL: It was good.

CATHERINE: *(Concedes)* The performance of "Imaginary Number" was... sort of... moving.

HAL: Good funeral. I mean not "good," but—

CATHERINE: No. Yeah.

HAL: Can you believe how many people came?

CATHERINE: I was surprised.

HAL: I think he would have liked it.

(CATHERINE looks at him.)

Hal：我已經幫妳帶了一瓶出來了。

【Hal 伸手遞了過去，Catherine 有點遲疑。】

Catherine：好吧。【Catherine 接了下來並輕吸一口】

裡面有多少人呢？

Hal：現在已經減到大約四十人了。

Catherine：四十？

Hal：對啊，剩下的都是些宴會的頑固份子。

Catherine：都是我姊的那些朋友吧！

Hal：不是，都是一些數學家，妳姊那些朋友已經受不了先走了。這些傢伙真的很高興能被邀請來參加，他們都很崇拜妳爸爸。

Catherine：這大概都是 Claire 的主意吧。

Hal：是啊，而且我覺得是個好主意。

Catherine：你們那一場虛數的表演，在某種意義下滿感人的。【譯注：Catherine 在挖苦，但 Hal 沒有理會她。】

Hal：這是個滿好的喪禮，不過我不是說那個『好』的意思啦。

Catherine：我知道，我也覺得不錯。

Hal：妳能夠相信嗎？來了這麼多人。

Catherine：我的確也覺得滿驚訝的。

Hal：我想他大概會滿喜歡的。

【Catherine 提起眼睛盯著他看。】

Sorry, it's not my place to—

CATHERINE: No, you're right. Everything was better than I thought.

(Beat.)

HAL: You look great.

CATHERINE: (*Indicates the dress*) Claire gave it to me.

HAL: I like it.

CATHERINE: It doesn't really fit.

HAL: No, Catherine, it's good.

(A moment. Noise from inside.)

CATHERINE: When do you think they'll leave?

HAL: No way to know. Mathematicians are insane. I went to this conference in Toronto last fall. I'm young, right? I'm in shape, I thought I could hang with the big boys. Wrong. I've never been so exhausted in my life. Forty-eight straight hours of partying, drinking, drugs, papers, lectures...

CATHERINE: DRUGS?

HAL: Yeah. Amphetamines mostly. I mean, I don't. Some of the older guys are really hooked.

CATHERINE: Really?

HAL: Yeah, they think they need it.

對不起，我想我沒資格……

Catherine：沒關係，我想你是對的。每件事都比我預期的好。

Hal：妳看起來好美喔。

Catherine：【Catherine 指著禮服】這是 Claire 給我的。

Hal：我覺得很棒，我很喜歡。

Catherine：其實它並不是真的很合身。

Hal：喔，不，Catherine 我覺得妳穿起來美極了。【兩個沉默一陣子，聽著房裡傳出的嘻鬧聲。】

Catherine：你想裡面那些傢伙什麼時候會走？

Hal：這沒辦法知道的，數學家都是一些瘋子。去年秋天，我到多倫多參加一場研討會，妳知道我還很年輕，對吧？我自認為身體很好，可以跟那些老一輩的鬼混。結果我錯了，我從來沒想過我這輩子會累成那個樣子。那些傢伙連續在研討會裡面的四十八小時，他們可以玩、可以喝、可以嗑藥、可以讀論文，他們也可以演講。

Catherine：嗑藥？

Hal：對啊，大部份都是安非他命，不過我沒有，都是那些比較老的傢伙，他們還真是有一點上癮了。

Catherine：真的嗎？

Hal：是啊，他們覺得真的需要吃點安非他命。

CATHERINE: WHY?

HAL: They think math's a young man's game. Speed keeps them racing, makes them feel sharp. There's this fear that your creativity peaks around twenty-three and it's all downhill from there. Once you hit fifty it's over, you might as well teach high school.

CATHERINE: That's what my father thought.

HAL: I dunno. Some people stay prolific.

CATHERINE: Not many.

HAL: No, you're right. Really original work—it's all young guys.

CATHERINE: Young guys.

HAL: Young people.

CATHERINE: But it is men, mostly.

HAL: There are some women.

CATHERINE: Who?

HAL: There's a woman at Stanford,
I can't remember her name.

CATHERINE: Sophie Germain.

Catherine：為什麼呢？

Hal：因為大家都認為數學是年輕男人的玩意。在數學裡面很需要保持自己頭腦的清醒、尖銳，因此他們很擔心自己的創造力在二十三歲時就達到顛峰，從此以後就一路走下坡了。如此，當你五十歲時就完了，大概到時候只能去教高中了。

Catherine：對啊，我爸就是這樣想的。

Hal：我也不知道，不過有些人一直保持滿好的狀態。

Catherine：不多啊。

Hal：沒錯，的確是不多。那些真正原創性的工作都是年輕男人弄出來的。

Catherine：對啊，年輕男人。

Hal：年輕人啦！

【譯注：Hal 覺得特指男性有些不妥，所以改口說是年輕人。】

Catherine：但是大部份還是男人啦！

Hal：也有些女人。

Catherine：像誰呢？

Hal：在 Stanford 有個女數學家，我記不得她的名字了。

【譯注：Hal 有點不知所措，支支吾吾的回答。】

Catherine：蘇菲·葛曼。

HAL: Yeah? I've probably seen her at meetings, I just don't think I've met her.

CATHERINE: She was born in Paris in 1776.

(Beat.)

HAL: So I've definitely never met her.

CATHERINE: She was trapped in her house.

The French Revolution was going on, the Terror. She had to stay inside for safety and she passed the time reading in her father's study. The Greeks ... Later she tried to get a real education but the schools didn't allow women. So she wrote letters. She wrote to Gauss. She used a man's name. Uh—Antoine-August Le Blanc. She sent him some proofs involving a certain kind of prime number, important work. He was delighted to correspond with such a brilliant young man. Dad gave me a book about her.

HAL: I'm stupid. Sophie Germain, of course.

CATHERINE: You know her?

HAL: Germain Primes.

CATHERINE: Right.

Hal：喔，是嗎？也許我在某個會議見過她，我不太確定我到底有沒有見過她。

Catherine：她是 1776 年生於巴黎的。

【停頓】

Hal：喔，那我想我絕對沒有見過她。

Catherine：蘇菲一輩子都被困在自己的房裡，那時正值法國大革命恐怖的年代，為了自身的安全，她一直待在家裡面，大部份的時間待在她爸爸的書房裡面讀書，讀希臘文還有其他的。之後，她想要到學校裡受正規的教育，但那時學校不收女孩，所以她開始寫信。她寫給高斯，但是隱瞞自己的身份，用一個男人的名字跟高斯通信，**Antoine-August Le Blanc**。她寄了好些證明給高斯，內容是有關於質數的一些重要理論的證明。高斯也非常高興能和這位聰明的年輕人通信。我爸曾經給我一本有關蘇菲的書。【譯注：數學王子高斯，德國人。生於 1777，死於 1855，對於數學而言，高斯是一個里程碑，高斯之前和高斯之後是完全不一樣的兩個面貌。】

Hal：我真笨啊！蘇菲·葛曼，當然。

Catherine：所以你知道她囉？

Hal：是啊！葛曼質數。

Catherine：對。

HAL: They're famous. Double them and add one, and you get another prime. Like two. Two is prime, doubled plus one is five: also prime.

CATHERINE: Right. Or $92,305 \times 2^{16,998} + 1$.

HAL: (Startled) RIGHT.

CATHERINE: That's the biggest one. The biggest one known...

(Beat.)

HAL: Did he ever find out who she was? Gauss.

CATHERINE: Yeah. Later a mutual friend told him the brilliant young man was a woman.

He wrote to her: "A taste for the mysteries of numbers is excessively rare, but when a person of the sex which, according to our customs and prejudices, must encounter infinitely more difficulties than men to familiarize herself with these thorny researches, succeeds nevertheless in penetrating the most obscure parts of them, then without a doubt she must have the noblest courage, quite extraordinary talents, and superior genius."

Hal：這是非常有名的質數，把質數兩倍加一以後仍然是質數的那種數叫做葛曼質數。譬如說 2，2 本身是個質數，它的 2 倍加 1，5，也是質數。

Catherine：對，或者是 92305 乘以 2 的 16998 次方加 1。

Hal：【愣了一下】喔！

Catherine：這是目前知道最大的葛曼質數。

【停頓】

Hal：那高斯後來有沒有發現真實通信的對象是誰？【譯注：Hal 有點被嚇到，想要換個話題。】

Catherine：有啊！後來他們之間有一個共同認識的朋友，把這個秘密揭露出來了。告訴高斯這個聰明的年輕男人其實是個女人，因此高斯寫了一封信給蘇菲，信中寫著：『對於這些神秘數字的品味是非常非常稀少的，特別對您這種性別的人。根據我們這個社會裡面傳統的偏見，您這個性別的人，勢必是比男人遭遇更多的困難，才能夠使您自己熟悉有關神秘的數這一些知識，並且還達到如此高等的研究結果。像您在此情況下，還能夠穿越最困難、障礙最多的部份，而且得到這樣好的結果，您一定有超乎其他所有男人的勇氣、更突出的才能，以及更高超的天份。』

(Now self-conscious)

I memorized it . . .

(HAL stares at her. He suddenly kisses her, then stops, embarrassed. He moves away.)

HAL: Sorry. I'm a little drunk.

CATHERINE: It's okay. *(Uncomfortable beat.)* I'm sorry about yesterday. I wasn't helpful. About the work you're doing. Take as long as you need upstairs.

HAL: You were fine. I was pushy.

CATHERINE: I was awful.

HAL: *No.* My timing was terrible. Anyway, you're probably right.

CATHERINE: What?

HAL: About it being junk.

CATHERINE: *(Nods.)* Yes.

HAL: I read through a lot of stuff today, just skimming. Except for the book I stole—

CATHERINE: Oh God, I'm sorry about that.

HAL: No, you were right.

【譯注：Catherine 非常忘我地背了這一段話，背完以後，她回過神來有點不好意思似的，但是散發出一種智慧的美。】

我把它背起來了。

【Hal 盯著她看，突然前去去親了她，但又立刻停止，顯露困窘的樣子，又退後了。】

Hal：對不起，我有點醉了。

Catherine：沒關係。【一段尷尬的沉默】關於昨天我有點不好意思，而且對於你讀我爸爸筆記的那一些工作，我也幫不上什麼忙，反正以後你就儘管待在樓上好了，你愛待多久就待多久。

Hal：沒有，妳很好，是我有點操之過急。

Catherine：我糟透了。

Hal：沒有沒有，是我時間拿捏太糟了。好了，不管怎樣，也許妳是對的。

Catherine：啊，什麼是對的。

Hal：妳說那些筆記都是些垃圾。

Catherine：【點點頭】對。

Hal：我今天又翻了一大堆，不過都是翻閱而已，除了我想偷走的那一本以外……

Catherine：別再談那件事了，對不起，真的很抱歉。

Hal：沒有，妳是對的。

CATHERINE: I shouldn't have called the police.

HAL: It was my fault.

CATHERINE: No.

HAL: The point is, that book—I'm starting to think it's the only lucid one, really. And there's no math in it.

CATHERINE: No.

HAL: I mean, I'll keep reading, but if I don't find anything in a couple of days...

CATHERINE: Back to the drums.

HAL: Yeah.

CATHERINE: And your own research.

HAL: Such as it is.

CATHERINE: What's wrong with it?

HAL: It's not exactly setting the world on fire.

CATHERINE: Oh come on.

HAL: It sucks, basically.

CATHERINE: Harold.

HAL: My papers get turned down. For the right reasons—my stuff is trivial. The big ideas aren't there.

Catherine：我不該打電話叫警察的。

Hal：那是我的錯。

Catherine：不是不是。

Hal：不過，重要的是那本筆記本，我開始思考那好像是唯一一本顯示他頭腦還算清醒的筆記本，只可惜那本沒有數學在裡面。

Catherine：的確是沒有的。

Hal：好吧，我的意思是說，我還是會繼續讀下去，但是我如果在這幾天找不到什麼新東西的話……

Catherine：就回去打鼓。

Hal：對啊，回去打鼓。

Catherine：而且要回去你自己的研究。

Hal：當然，那是一定要的。

Catherine：你碰到什麼難關嗎？

Hal：我沒做出什麼轟轟烈烈的東西。

Catherine：得了吧。

Hal：基本上它們滿爛的。

Catherine：哦！Hal，別這樣說自己。

Hal：我最近投了一些稿，被退回了。不過，被退了我也沒話講——

我寫的東西很無聊，沒什麼了不起的概念。

CATHERINE: It's not about big ideas. It's work. You've got to chip away at a problem.

HAL: That's not what your dad did.

CATHERINE: I think it was, in a way. He'd attack a question from the side, from some weird angle, sneak up on it, grind away at it. He was slogging. He was just so much faster than anyone else that from the outside it looked magical.

HAL: I don't know.

CATHERINE: I'm just guessing.

HAL: Plus the work was beautiful. You can read it for pleasure. It's streamlined: no wasted moves, like a ninety-five-mile-an-hour fastball. It's just . . . elegant.

CATHERINE: YEAH.

HAL: And that's what you can never duplicate. At least I can't. It's okay. At a certain point you realize it's not going to happen, you readjust your expectations. I enjoy teaching.

CATHERINE: You might come up with something.

HAL: I'm twenty-eight, remember? On the downhill slope.

Catherine：其實就這麼回事，你不見得一定要有重要的想法，那不過就是一份工作。

Hal：可是妳爸就不是這樣啦，他就是一直有新的想法出來。

Catherine：他的確是這樣啦！在某種方面來說，他總是找到一個特殊的角度來攻擊一個問題，在上面狠狠一擊，立刻解開這個問題，接著他就會找到另外一個問題或方向。他比任何人都更快一點，所以在外人看起來，就好像魔術一樣很神奇。

Hal：我不知道。【譯注：Hal 顯得不能接受 Catherine 是一個了解她爸爸數學的人。】

Catherine：我只是猜想啦！

Hal：而且你爸做的數學是非常美麗的。讀它的時候充滿樂趣，很流暢，沒有多餘的筆觸或生硬，就像時速九十五英里的快速直球，那真是，真是美啊。

Catherine：是啊。

Hal：那正就是別人模仿不來的，至少我就沒辦法。但沒關係啦，有時候你發覺某些東西是不可能發生的，就趕緊修正一下對自己的期望。我滿喜歡教書呀。

Catherine：你可能會成就一些別的。

Hal：你記得吧？我二十八歲了，在下坡途中。

CATHERINE: Have you tried speed? I've heard it helps.

HAL: *(Laughs.)* Yeah.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: So, Hal.

HAL: Yeah?

CATHERINE: What do you do for sex?

HAL: What?

CATHERINE: At your conferences.

HAL: Uh, I uh—

CATHERINE: Isn't that why people hold conferences?

Travel. Room service. Tax-deductible sex in big hotel beds.

HAL: *(Laughs, nervous)* Maybe. I don't know.

CATHERINE: So what do you do? All you guys.

(Beat. Is she flirting with him? HAL is not sure.)

HAL: Well we are scientists.

CATHERINE: So?

HAL: So there's a lot of experimentation.

CATHERINE: *(Laughs.)* I see.

(Beat. CATHERINE goes to him. She kisses him. A longer kiss.)

It ends. *HAL* is surprised and pleased.)

HAL: HUH.

Catherine：你有沒有試試嗑藥？聽說那有效耶。【譯注：Catherine 半開玩笑地附和先前聊天的內容】

Hal：是啊！

【停頓】

Catherine：那，HAL。

Hal：嗯？

Catherine：那你們怎麼做愛做的事呢？【譯注：Catherine 突然話峰一轉，談起性事，她有點主動挑逗 Hal 的意思】

Hal：什麼？

Catherine：在你們的研討會裡面。

Hal：呃...呃...

Catherine：你們辦研討會不就是做這些事？旅行呀、旅館內叫房內點餐服務、找妓女還可以扣稅呢！

Hal：【乾笑，一副緊張模樣】或許吧，我不知道。

Catherine：那你們一狗票都在做什麼？

【停頓。她是在調情嗎？Hal 不太確定】

Hal：我們可都是科學家。

Catherine：所以呢？

Hal：所以啊，我們有很多的實驗。

Catherine：【笑】原來如此。【停頓。Catherine 走近他，親吻著他。是一個長吻。Hal 有些驚訝但是蠻高興的。】

Hal：噢。

CATHERINE: That was nice.

HAL: Really?

CATHERINE: Yes.

HAL: Again?

HAL: I always liked you.

CATHERINE: You did?

HAL: Even before I knew you. I'd catch glimpses of you when you visited your dad's office at school. I wanted to talk to you, but I thought, No, you do not flirt with your doctoral adviser's daughter.

CATHERINE: Especially when your adviser's crazy.

HAL: Especially then.

(Kiss.)

CATHERINE: You came here once. Four years ago. Remember?

HAL: Sure. I can't believe you do. I was dropping off a draft of my thesis for your dad. Jesus I was nervous.

CATHERINE: You looked nervous.

HAL: I can't believe you remember that.

CATHERINE: I remember you. (Kiss.) I thought you seemed...Not boring.

(They continue to kiss.)

(fade)

Catherine：我覺得很好。

Hal：真的嗎？

Catherine：真的。

Hal：再一次？

【譯注：Catherine 默許，他們再一次親吻】

Hal：我一直都蠻喜歡你的。

Catherine：你有嗎？

Hal：在我真正認識你之前就喜歡你了，以前你到你父親辦公室時看過你幾眼，那時就想和你說話。但是心裡面告訴我不能挑逗指導教授的女兒。

Catherine：特別是那教授精神不太正常的時候。

Hal：對，特別是那時候。【他們又親吻】

Catherine：四年前你來我家一次，記得嗎？

Hal：當然記得，真不敢相信你也記得。那時候我來交論文草稿給你父親，我還真緊張呢！

Catherine：的確，你是很緊張。

Hal：天啊，你這個也記得？！

Catherine：我記得的是你。【再次親吻】我心裡想你大概還，還不至於太無趣。

【他們繼續熱吻。】

(燈光漸暗)

Act 1

Scene 4

The next morning. *CATHERINE* alone on the porch, in a robe, *HAL* enters, half-dressed. He walks up behind her quietly. She hears him and turns.

HAL: How long have you been up?

CATHERINE: A while.

HAL: Did I oversleep?

CATHERINE: No.

(Beat. Morning-after awkwardness.)

HAL: *IS YOUR SISTER UP?*

CATHERINE: No. She's flying home in a couple hours. I should probably wake her.

HAL: Let her sleep. She was doing some pretty serious drinking with the theoretical physicists last night.

CATHERINE: I'll make her some coffee when she gets up. *(Beat.)*

HAL: Sunday mornings I usually go out. Get the paper, have some breakfast.

CATHERINE: OKAY.

(Beat.)

【第一幕・第四景】

隔日早晨，Catherine 穿著睡袍獨自坐在後院陽台。Hal 有些衣衫不整地從屋裡走出來，安靜地走近 Catherine 身後。她聽見了，轉過身來。

Hal：妳起來多久了？

Catherine：有一會兒了。

Hal：我睡過頭了嗎？

Catherine：沒有。

【停頓。初夜之後的靦腆】

Hal：妳姊姊起來了嗎？

Catherine：還沒有。再幾個小時她就要上飛機了，我最好現在就叫醒她。

Hal：讓她睡，他昨晚和一些理論物理專家喝了
不少酒。

Catherine：沒關係，她醒來之後，我沖些咖啡給她喝。

【停頓】

Hal：星期天早上我都會出門買買報紙、吃吃早餐。

Catherine：好啊。

【停頓】

HAL: Do you want to come?

CATHERINE: Oh. No. I ought to stick around until Claire leaves.

HAL: All right. Do you mind if I stay?

CATHERINE: No. You can work if you want.

HAL: (Taken aback) *OKAY.*

CATHERINE: *OKAY.*

HAL: Should I?

CATHERINE: If you want to.

HAL: Do you want me to go?

CATHERINE: Do you want to go?

HAL: I want to stay here with you.

CATHERINE: OH . . .

HAL: I want to spend the day with you if possible. I'd like to spend as much time with you as I can unless of course I'm coming on *way* too strong right now and scaring you in which case I'll begin backpedaling immediately . . . (CATHERINE *laughs. Her relief is evident; so is his. They kiss.*) How embarrassing is it if I say last night was wonderful?

CATHERINE: It's only embarrassing if I don't agree.

HAL: Uh, so . . .

CATHERINE: *Don't be embarrassed. (They kiss. After a moment she breaks off. She hesitates, making a decision. Then she takes a chain from around her neck. There is a key on the chain. She tosses it to HAL) Here.*

HAL: What's this?

Hal：要不要一起去？

Catherine：不了，我在這裡等 Claire 離開。

Hal：好吧。但我留在這裡陪妳可以嗎？

Catherine：好，如果你要繼續看那些筆記也可以。

Hal：【嚇了一跳】好的。

Catherine：好，就這樣。

Hal：我應該待在這裡嗎？

Catherine：如果你想，你就待下來。

Hal：那妳是不是要我走？

Catherine：你要走嗎？

Hal：不不，我要陪妳。

Catherine：嗯。

Hal：可以的話，我想整天都待在妳這裡。我真想都跟妳膩在一起，除非妳覺得我太急了，嚇著妳的話，我可以馬上收斂一下。【Catherine 笑了出來，雙方明顯都鬆了口氣，化解尷尬。接著他們親吻。】我其實真想說昨晚真是太棒了！

Catherine：我也是不好意思說出來。

Hal：那我們……

Catherine：就放輕鬆點吧！【他們擁吻。Catherine 有一點猶豫，但還是解下她脖子上的項鍊，丟給 Hal】給你。

Hal：這是什麼東西？

CATHERINE: It's a key.

HAL: Ah.

CATHERINE: Try it.

HAL: Where?

CATHERINE: Bottom drawer of the desk in my dad's office.

HAL: What's in there?

CATHERINE: There's one way to find out, Professor.

HAL: Now? (CATHERINE shrugs. He laughs, unsure if this is a joke or not.) OKAY.

(HAL kisses her quickly, then goes inside. CATHERINE smiles to herself. She is happy, on the edge of being giddy.

CLAIRE enters, hungover. She sits down, squinting.)

CATHERINE: Good morning.

CLAIRE: Please don't yell please.

CATHERINE: Are you all right?

CLAIRE: No. *(Beat. She clutches her head.)* Those fucking physicists.

CATHERINE: What happened?

CLAIRE: Thanks a *lot* for leaving me all alone with them.

CATHERINE: Where were your friends?

CLAIRE: My stupid friends left—it was only eleven o'clock!— they all had to get home and pay their babysitters or bake bread or something. I'm left alone with these lunatics...

CATHERINE: Why did you drink so much?

Catherine：一把鑰匙。

Hal：做什麼用？

Catherine：你拿去開開看。

Hal：哪裡？

Catherine：我爸書房裡書桌的最下面一個抽屜。

Hal：裡面有什麼？

Catherine：你得自己去發現啊，教授。

Hal：現在嗎？【Catherine 聳聳肩。他笑了，不確定這是不是個玩笑。】好吧。

【Hal 很快地親她一下，進屋去。Catherine 顯的高興、有點興奮過頭。姊姊進來，帶著宿醉，擠擠眼睛昏昏沈沈地坐下來。】

Catherine：早啊。

Claire：別叫那麼大聲。

Catherine：你還好吧？

Claire：不好。【她雙手抱頭】那些該死的物理學家！

Catherine：怎麼回事呀？

Claire：真謝謝妳喔，剩我一人應付他們全部！

Catherine：那妳的朋友呢？

Claire：我那群蠢蛋朋友十一點就都走光了！她們得回家付保母錢或煮飯之類的，留我一個人和那群瘋子……

Catherine：妳幹嘛喝那麼多？

CLAIRE: I thought I could keep up with them. I thought they'd stop. They didn't. Oh God. "Have another tequila..."

CATHERINE: Do you want some coffee?

CLAIRE: In a minute. *(Beat.)* That *band*.

CATHERINE: Yeah.

CLAIRE: They were terrible.

CATHERINE: They were okay. They had fun. I think.

CLAIRE: Well as long as everyone had fun. *(Beat.)* Your dress turned out all right.

CATHERINE: I love it.

CLAIRE: You do.

CATHERINE: Yeah, it's wonderful.

CLAIRE: I was surprised you even wore it.

CATHERINE: I love it, Claire. Thanks.

CLAIRE: *(Surprised)* You're welcome. You're in a good mood.

CATHERINE: Should I not be?

CLAIRE: Are you kidding? No. I'm thrilled. *(Beat.)*
I'm leaving in a few hours.

CATHERINE: I know.

CLAIRE: The house is a wreck. Don't clean it up yourself.
I'll hire someone to come in.

CATHERINE: Thanks. You want your coffee?

Claire：我以為可以應付的了，沒想到他們沒有停過，我的天啊，『再來一杯龍舌蘭……』

Catherine：妳要不要來杯咖啡？

Claire：待會兒吧。【停頓】啊，那個樂團……

Catherine：怎麼啦？

Claire：那個樂團真糟糕呀。

Catherine：他們還 OK 啦，他們玩得挺高興的。

Claire：好吧，大家覺得好玩就好了。【停頓】你昨晚那件洋裝打扮真的不錯。

Catherine：我也喜歡。

Claire：真的？

Catherine：是啊，真的不錯。

Claire：我本來以為妳不會穿那件洋裝的。

Catherine：我喜歡，謝啦。

Claire：【感到驚訝】別跟我客氣。妳今天心情很好吧！

Catherine：為什麼要心情不好呢？

Claire：開什麼玩笑！我還滿不能適應的。【停頓】再過幾個小時我就要離開了。

Catherine：我知道。

Claire：這房子簡直就是廢墟，別自己清理了。我會再請人來打理。

Catherine：謝謝妳。喝點咖啡吧？

CLAIRE: No, thanks.

CATHERINE: (*Starting in*) It's no trouble.

CLAIRE: Hold on a sec, Katie. I just . . . (*She takes a breath.*)

I'm leaving soon. I—

CATHERINE: You said. I know.

CLAIRE: I'd still like you to come to New York.

CATHERINE: Yes: January.

CLAIRE: I'd like you to move to New York.

CATHERINE: Move?

CLAIRE: Would you think about it? For me? You could stay with me and Mitch at first. There's plenty of room.

Then you could get your own place. I've already scouted some apartments for you, really cute places.

CATHERINE: What would I do in New York?

CLAIRE: What are you doing here?

CATHERINE: I live here.

CLAIRE: You could do whatever you want. You could work, you could go to school.

CATHERINE: I don't know, Claire. This is pretty major.

CLAIRE: I realize that.

CATHERINE: I know you mean well. I'm just not sure what I want to do. I mean to be honest you were right yesterday. I do feel a little confused. I'm tired. It's been a pretty weird couple of years. I think I'd like to take some time to figure things out.

Claire：別麻煩了。

Catherine：【開始往屋裡走】一點都不麻煩。

Claire：喂，等一下，Katie，我…【Claire 吸了一口氣】，
我就要走了

Catherine：妳說過了，我知道啦。

Claire：我還是想要妳和我一同回紐約。

Catherine：好，一月的時候。

Claire：我是說，搬到紐約去住。

Catherine：搬家？

Claire：妳不考慮考慮嗎？妳可以先和我們住在一起，空間夠大的。然後妳也可以再找自己住的地方。我已經幫妳看好一些公寓，地方不錯的。

Catherine：我在紐約要做什麼？

Claire：那妳在這裡又做了什麼？

Catherine：我住這裡耶！

Claire：妳想做什麼都可以，工作也行、上學也行。

Catherine：我不知道，這我很難下決定。

Claire：我懂。

Catherine：我知道妳是好意的，我只是還不確定將來怎麼走。說真的，昨天妳說的也有道理，我的確是有些混亂，也很累，這幾年簡直是遭透了。我想我真的需要一些時間想清楚。

CLAIRE: You could do that in New York.

CATHERINE: And I could do it here.

CLAIRE: But it would be much easier for me to get you set up in an apartment in New York, and—

CATHERINE: I don't need an apartment, I'll stay in the house.

CLAIRE: We're selling the house.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: What?

CLAIRE: We—I'm selling it.

CATHERINE: *When?*

CLAIRE: I'm hoping to do the paperwork this week. I know it seems sudden.

CATHERINE: No one was here looking at the place, who are you selling it to?

CLAIRE: The university. They've wanted the block for years. CATHERINE: *I live here.*

CLAIRE: Honey, now that Dad's gone it doesn't make sense. It's in bad shape. It costs a fortune to heat. It's time to let it go. Mitch agrees, it's a very smart move. We're lucky, we have a great offer—

CATHERINE: Where am I supposed to live?

CLAIRE: Come to New York.

Claire：妳先搬到紐約再說嘛！

Catherine：不，我在這裡想清楚。

Claire：但讓我幫妳在紐約重新開始會容易些。

Catherine：我不需要什麼新公寓、我就是要在這個房子。

Claire：我們要賣掉這房子。

【停頓】

Catherine：你說什麼？

Claire：我說，我把它賣了。

Catherine：什麼時候？

Claire：我想這個禮拜就會辦妥一切手續，我知道這整件事對妳而言很突兀。

Catherine：沒有人來看房子啊，妳把房子賣給誰？！

Claire：賣給大學，他們老早就想要買下這塊地段。

Catherine：有沒有搞錯，我住這裡耶！

Claire：老妹，爸爸都死了，這房子也破舊不堪，光是暖氣就貴得要死，也是時候到了。妳姊夫也同意我們現在脫手正是時候，算我們幸運，對方出價還蠻高的。

Catherine：那妳有沒有想到我該住哪兒？

Claire：搬來紐約啊。

CATHERINE: I can't believe this.

CLAIRE: It'll be so good. You deserve a change. This would be a whole new adventure for you.

CATHERINE: Why are you doing this?

CLAIRE: I want to help.

CATHERINE: By kicking me out of my *house*?

CLAIRE: It was my house too.

CATHERINE: You haven't lived here for years.

CLAIRE: I know that. You were on your own. I really regret that, Katie.

CATHERINE: Don't.

CLAIRE: I know I let you down. I feel awful about it. Now I'm trying to help.

CATHERINE: You want to help *now*?

CLAIRE: Yes.

CATHERINE: Dad is dead.

CLAIRE: I know.

CATHERINE: He's dead. Now that he's dead you fly in for the weekend and decide you want to help? *You're late.*
Where have you been?

CLAIRE: I—

Catherine：我簡直不敢相信！

Claire：這一切都為妳設想的好好的，妳真的需要
改變妳的生活。

Catherine：妳幹嘛為我這樣安排？

Claire：我要幫助妳啊。

Catherine：讓我沒地方住，叫做什麼幫助？！

Claire：喂！這也是我的房子。

Catherine：這幾年妳根本沒住在這裡。

Claire：我知道，這幾年妳很辛苦，我也為妳覺得
不平，Katie

Catherine：不必。

Claire：我知道我讓妳失望，我也覺得很糟，但現在
我想要幫助妳。

Catherine：妳**現在**想到要幫忙？

Claire：沒錯。

Catherine：爸爸都死了！

Claire：我知道。

Catherine：他死了，然後妳就飛來，待了沒幾天，決
定要幫我！一切都太遲了！過去需要妳的時候妳
在哪裡？

Claire：我——

CATHERINE: Where were you five years ago? You weren't helping then.

CLAIRE: I was working.

CATHERINE: I was *here*. I lived with him *alone*.

CLAIRE: I was working fourteen-hour days. I paid every bill here. I paid off the mortgage on this three-bedroom house while I was living in a studio in Brooklyn.

CATHERINE: You had your life. You got to finish school.

CLAIRE: You could have stayed in school!

CATHERINE: How?

CLAIRE: I would have done anything—I told you that, I told you a million times to do anything you wanted.

CATHERINE: What about Dad? Someone had to take care of him.

CLAIRE: He was ill. He should have been in a full-time professional-care situation.

CATHERINE: He didn't belong in the nuthouse.

CLAIRE: He might have been better off.

CATHERINE: How can you say that?

CLAIRE: This is where I'm meant to feel guilty, right?

CATHERINE: Sure, go for it.

Catherine：五年前妳人在哪裡？那個時候妳怎麼不幫忙。

Claire：我在工作啊。

Catherine：是我在這裡、是我單獨陪他渡過的。

Claire：我一天工作 14 個小時，這裡的開銷都是我付的。我一個人住在 Brooklyn 單身套房裡的時候，這棟三大房的房屋貸款都是我在付的呀。

Catherine：可不是嗎？妳有妳的生活，妳得完成妳的學業。

Claire：你本來也可以繼續就學的。

Catherine：怎麼可能？

Claire：我那時跟妳說過幾百次了，妳想要做什麼，我都願意配合。

Catherine：那爸爸怎麼辦？總要有人照顧他。

Claire：他病了，他早就該接受長期的專業照護，而不是待在家裡。

Catherine：不，他才不應該去精神病院的！

Claire：說不定他到那兒會比較好！

Catherine：你怎麼可以這樣說？

Claire：我就知道，我說爸爸瘋了該住精神病院，我就該有罪惡感，是吧？

Catherine：對，你這樣想也可以。

CLAIRE: I'm heartless. My own father.

CATHERINE: He needed to be here. In his own house, near the university, near his students, near everything that made him happy.

CLAIRE: Maybe. Or maybe some real professional care would have done him more good than rattling around in a filthy house with *you* looking after him.

I'm sorry, Catherine, it's not your fault. It's my fault for letting you do it.

CATHERINE: I was right to keep him here.

CLAIRE: NO.

CATHERINE: What about his remission? Four years ago. He was healthy for almost a year.

CLAIRE: And then he went right downhill again.

CATHERINE: He might have been worse in a hospital.

CLAIRE: And he *might* have been *better*. Did he ever do any work again?

CATHERINE: NO.

CLAIRE: *No. (Beat.)* And you might have been better.

CATHERINE: (Keeping her voice under control) Better than what?

CLAIRE: Living here with him didn't do you any good. You said that yourself. You had so much talent...

Claire：我沒良心，丟下親生老爸。

Catherine：爸爸得住在我們家裡，自己的房子，離大學離學生都近，他這樣才會快樂。

Claire：或許吧。但是也可能專業照護比妳這樣、在這個亂七八糟的房子裡陪著他還好吧？

說真的，Catherine，我覺得很抱歉，這一切不是妳的錯，錯在我讓妳這樣做。

Catherine：說什麼我還是覺得爸爸住家裡是對的。

Claire：是錯的。

Catherine：那有一陣子他的情況好轉你怎麼說？四年前，他有將近整整一年是正常的。

Claire：但那之後他馬上又惡化下來了。

Catherine：可是如果他去醫院可能更糟。

Claire：也有可能會好一些啊！之後他在家裡有再正常過嗎？

Catherine：是沒有。

Claire：就是啊。【停頓】如果妳聽我的話，對妳也會比較好。

Catherine：【很激動但盡量控制自己的聲音】比較好怎麼？

Claire：和爸爸住在這裡對妳一點好處也沒有，妳自己也承認。妳很有天份……

CATHERINE: You think I'm like Dad.

CLAIRE: I think you have some of his talent and some of his tendency toward . . . instability.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: Claire, in addition to the “cute apartments” that you’ve “scouted” for me in New York, would you by any chance also have devoted some of your considerable energies toward scouting out another type of—

CLAIRE: *No.*

CATHERINE: —living facility for your bughouse little sister?

CLAIRE: *No!* Absolutely not. That is not what this is about.

CATHERINE: Don't lie to me, Claire. I'm smarter than you.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: The resources . . . I've investigated—

CATHERINE: Oh my *God*.

CLAIRE: —if you *wanted* to, all I'm saying is, the doctors in New York and the people are the *best*, and they—

CATHERINE: Fuck you.

CLAIRE: It would be entirely up to you. You wouldn't *live* anywhere, you can—

CATHERINE: I hate you.

CLAIRE: Don't yell, please. Calm down.

Catherine：妳就是一直認為我跟爸爸一樣。

Claire：我認為妳有爸爸的天賦，也有爸爸…精神分裂的傾向。【譯注：Claire 以此理由將這房子賣掉，希望把 Catherine 接到紐約就近照顧她。】【停頓】

Catherine: Claire，妳除了花心思為我在紐約找到一些妳說很不錯的地方住之外，妳是不是也已經大費周章為妳這個精神異常的小妹……

Claire：不是這樣的。

Catherine：……找好了瘋人院？

Claire：不是！完全沒這回事。這絕對沒有關係。

Catherine：別騙我了，老姐，我比妳聰明多了。

【停頓】

Claire：其實，那方面的資料……我查了一下——

Catherine：我的天啊，我就知道。

Claire：——我是說，如果妳願意的話，紐約那裡不管是醫生或什麼都是一流的，他們可以……

Catherine：去你的。

Claire：這一切都妳自己決定，妳也不必去住那什麼地方，妳可以……

Catherine：我恨妳。

Claire：別這樣吼叫，拜託，冷靜一點！

CATHERINE: I hate you. I—

(HAL enters, holding a notebook. CLAIRE and CATHERINE stop suddenly. Beat.)

CLAIRE: What are you doing here?...

(CLAIRE stares at CATHERINE.)

HAL: How long have you known about this?

CATHERINE: A while.

HAL: Why didn't you tell me about it?

CATHERINE: I wasn't sure I wanted to.

(Beat.)

HAL: Thank you.

CATHERINE: You're welcome.

CLAIRE: What's going on?

HAL: God, Catherine, thank you.

CATHERINE: I thought you'd like to see it.

CLAIRE: What is it?

HAL: It's incredible.

CLAIRE: What *is* it?

HAL: Oh, uh, it's a result. A proof. I mean it looks like a proof. I mean it is a proof, a very long proof, I haven't read it all of course, or checked it, I don't even know if I *could* check it, but if it *is* a proof of what I think it's a proof of, it's... a very...*important*...proof.

Catherine：我恨妳。我……

【Hal 拿著一本筆記本進來。姊妹兩頓時停止爭吵。】

Claire：你怎麼還在這裡啊？

【Claire 盯著妹妹】

Hal：妳找到這個東西多久了？

Catherine：有一陣子了。

Hal：妳為什麼以前從來沒有告訴我呢？

Catherine：我以前並不確定想要告訴你。

【停頓】

Hal：謝謝妳。

Catherine：不謝。

Claire：怎麼回事啊，你們在幹嘛？

Hal：天啊！Catherine 真是謝謝妳。

Catherine：我想你大概很想要讀讀這東西吧。

Claire：到底什麼東西？

Hal：真是難以置信。

Claire：到底是什麼東西，你們跟我說啊。

Hal：這是一個結果，一個證明。我應該說，它看起來是一個證明，一個看起來非常長的證明，我還沒有辦法讀它，也還沒有檢查它，事實上我還不能確定我有沒有能力檢查它，但是它看起來的確是一個證明，而且是非常非常重要的證明。

CLAIRE: What does it prove?

HAL: It looks like it proves a theorem... a mathematical theorem about prime numbers, something mathematicians have been trying to prove since... since there were mathematicians, basically. Most people thought it couldn't be done.

CLAIRE: Where did you find it?

HAL: In your father's desk. Cathy told me about it.

CLAIRE: You know what this is?

CATHERINE: Sure.

CLAIRE: Is it good?

CATHERINE: Yes.

HAL: It's historic. If it checks out.

CLAIRE: What does it say?

HAL: I don't know yet. I've just read the first few pages.

CLAIRE: But what does it mean?

HAL: It means that during a time when everyone thought your dad was crazy...or barely functioning...he was doing some of the most important mathematics in the world. If it checks out, it means you publish instantly. It means newspapers all over the world are going to want to talk to the person who found this notebook.

CLAIR: Cathy.

Claire：它證明了什麼？

Hal：看起來它證明了數學裡面關於質數的一個定理，這是一個在很久很久以前，可以說自從有了數學家以後，就想要去證明的定理。但是大部份人都認為那是不可能的。

Claire：你在哪裡找到它的？

Hal：在妳爸的書桌裡面，Catherine 把鑰匙給我的。

Claire：妳知道那是什麼東西嗎？

Catherine：當然囉！

Claire：是個好東西嗎？

Catherine：是。

Hal：是個劃時代的東西，如果它被驗證是對的話。

Claire：那裡面說些什麼呢？

Hal：我現在還不知道，我才看了前面幾頁而已。

Claire：那它到底有什麼意義呢？

Hal：意義就是，當時大家以為妳父親瘋了，腦袋幾乎不運作了，而他其實是在做一件數學界裡非常偉大的研究。如果它被驗證出來是對的話，這會是在世界上非常非常重要的一個事件，如果馬上出版公開，世界各個地方的記者都會跑來這裡訪問發現這本筆記本的人。

Clear：那就是 Cathy。

HAL: Cathy.

CATHERINE: I didn't find it.

HAL: Yes you did.

CATHERINE: No.

CLAIRE: Well did you find it or did Hal find it?

HAL: I didn't find it.

CATHERINE: I didn't find it.

I wrote it.

(Curtain)

Hal：就是 Cathy。

Catherine：我不是找到它的。

Hal：是啊！是妳找到的。

Catherine：不是的。

Claire：到底怎麼回事，到底是妳找到的，還是 Hal 找到的？

Hal：不是我找到的。

Catherine：那不是我找到的，
那是我寫的。

(落幕)

Act Two
Scene 1

ROBERT is alone on the porch. He sits quietly, enjoying a drink, the quiet, the September afternoon. A notebook nearby, unopened. He closes his eyes, apparently dozing. It is four years earlier than the events in Act One. *CATHERINE* enters quietly. She stands behind her father for a moment.

ROBERT: Hello.

CATHERINE: How did you know I was here?

ROBERT: I heard you.

CATHERINE: I thought you were asleep.

ROBERT: On an afternoon like this? No.

CATHERINE: Do you need anything?

ROBERT: No.

CATHERINE: I'm going to the store.

ROBERT: What's for dinner?

CATHERINE: What do you want?

ROBERT: Not spaghetti.

CATHERINE: All right.

ROBERT: Disgusting stuff.

CATHERINE: That's what I was going to make.

【第二幕·第一景】

【譯注：空間上幾乎沒變，而時間跳到四年前。】Robert 獨自坐在後院的陽台上，他拿著酒靜靜地坐著，享受九月天的下午。旁邊放著一本蓋著的筆記本。他閉著眼睛，像是打盹的樣子，Catherine 靜靜的走來，站在父親的後面。

Robert：妳好啊。

Catherine：你怎麼知道我在這兒？

Robert：我聽到妳的聲音啊。

Catherine：我以為你睡著了。

Robert：在這麼好的下午，我怎麼可能睡午覺呢？

Catherine：你需要點什麼東西嗎？

Robert：不用啊！

Catherine：我待會兒要上街去。

Robert：晚餐吃什麼呢？

Catherine：你想吃什麼？

Robert：別再吃義大利麵了。

Catherine：好啊！

Robert：那東西很噁心的。

Catherine：我本來是要準備這給你吃的。

ROBERT: I had a feeling. Good thing I spoke up. You make it too much.

CATHERINE: What do you want?

ROBERT: What do you have a taste for?

CATHERINE: Nothing.

ROBERT: Nothing at all?

CATHERINE: I don't care. I thought pasta would be easy.

ROBERT: Pasta, oh God, don't even say the word "pasta."

It sounds so hopeless, like surrender:

"Pasta would be easy." Yes, yes, it would. Pasta.

It doesn't *mean* anything. It's just a euphemism people invented when they got sick of eating spaghetti.

CATHERINE: Dad, what do you want to eat?

ROBERT: I don't know.

CATHERINE: Well I don't know what to get.

ROBERT: I'll shop.

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: I'll do it.

CATHERINE: No, Dad, rest.

ROBERT: I wanted to take a walk anyway.

CATHERINE: Are you sure?

Robert：我總覺得只要我說要吃什麼，妳就煮一大堆。

真是倒胃口！

Catherine：那你想吃什麼？

Robert：妳呢？妳有什麼胃口嗎？

Catherine：不想吃。

Robert：一點都不想吃？

Catherine：反正那不重要啦！Pasta 最容易了。

Robert：又是 Pasta，喔！老天啊！別再提這個字了。

就好像要我舉雙手投降一樣，每次不知道要吃什麼，就想到 Pasta，真是的，其實 Pasta 這個字一點意義都沒有，只是因為吃膩了義大利麵，就發明出這個好聽的字眼。【譯注：Pasta 為義大利麵食之通稱，不同形狀的麵食各有各的專門名稱】

Catherine：爸，那你到底要吃什麼？

Robert：我不知道。

Catherine：那我就不知道要買什麼。

Robert：我來買。

Catherine：免談！

Robert：我來買菜啊！

Catherine：不行不行，爸爸，你要休息！

Robert：反正我也很想散散步啊！天氣這麼好！

Catherine：你確定嗎？

ROBERT: Yes. What about a walk to the lake? You and me.

CATHERINE: All right.

ROBERT: I would love to go to the lake. Then on the way home we'll stop at the store, see what jumps out at us.

CATHERINE: It's warm. It would be nice, if you're up for it.

ROBERT: You're damn right I'm up for it. We'll work up an appetite. Give me ten seconds, let me put this stuff away and we're out the door.

CHATERINE: I'm going to school.

ROBERT: When?

CATHERINE: I'm gonna start at Northwestern at the end of the month.

ROBERT: Northwestern?

CATHERINE: They were great about my credits. They're taking me in as a sophomore. I wasn't sure when to talk to you about it.

ROBERT: Northwestern?

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: What's wrong with Chicago?

CATHERINE: You still teach there. I'm sorry, it's too weird, taking classes in your department.

Robert：怎麼樣，我們一起散步到湖邊，就我們兩個。

Catherine：好啊！

Robert：我蠻喜歡到湖邊去的，回家的路上我們順便買買東西，看那個時候我們想吃什點什麼。

Catherine：天氣這麼好，這個主意不錯啊！
如果你想去的話！

Robert：妳對極了，我就是想去，散散步也可以增加我們的食慾啊！給我十秒鐘，我把東西整理一下，我們就出門了。

Catherine：爸，我要回學校繼續唸書。

Robert：嗯？什麼時候？

Catherine：其實就是這個月底，在西北大學。

Robert：西北？為什麼不念芝加哥大學？

【譯注：西北大學也在芝加哥附近。】

Catherine：他們還承認了我不少學分呢！我可以從大二繼續唸起，其實我很早就想跟你提起這件事情，但是，不曉得該怎麼開口。

Robert：西北？

Catherine：對！

Robert：為什麼不念芝加哥大學？

Catherine：你在芝加哥大學教書，我到那兒去唸太奇怪了啦！還在你們的系上！

ROBERT: It's a long drive.

CATHERINE: Not that long, half an hour.

ROBERT: Still, twice a day ...

CATHERINE: Dad, I'd live there.

(Beat.)

ROBERT: You'd actually want to live in Evanston?

CATHERINE: Yes. I'll still be close. I can come home whenever you want. You've been well—really well—for almost seven months. I don't think you need me here every minute of the day.

(Beat.)

ROBERT: This is all a done deal? You're in.

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: You're sure.

CATHERINE: *Yes.*

ROBERT: Who pays for it?

CATHERINE: They're giving me a free ride, Dad. They've been great.

ROBERT: On tuition, sure. What about food, books, clothes, gas, meals out—do you plan to have a social life?

CATHERINE: I don't know.

Robert：路途很遙遠喔！如果妳要唸西北大學的話。

Catherine：也還好啦！半個小時。

Robert：但是一天來回兩次耶！

Catherine：爸爸，我要住那裡。

【停頓】【譯注：顯然這時父親有些驚訝，女兒將要離開他】

Robert：妳確定妳要住在那裡？

Catherine：沒錯，但是我還是離你很近，隨時你要我回來我就可以回來啊。這幾個月來你已經非常、非常穩定了。我想你應該不用時時刻刻需要我了。

【停頓】

Robert：妳已經決定了嗎？百分之百決定了嗎？

Catherine：對。

Robert：看來妳是當真的。

Catherine：沒錯！

Robert：誰出錢呢？

Catherine：爸爸，他們對我很好，我不用付學費。

【譯注：西北大學給了 Catherine 全額獎學金。】

Robert：沒錯，是免學費，但是吃、住、書本，誰幫你付錢呢？你不打算交交朋友，應酬應酬嗎？

Catherine：我不知道。

ROBERT: You gotta pay your own way on dates, at least the early dates, say the first three, otherwise they expect something.

CATHERINE: The money will be fine. Claire's gonna help out.

ROBERT: When did you talk to Claire?

CATHERINE: I don't know, a couple weeks ago.

ROBERT: You talk to her before you talk to me?

CATHERINE: There were a lot of details to work out. She was great, she offered to take care of all the expenses.

ROBERT: This is a big step. A different *city*—

CATHERINE: It's not even a long-distance phone call.

ROBERT: It's a huge place. They're serious up there. I mean serious. Yeah the football's a disaster but the math guys don't kid around. You haven't been in school. You sure you're ready? You can get buried up there.

CATHERINE: I'll be all right.

ROBERT: You're way behind.

CATHERINE: I know.

ROBERT: A year, at least.

Robert：剛開始的幾次約會妳總要自己付錢吧！要不然那些男生還以為他們可以佔些便宜呢！

Catherine：別擔心那些費用，姊姊會幫我一點。

Robert：妳什麼時候跟你姊姊談這件事情？

Catherine：大概一兩個禮拜前吧！

Robert：妳居然先和妳姊姊商量，而不是我。

Catherine：其實這當中有很多事情需要討論的，Claire 很好，她也答應要幫我付這些費用。

Robert：這對你來說是很大的挑戰喔！一個完全不一樣的都市。

Catherine：其實不遠啦，連電話都還不算長途的。

Robert：不，那是一個大地方，那邊的人可是跟妳玩真的喔！我是說，他們的橄欖球隊是很爛，但是，數學系的那些人可不是開玩笑的。妳有一陣子沒上學了，妳確定妳可以應付得來嗎？妳會很慘的。

Catherine：別擔心，我可以的。

Robert：但是妳落後很多。

Catherine：我知道啊！

Robert：整整有一年耶！至少！

CATHERINE: Thank you, *I know*. Look, I don't know if this is a good idea. I don't know if I can handle the work. I don't know if I can handle *any* of it.

ROBERT: For Chrissake, Catherine, you should have talked to me.

CATHERINE: Dad. Listen. If you e v e r ... if for any reason it ever turned out that you needed me here full-time again—

ROBERT: *I won't*. That's not—

CATHERINE: I can always take a semester off, or—

ROBERT: No. Stop it. I just—the end of the *month*? Why didn't you say something before?

CATHERINE: Dad, come on. It took a while to set this up, and until recently, until very recently, you weren't—

ROBERT: You just said yourself I've been fine.

CATHERINE: Yes, but I didn't know—*I hoped*, but I didn't *know*, no one knew if this would last. I told myself to wait until I was sure about you. That you were feeling okay again. Consistently okay.

ROBERT: So I'm to take this conversation as a vote of confidence? I'm honored.

Catherine：爸，我知道，謝謝你的關心，我不知道這樣做到底對不對，我也不知道我到底應付不應付得來，我甚至不知道我到底能做什麼。

Robert：老天啊！Catherine，妳應該事先告訴我的。

Catherine：爸爸，如果萬一……真的萬一你需要我全天候的照顧，那我——

Robert：不會的，這不是重點。

Catherine：我甚至可以休學一學期，或者…

Robert：好了好了別說了，是這個月的月底嗎？妳之前怎麼都不提呢？

Catherine：爸，你又來了，申請學校要時間的啊！而且也是一直到最近你才沒有什麼狀況。

Robert：妳剛剛不是才說我穩定多了。

Catherine：是啊！但是我不知道，我希望是這樣，但是真的不知道，沒人知道你這個穩定的狀況可以持續多久。我告訴自己一定要等到確定了你是持續性的穩定了。

Robert：所以現在這番談話還是個信任投票呢！我還真感到榮幸。

【譯注：Robert 此刻想必百感交集，說話有點帶刺】

CATHERINE: Take it however you want. I believed you'd get better.

ROBERT: Well thank you very much.

CATHERINE: Don't thank me. I had to. I was living with you.

ROBERT: All right, that's enough, Catherine. Let's stay on the subject.

CATHERINE: This is the subject! There were *library books* upstairs stacked up to the ceiling, do you remember that? You were trying to decode *messages*—

ROBERT: The fucking books are gone, I took them back myself. Why do you bring that garbage up?

(Knocking offstage. Beat. *CATHERINE* goes inside to answer the door. She returns with *HAL*. He carries a manila envelope. He is nervous.)

ROBERT: Mr. Dobbs.

HAL: Hi. I hope it's not a bad time.

ROBERT: Yes it is, actually, you couldn't have picked worse. HAL: Oh, I uh—

ROBERT: You interrupted an argument.

HAL: I'm sorry. I can come back.

ROBERT: It's all right. We needed a break.

HAL: Are you sure?

Catherine：隨便你怎麼想啦！反正我是認為你比較穩定了，才做這個決定的。

Robert：還得真謝謝妳呢！

Catherine：別謝我，我必須這麼做，是我和你住在一起的，我了解你的病情。

Robert：好了，夠了，Catherine，別把話題轉到我身上來。

Catherine：我並沒有，你還記得嗎？那個時候，那些圖書館的書堆得高到天花板，你還在解碼。

Robert：那些他媽的書早就不在樓上了，我自己拿去還了，妳還提這幹嘛？

【這個時候有敲門聲，Catherine 去開門，她跟著 Hal 一起進來。

Hal 拿著一個牛皮紙袋，顯得有點緊張。】

Robert：Dobbs 先生，原來是你啊！

Hal：嗨！我希望沒有打擾到你們。

Robert：你已經打擾到了，沒有比這個時間更糟的。

Hal：那……對不起。

Robert：我們正在吵架呢！

Hal：那對不起，我待會兒再來。

Robert：沒關係啦！反正我們要休息一下。

Hal：你確定嗎？

ROBERT: Yes. The argument was about dinner. We don't know what to eat. What's your suggestion?

(A beat while *HAL* is on the spot.)

HAL: Uh, there's a great pasta place not too far from here.

ROBERT: *No!*

CATHERINE (*with* ROBERT): That is a *brilliant* idea.

ROBERT: Oh dear Jesus God, no.

CATHERINE (*with* ROBERT): What's it called? Give me the address.

ROBERT: No! Sorry. Wrong answer, but thank you for trying.

(*HAL* stands there, looking at both of them.)

HAL: I can come back.

ROBERT: Stay. (*To* CATHERINE) Where are you going?

CATHERINE: INSIDE.

ROBERT: What about dinner?

CATHERINE: What about him?

ROBERT: What are you doing here, Dobbs?

HAL: My timing sucks. I am really sorry.

ROBERT: Don't be silly.

HAL: I'll come to your office.

ROBERT: Stop. Sit down. Glad you're here. Don't let the dinner thing throw you, you'll bounce back. (*To* CATHERINE) This should be easier. Let's back off the problem, let it breathe, come at it again when it's not looking.

Robert：對啊！其實我們是在吵晚餐不知道吃什麼。
你有什麼建議嗎？

【停頓】

Hal：這附近有一家很不錯的義大利餐館。

Robert：不！

Catherine：【和父親異口同聲】這個主意真是太棒了！

Robert：老天啊！

Catherine：那家餐廳叫什麼？給我地址吧！

Robert：不用了！抱歉，錯誤答案，但還是很謝謝你。

【Hal 站著，眼神輪流看過他倆，搞不清楚狀況。】

Hal：我還是待會兒再來。

Robert：你別走，【對 Catherine 說道】妳要去哪？

Catherine：我到裡面去啊！

Robert：那晚餐呢？

Catherine：那你的學生呢？

Robert：Dobbs，你來這要做什麼，你有什麼事？

Hal：我來的真的不是時候，真的很抱歉。

Robert：沒關係啦！

Hal：我改天到您的辦公室好了。

Robert：你別走，坐下來吧！剛剛晚餐的事是和你開玩笑的。Catherine，我們回頭再討論妳的事，讓它沈澱一下，會容易些。

CATHERINE: Fine. (*Exiting*) Excuse me.

ROBERT: Sorry, I'm rude. Hal, this is my daughter Catherine. (*To CATHERINE*) Don't go, have a drink with us. Catherine, Harold Dobbs.

CATHERINE: Hi.

HAL: Hi.

ROBERT: Hal is a grad student. He's doing his Ph.D., very promising stuff. Unfortunately for him, his work coincided with my return to the department and he got stuck with me.

HAL: No, no, it's been—I've been very lucky.

CATHERINE: How long have you been at U. of C.?

HAL: Well I've been working on my thesis for—

ROBERT: Hal's in our "Infinite" program. As he approaches completion of his dissertation, time approaches infinity. Would you like a drink, Hal?

HAL: Yes I would. And uh, with all due respect . . .

(HAL hands *ROBERT* the envelope.)

ROBERT: Really? (*He opens it and looks inside.*) You must have had an interesting few months.

HAL: (*Cheerfully*) Worst summer of my life.

Catherine：好啊！【準備離開，進屋去】借過。

Robert：真抱歉，Hal，我忘了為你介紹，她是我女兒 Catherine。Catherine 別走，跟我們喝一杯吧！

Catherine，他是 Harold Dobbs。

Catherine：嗨！你好！

Hal：你好！

Robert：Hal 現在是博士班的研究生，研究一些很棒的東西喔！但是他很倒楣啦，碰巧和我回系上教書的時間一樣，所以就得跟著我做研究囉！

Hal：不會、不會，我很幸運當你的研究生。

Catherine：你在芝加哥大學念多久了？

Hal：我一直都在寫我的論文，主題是——

Robert：Hal 讀的是我們的『無窮』學程，當他論文趨近於完成的時候，時間也趨向於無窮了。你要喝點什麼嗎，Hal？【譯注：這是挖苦話，意思是說 Hal 的博士論文進展得越來越慢。】

Hal：好，但還是麻煩您，這是我的論文。

【Hal 伸手遞過牛皮紙袋】

Robert：喔！真的嗎？寫好了喔！【他順手打開並看看內容】你這幾個月一定過的很精采。

Hal：【開心地回應】有史以來最痛苦的暑假。

ROBERT: Congratulations.

HAL: It's just a draft. Based on everything we talked about last spring. (ROBERT *pours a drink*. HAL *babbles*.) I wasn't sure if I should wait till the quarter started, or if I should give it to you *now*, or hold off, do another draft, but I figured fuck it, I, I mean I just . . . let's just get it *over* with, so I thought I'd just come over and see if you were home, and—

ROBERT: Drink this. HAL: Thanks. (*He drinks*.) I decided, I don't know, if it feels done, maybe it is.

ROBERT: Wrong. If it feels done, there are major errors.

HAL: Uh, I—

ROBERT: That's okay, that's good, we'll find them and fix them. Don't worry. You're on your way to a solid career, you'll be teaching younger, more irritating versions of yourself in no time.

HAL: Thank you.

ROBERT: Catherine's in the math department at Northwestern, Hal.

(*CATHERINE* looks up, startled.)

HAL: Oh, who are you working with?

Robert：恭喜你囉！

Hal：只是草稿而已，是去年春天我們討論的那些東西，【此時 Robert 往杯裡添了點飲料，Hal 咕嚕幾句】我也不太確定是要等到開學之後再跟你討論，或是現在，或是乾脆再寫一份草稿。後來我想管他的，反正先給你看看再說，所以就直接過來看你在不在家...

Robert：喝點這個吧！

Hal：謝謝。【他喝了一口】我想，雖然我不確定，但是既然我覺得它可以了，它也許真的可以了吧。

【譯注：看得出來 Hal 還是有些局促不安】

Robert：才不呢，如果你覺得它可以的話，就表示裡面一定還有很多錯誤的地方。

Hal：嗯...我...

Robert：沒關係，這夠好了。我們會一起找出錯誤，解決它。你的前途馬上就要開始了啊。很快的，你也會教到一群像你一樣，但是更年輕、更意氣風發的學生。

Hal：謝謝你！

Robert：我的女兒 Catherine 在西北大學的數學系。

【父親突然提起 Catherine 回學校的事，讓她感到詫異】

Hal：這樣啊，那妳的教授是誰？

CATHERINE: I'm just starting this fall. Undergrad.

ROBERT: She's starting in . . . three weeks?

CATHERINE: A little more.

(Beat.)

ROBERT: They have some good people at Northwestern.

O'Donohue. Kaminsky.

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: They will work your ass off.

CATHERINE: I know.

ROBERT: You'll have to run pretty hard to catch up.

CATHERINE: I think I can do it.

ROBERT: Of course you can. (*Beat.*)

HAL: You must be excited.

CATHERINE: I am.

HAL: First year of school can be great.

CATHERINE: YEAH?

HAL: Sure, all the new people, new places, getting out of
the house.

CATHERINE: (Embarrassed) *YES.*

HAL: (Embarrassed) *OR, NO, I—*

Catherine：今年秋季班才要開始呢！大學部的學生。

Robert：大概還要三個禮拜就開始了吧！

Catherine：三個多禮拜吧！

【停頓】

Robert：西北大學有一些不錯的教授喔！

像 O'Donohue，Kaminsky。

Catherine：是啊！

Robert：他們會把妳累壞的喔！

Catherine：我知道。

Robert：妳要很努力才跟得上的。

Catherine：我想我辦得到。

Robert：當然囉！【停頓】

Hal：妳一定很興奮吧！

Catherine：是啊！

Hal：當新鮮人一定很棒。

Catherine：怎麼說？

Hal：當然囉！認識新的人、新的環境、離開這裡。

Catherine：【尷尬】沒錯。

Hal：【尷尬】喔不，我是說...

ROBERT: Absolutely, getting the hell out of here, thank God, it's about time. I'll be glad to see the back of her.

CATHERINE: You will?

ROBERT: Of course. Maybe I want to have the place to myself for a while, did that ever occur to you? *(To HAL)* It's awful the way children sentimentalize their parents. *(To CATHERINE)* We could use some quiet around here.

CATHERINE: Oh don't worry, I'll come back. I'll be here every Sunday cooking up big vats of pasta to last you through the week.

ROBERT: And I'll drive up, strut around Evanston, embarrass you in front of your classmates.

CATHERINE: Good. So we'll be in touch.

ROBERT: Sure. And if you get stuck with a problem, give me a call.

CATHERINE: Okay. Same to you.

ROBERT: Fine. Make sure to get me your number. *(To HAL)* I'm actually looking forward to getting some work done.

HAL: Oh, what are you working on?

ROBERT; Nothing. *(Beat.)* Nothing at the moment.

Which I'm glad of, really. This is the time of year when you don't want to be tied down to anything. You want to be outside. I love Chicago in September.

Robert：你說的沒錯，離開這個鬼地方，真是謝天謝地啊！也是時候到了啦！我也很高興看到她能夠離開。

Catherine：是真的嗎？

Robert：當然是真的。我也想獨自一人在這個地方靜一靜。Hal，你曾經這樣想過嗎？其實小孩成天在我們身邊讓我們高興、悲傷的，也很不好。【對Catherine說】我可以在這裡享受享受寧靜。

Catherine：其實不會啦！我每個禮拜都會回來，我會煮一大鍋的麵條撐死你，讓你整個禮拜都吃不完。

Robert：是喔，那我有時會不經意地突然開車到西北大學，在妳同學面前當眾糗妳喔。

Catherine：好啊，那我們要保持聯繫喔！

Robert：當然。對了，如果碰到難題要打電話告訴我。

Catherine：你也是。【譯注：暗指父親的精神問題】

Robert：好。記得給我你那邊的電話號碼。【對Hal說】我其實也想好好的做些事情。

Hal：請問您最近忙些什麼？

Robert：什麼也沒做啦。【停頓】事實上我很高興這樣，真的。在每年的這個時間，我們都不想被綁在工作上，只想出去走走。我愛九月的芝加哥。

Perfect skies. Sailboats on the water. Cubs losing. Warm, the sun still hot... with the occasional blast of Arctic wind to keep you on your toes, remind you of winter. Students coming back, bookstores full, everybody busy. I was in a bookstore yesterday. Completely full, students buying books... browsing... Students do a hell of a lot of browsing, don't they? Just browsing.

You see them shuffling around with their backpacks, goofing off, taking up space. You'd call it loitering except every once in a while they pick up a book and flip the pages: "browsing."

I admire it. It's an honest way to kill an afternoon. In the back of a used bookstore, or going through a crate of somebody's old record albums—not looking for anything, just looking, what the hell, touching the old book jackets, seeing what somebody threw out, seeing what they underlined... Maybe you find something great, like an old thriller with a painted cover from the forties, or a textbook one of your professors used when *he* was a student—his name is written in it very carefully...

Yeah, I like it. I like watching the students. Wondering what they're gonna buy,

完美的天空，湖面上有船，小熊隊輸球。太陽仍溫暖……但偶而從北邊吹來的涼風，提醒著你冬天快要來了。還有，學生們都回來學校了，書店裡到處是人，每個人看起來都很忙的樣子。昨天下午我到書店去，書店裡擠滿了學生，他們買著書……瀏覽著書……學生們總是在瀏覽一大堆書，是不是啊？但是他們只是翻翻而已。

【譯注：小熊隊是芝加哥的大聯盟球隊。】

你看他們把書一頁一頁地翻，一下塞進背包裡，一下又從背包裡掏出來。他們簡直就像是在遊蕩，除了會三不五時地挑本書起來隨意翻到某一頁『瀏覽』一番。

其實這很棒啊！是一個消磨下午最直接的方式。可以到二手書店去，把別人不要的唱片拿出來看一看，把別人不要的書拿出來翻一翻。摸著那些老舊的封套，你看看人家在書上寫了什麼，當初的人在想什麼。你看他在什麼地方劃了重點……或許還可以找到什麼有趣的東西，像是 40 年代封面被塗鴉了的驚悚小說，甚至於你可以翻出你的教授在大學時候使用的課本，看到上面工工整整地寫了他的名字……

我十分喜歡看著這些學生，想著他們要買些什麼，

what they're gonna read. What kind of ideas they'll come up with when they settle down and get to work . . .

I'm not doing much right now. It does get harder. It's a stereotype that happens to be true, unfortunately for me—unfortunately for you, for all of us.

CATHERINE: Maybe you'll get lucky.

ROBERT: Maybe I will. Maybe you'll pick up where I left off.

CATHERINE: Don't hold your breath.

ROBERT: Don't underestimate yourself.

CATHERINE: Anyway.

(Beat.)

ROBERT: Another drink? Cathy? Hal?

CATHERINE: No thanks.

HAL: Thanks, I really should get going.

ROBERT: Are you sure?

HAL: Yes.

ROBERT: I'll call you when I've looked at this. Don't think about it till then. Enjoy yourself, see some movies.

HAL: Okay.

ROBERT: You can come by my office in a week. Call it—

HAL: The eleventh?

ROBERT: Yes, we'll...

想著他們這學期要讀些什麼，想著他們又將在未來一切就緒，開始研讀之後會激發如何的創意的火花……

其實我真的也沒有做什麼事啦！而且也越來越困難，這大概就是一定會發生的既定現象吧！對我、對你、對所有的人來說都很不幸。

Catherine：或許你會很幸運啊！

Robert：或許會吧！或許妳會繼承我的衣鉢。

Catherine：別放棄啊，爸爸！

Robert：那妳也別低估妳自己。

Catherine：不管你怎麼說啦！

Robert：Catherine、Hal，還要再喝一點嗎？

Catherine：不喝了，謝謝。

Hal：謝謝，我真的得走了。

Robert：你確定嗎？

Hal：是的。

Robert：那我看完你的論文再打電話給你，這段期間你就輕鬆輕鬆吧！看看電影。

Hal：好。

Robert：下禮拜你可以到我的辦公室來，就約…

Hal：11日嗎？

Robert：是的，我們…

(*Beat. He turns to CATHERINE. Grave*) I am sorry. I used to have a pretty good memory for numbers. Happy birthday.

CATHERINE: Thank you.

ROBERT: I am so sorry. I'm embarrassed.

CATHERINE: Dad, don't be stupid.

ROBERT: I didn't get you anything.

CATHERINE: Don't worry about it.

ROBERT: I'm taking you out.

CATHERINE: You don't have to.

ROBERT: We are going out. I didn't want to shop and cook. Let's go to dinner. Let's get the hell out of this neighborhood. What do you want to eat? Let's go to the North Side. Or Chinatown. Or Greektown. I don't know what's good anymore.

CATHERINE: Whatever you want.

ROBERT: Whatever *you* want goddamnit, Catherine, it's your birthday.

(*Beat.*)

CATHERINE: Steak.

ROBERT: Steak. Yes.

CATHERINE: No, first beer, really cold beer. Really cheap beer.

ROBERT: Done.

【這時 Robert 轉向 Catherine，嚴肅地說】真是對不起
啊！我以前對數字是記性很好的。生日快樂。

Catherine：謝謝你！【譯注：Catherine 生日是 9 月 4 日】

Robert：真抱歉，真不好意思。

Catherine：爸，別這樣說。

Robert：我沒有買禮物給妳。

Catherine：沒關係啦！

Robert：我請妳出去吃飯吧！

Catherine：不用這樣。

Robert：反正我們要出去嘛！我不想逛街也不要煮
飯。我們去吃晚餐，離開這鬼地方遠一點，妳想吃
什麼，我們到北邊去吧！或是去唐人街，或是希臘
街，我不知道有什麼好地方可去耶！

Catherine：你想吃什麼我們就去吧！

Robert：妳想吃什麼我們才去。老天啊！Catherine，
今天是妳的生日呀！

【停頓】

Catherine：那……吃牛排好了。

Robert：好，就這麼決定。

Catherine：不行不行，要先來點啤酒，真正冰涼的啤
酒，真正會噏的啤酒。

Robert：一言為定。

CATHERINE: That Chicago beer that's watery with no flavor and you can just drink *gallons* of it.

ROBERT: They just pump the water out of Lake Michigan and bottle it.

CATHERINE: It's so awful.

ROBERT: I have a taste for it myself.

CATHERINE: Then the steak, grilled really black, and potatoes and creamed spinach.

ROBERT: I remember a place. If it's still there I think it will do the trick.

CATHERINE: And dessert.

ROBERT: That goes without saying. It's your birthday, hooray. And there's the solution to our dinner problem. Thank you for reminding me, Harold Dobbs.

CATHERINE: (*To HAL*) We're being rude. Do you want to come?

HAL: Oh, no, I shouldn't.

ROBERT: Why not? Please, come.

CATHERINE: Come on.

(A tiny moment between *HAL* and *CATHERINE*. *HAL* wavers, then)

HAL: No, I can't, I have plans. Thank you, though. Happy birthday.

CATHERINE: Thanks. Well. I'll let you out.

Catherine：那些芝加哥啤酒真是淡出鳥了，簡直可以喝一整桶。

Robert：他們根本是從密西根湖直接抽水裝瓶的。

Catherine：噢，簡直是糟透了。

Robert：我對它還是有自己的品味的！

Catherine：然後牛排，要烤得黑黑的，配上烤洋芋和奶油菠菜。

Robert：我想起一個地方，如果還在的話，還頗會做這些東西的。

Catherine：還有甜點。

Robert：那還用說嗎？是妳的生日耶！太好了，我們的晚餐問題解決了。謝謝你提醒我們喔，**Harold Dobbs**。

Catherine：【對 Hal 說】我們剛剛真的太失禮了。你不要跟我們一起去呢？

Hal：不了，我不應該去的。

Robert：為什麼不呢？跟我們一起去嘛！

Catherine：對啊，跟我們一起去嘛！

【Hal 與 Catherine 稍稍互看了一下。Hal 有一些猶豫】

Hal：不，不行，我還有其他的事情。謝謝妳囉，生日快樂！

Catherine：謝謝。那我還是放你走吧。

ROBERT: I'll see you on the eleventh, Hal.

HAL : Great.

CATHERINE: I'm gonna change my clothes, Dad. I'll be ready in a sec.

(HAL and CATHERINE exit. A moment. It's darker. ROBERT looks out at the evening. Eventually he picks up the notebook and a pen. He sits down. He opens to a blank page. He writes.)

ROBERT: "September fourth. A good day . . ." *(He continues to write.)*

fade

Robert：我們 11 號見，Hal。

Hal：好。

Catherine：我馬上去換件衣服，爸爸你等我一下。

【Hal 與 Catherine 離開。一會兒後，燈光稍暗。Robert 看著圍欄外的傍晚。終於，他拿起筆記本和一支筆，坐了下來，翻到一頁空白，開始寫。】

Robert：『9 月 4 日，一個天氣好的…』

【Robert 繼續寫，燈光漸暗。】

Act Two

Scene 2

Morning. An instant after the end of Act One: *CATHERINE, CLAIRE, and HAL.*

HAL: You wrote this?

CATHERINE: Yes.

CLAIRE: You mean Dad dictated it to you?

CATHERINE: No, it's my proof. It's mine, I wrote it.

CLAIRE: When?

CATHERINE: I started after I quit school. I finished a few months before Dad died.

CLAIRE: Did he see it?

CATHERINE: No. He didn't know I was working on it. It wouldn't have mattered to him anyway, he was too sick.

HAL: I don't understand—you did this by yourself?

CATHERINE: *Yes.*

CLAIRE: It's in Dad's notebook.

CATHERINE: I used one of his blank books. There were a bunch of them upstairs.

(Beat)

CLAIRE: *(To HAL)* Tell me exactly where you found this.

HAL: In his study.

【第二幕·第二景】

早晨。時間接回第一幕的結束點：Catherine 跟 Claire 和 Hal 在後陽台。

Hal：這證明是妳寫的嗎？

Catherine：是的。

Claire：妳是說爸爸講出來，然後妳抄下來的吧！

Catherine：不不不，這是我的證明，是我寫的。

Claire：什麼時候寫的呢？

Catherine：從西北大學休學之後不久就開始了，爸爸死前幾個月完成的。

Claire：那爸爸看過這個證明嗎？

Catherine：沒有，他根本不知道我在做什麼，反正那時候他病的很重，這些對他也不重要了。

Hal：我不太了解，這個證明是妳自己寫的嗎？

Catherine：沒錯！

Claire：可是那是爸爸的筆記本。

Catherine：我用他空白的筆記本啊！樓上一大堆。

【停頓】

Claire：Hal，你到底是在哪裡找到這本筆記本的？

Hal：在你爸爸的書房。

CATHERINE: In his desk. I gave him the—

CLAIRE: *(To CATHERINE)* Hold on. *(To HAL)* Where did you find it?

HAL: In the bottom drawer of the desk in the study, a locked drawer: Catherine gave me the key.

CLAIRE: Why was the drawer locked?

CATHERINE: It's mine, it's the drawer I keep my private things in. I've used it for years.

CLAIRE: *(To HAL)* Was there anything else in the drawer?

HAL: *No.*

CATHERINE: No, that's the only—

CLAIRE: Can I see it?

(HAL gives CLAIRE the book. She pages through it. Beat.) I'm sorry, I just... *(To CATHERINE)* The book was in the...You told him where to find it...You gave him the key...You wrote this incredible thing and you didn't *tell* anyone?

CATHERINE: I'm telling you both now. After I dropped out of school I had nothing to do. I was depressed, really depressed, but at a certain point I decided, Fuck it, I don't need them. It's just math, I can do it on my own. So I kept working here. I worked at night, after Dad had gone to sleep. It was hard but I did it.

(Beat.)

Catherine：在他的書桌抽屜裡，是我給他…。

Claire：【對 Catherine】等一下等一下！【對 Hal】你到底是在哪裡發現這本筆記本的？

Hal：書房裡書桌最底下的抽屜，是鎖著的，Catherine 給我鑰匙。

Claire：那為什麼這個抽屜是鎖著的？

Catherine：是我的抽屜啊！放了一些我私人的東西，我用了好幾年了。

Claire：【對 Hal】那抽屜裡還有其他的東西嗎？

Hal：沒有。

Catherine：當然沒有，只有…

Claire：我可以看那個證明嗎？【Hal 遞給她筆記本，Claire 順手翻了翻】妳說這筆記本是在爸爸的書房……妳告訴 Hal 去找……妳又給他這把鑰匙……妳寫了這些不可思議的證明，然後妳都沒有告訴任何人？

Catherine：我現在不就是在告訴你們嗎？我從西北大學休學之後，就一直待在家裡，也沒有什麼事情可以做。那時候覺得很沮喪，非常非常沮喪，但是後來我想通啦！反正就是數學嘛，不上學我自己在家裡也可以做啊！所以我等爸爸上床睡覺後，便自己念數學。這很難，但我辦到了。

【停頓】

CLAIRE: Catherine, I'm sorry but I just find this very hard to believe.

CATHERINE: Claire. I wrote. The proof.

CLAIRE: I'm sorry, I—

CATHERINE: Claire...

CLAIRE: This is Dad's handwriting.

CATHERINE: It's not.

CLAIRE: It looks exactly like it.

CATHERINE: It's my writing.

CLAIRE: I'm sorry—

CATHERINE: Ask Hal, he's been looking at Dad's writing for weeks.

(*CLAIRE* gives *HAL* the book. He looks at it. Beat.)

HAL: I don't know.

CATHERINE: Hal, come on.

CLAIRE: What does it look like?

HAL: It looks . . . I don't know what Catherine's handwriting looks like.

CATHERINE: It *looks* like *that*.

HAL: *OKAY. IT. . . OKAY.* (Beat. He hands the book back.)

CLAIRE: I think—you know what? I think it's early, and people are tired and not in the best state to make decisions about emotional things, so maybe we should all just take a breath . . .

Claire：Catherine，我真的很難相信。

Catherine：Claire，這是我寫的，證明。

Claire：對不起，我還是——

Catherine：Claire.....

Claire：這是爸爸的筆跡。

Catherine：那不是。

Claire：看起來就像是爸爸的筆跡。

Catherine：是我的筆跡。

Claire：我還是很抱歉，我——

Catherine：你可以問 Hal，他最近幾天都在看爸爸的筆記本。

【Claire 再將筆記本遞給 Hal，他又仔細看了一下】

Hal：我不太確定。

Catherine：你這話是什麼意思？

Claire：你覺得筆記本的筆跡像是誰的？

Hal：像是...，我根本不知道 Catherine 的筆跡是什麼樣子啊！

Catherine：我的筆跡就是這樣子。

Hal：好，但是.....好。【Hal 再把筆記本拿給 Claire】

Claire：你知道我現在在想什麼嗎？我想現在還早，我們也都累了，腦袋也都不清楚，那我們還是休息一下再...

CATHERINE: You don't believe me?

CLAIRE: I don't know. I really don't know anything about this.

CATHERINE: Never mind. I don't know why I expected you to believe me about *anything*.

CLAIRE: Could you *tell* us the proof? That would show it was yours.

CATHERINE: You wouldn't understand it.

CLAIRE: Tell it to Hal.

CATHERINE: (*Taking the book*) We could talk through it together. It might take a while.

CLAIRE: (*Taking the book*) You can't use the book.

CATHERINE: For God's sake, it's forty pages long. I *didn't memorize* it. It's not a muffin recipe. This is stupid. It's my book, my writing, my key, my drawer, my proof. Hal, tell her!

HAL: Tell her what?

CATHERINE: Whose book is that?

HAL: I don't know.

CATHERINE: What is the matter with you? You've been looking at his other stuff, you know there's nothing even remotely like this!

HAL: Look, Catherine—

Catherine：你們都不相信我嗎？

Claire：我真的不知道該怎麼說。

Catherine：沒關係，我不應該期望你們會相信我的。

Claire：那妳可以告訴我們這個證明在說什麼嗎？這樣就可以證實它是妳寫的。

Catherine：你們不會懂得啦！

Claire：那你說給 Hal 聽好了。

Catherine：【從姊姊手中拿走筆記本】我們可以討論討論裡面的東西，這可能需要一點時間。

Claire：【再拿回筆記本】你不能看著筆記本講。

Catherine：拜託，有 40 多頁耶！我又不是用背的，這可不是鬆餅的食譜。這真是太蠢了，這是我的筆記本，是我手寫的，我的鑰匙，我的抽屜，是**我的證明**！Hal，你告訴我姊姊！

Hal：我要告訴她什麼？

Catherine：說這是誰的筆記本啊！

Hal：我不太確定。

Catherine：你到底怎麼搞的，你最近不是一直在看我爸爸的東西嗎？你知道的，他筆記本裡的東西跟這個證明一點關係都沒有。

Hal：Catherine 妳...

CATHERINE: We'll go through the proof together.
We'll sit down—if Claire will *please* let me have my
book back—

CLAIRE: (*Giving her the book*) All right, talk him through
it.

HAL: That might take days and it still wouldn't show that
she wrote it.

CATHERINE: Why not?

HAL: Your dad might have written it and explained it to
you later. I'm not saying he did, I'm just saying there's
no proof that you wrote this.

CATHERINE: Of course there isn't, but come on! He didn't
do this, he couldn't have. He didn't do any mathematics
at all for years. Even in the good year he couldn't work:
you *know* that. You're supposed to be a scientist.

(Beat.)

HAL: You're right. Okay. Here's my suggestion. I know
three or four guys at the department, very sharp,
disinterested people who knew your father, knew his
work. Let me take this to them.

CATHERINE: WHAT?

HAL: I'll tell them we've found something, something
potentially major, we're not sure about the authorship;
I'll sit down with them. We'll go through the thing
carefully—

CLAIRE: Good.

Catherine：好，我現在就講裡面的證明給你聽。我們坐下來，如果 Claire 不介意把筆記本還給我。

Claire：【將筆記本還給她】好吧，妳就帶他走一遍吧！

Hal：這要說上好幾天呢！就算這樣子，也不能證明那是妳寫的啊！

Catherine：為什麼不能？

Hal：我是說也有可能是妳父親寫了之後解釋給妳聽的。我不是說一定是那樣，只是說，這也無法證明這證明是妳寫的。

Catherine：你們就是不相信，老天啊！爸爸病得那麼嚴重，這幾年來他根本無法做數學，就算他身體好一點的時候也沒辦法做，你們都知道的。拜託，你還算是一個科學家呢！

【停頓】

Hal：好，沒錯，我有個建議，我知道系上幾個人，非常優秀，他們認得妳父親，對他的研究也有所認識，讓他們看看這個證明。

Catherine：你說什麼？

Hal：我會告訴他們，我們發現了這本筆記本，我們不太確定是誰做的，但是我會和那幾位教授仔細過濾所有的東西。

Claire：這主意不錯。

HAL: —and figure out exactly what we've got. It would only take a couple of days, probably, and then we'd have a lot more information.

CLAIRE: I think that's an excellent suggestion.

CATHERINE: You can't.

CLAIRE: Catherine.

CATHERINE: No! You can't take it.

HAL: I'm not "taking" it.

CATHERINE: This is what you wanted.

HAL: Oh come on, Jesus.

CATHERINE: You don't waste any time, do you? No hesitation. You can't wait to show them your brilliant discovery.

HAL: I'm trying to determine what this is.

CATHERINE: I'm telling you what it is.

HAL: You don't know!

CATHERINE: I wrote it.

HAL: *It's your father's handwriting. (Beat. Pained)* At least it looks an awful lot like the writing in the other books. Maybe your writing looks exactly like his, I don't know.

CATHERINE: *(Softly)* It does look like his.

I didn't show this to anyone else. I could have. I wanted you to be the first to see it. I didn't know I wanted that until last night. It's *me*. I trusted you.

Hal：我們也會搞清楚，到底這證明得到了什麼？可能要花上好幾天，但是會得到一些結果。

Claire：這真是個好主意。

Catherine：你不可以這樣做。

Claire：Catherine。

Catherine：你不可以拿走這本筆記本。

Hal：我沒有要拿走

Catherine：你就是這麼打算對不對，你要據為己有。

Hal：拜託，老天啊！

Catherine：你就別浪費時間了，別再猶豫，你不是等不及了嗎？要去秀你精采的發現。

Hal：我只是要確定這證明到底是什麼。

Catherine：讓我來告訴你它是什麼。

Hal：妳不知道的。

Catherine：是我寫的。

Hal：這是你爸爸的筆跡啊！【很痛苦地說出口】至少它看起來就跟筆記本裡的筆跡一模一樣。也許妳的筆跡跟他的完全一樣。我不知道。

Catherine：【淡淡地說】的確很像。

我從來沒把它給任何人看過。我想讓你先看。直到昨天晚上才決定的。這就是我。我信任你。

HAL: I know.

CATHERINE: Was I wrong?

HAL: No. I—

CATHERINE: I should have known she wouldn't believe me but why don't you?

HAL: This is one of his notebooks. The exact same kind he used.

CATHERINE: I told you. I just used one of his blank books. There were extras.

HAL: There aren't any extra books in the study.

CATHERINE: There were when I started writing the proof. I bought them for him. He must have used the rest up later.

HAL: And the writing.

CATHERINE: You want to test the handwriting?

HAL: No. It doesn't matter. He could have dictated it to you for Chrissake. It still doesn't make sense.

CATHERINE: Why not?

HAL: I'm a mathematician.

CATHERINE: YES.

Hal：我知道。

Catherine：我錯了嗎？

Hal：妳不要這樣講。

Catherine：我早該知道姊姊不會相信我。但是為什麼你也不相信呢？

Hal：重點是這是妳父親的筆記本啊！而且是一模一樣的筆記本。

Catherine：我已經說過了，我是用他空白的筆記本，書房裡多的是。

Hal：可是在他的書房裡，沒有任何一本空白的筆記本啊！

Catherine：我剛開始寫這個證明的時候，就還有很多空白的筆記本，而且是我買給他的，一定是他之後用光了。

Hal：那又怎麼解釋筆跡呢？

Catherine：那你要我現在寫給你看嗎？

Hal：不用了不用了，也有可能是妳父親一邊教妳一邊做的。老天啊！這還是說不通。

Catherine：為什麼呢？

Hal：我是一個數學家啊！

Catherine：那又怎樣？

HAL: I know how hard it would be to come up with something like this. I mean it's impossible. You'd have to be . . . you'd have to be your dad, basically. Your dad at the peak of his powers.

CATHERINE: I'm a mathematician too.

HAL: Not like your dad.

CATHERINE: Oh, he's the only one who could have done this?

HAL: The only one I know.

CATHERINE: Are you sure?

HAL: Your father was the most—

CATHERINE: Just because you and the rest of the geeks worshipped him doesn't mean he wrote this proof, Hal!

HAL: He was the *best*. My generation hasn't produced anything like him. He revolutionized the field twice before he was twenty-two. I'm sorry, Catherine, but you took some classes at Northwestern for a few months.

CATHERINE: My education wasn't at Northwestern. It was living in this house for twenty-five years.

HAL: Even so, it doesn't matter. This is too advanced. I don't even understand most of it.

CATHERINE: You think it's too advanced.

HAL: Yes.

Hal：我知道要做出這樣的證明有多麼困難，簡直是不可能！妳必須…必須基本上就是妳父親。而且是在巔峰狀態的他。

Catherine：我也是一個數學家啊！

Hal：不是像妳父親那樣的！

Catherine：你覺得他是唯一一個可以做出這種證明的人嗎？

Hal：至少是我唯一知道的。

Catherine：你確定嗎？

Hal：你的父親……

Catherine：就算你們這些數學天才崇拜我父親，也不能證明這個證明是我父親寫的啊！

Hal：他是最優秀的。我們這一代的數學家一點都比不上他。他二十二歲的時候，就在這個領域做了兩次革命。我很抱歉地說，當時妳只在西北大學上了幾個月的課。

Catherine：我的學習不是在西北大學，我是在這個房子裡跟父親住了二十五年。

Hal：就算這樣也解釋不來。這個證明裡的技術太先進了，甚至有些連我都不了解。

Catherine：你覺得它太先進了？

Hal：是的。

CATHERINE: It's too advanced for *you*.

HAL: You could not have done this work.

CATHERINE: But what if I did?

HAL: Well what if?

CATHERINE: It would be a real disaster for you, wouldn't it? And for the other geeks who *barely* finished their Ph.D.'s, who are marking time doing *lame* research, bragging about the conferences they go to — *wow* — playing in an *awful* band, and whining that they're intellectually past it at twenty-eight, *because they are*.

(Beat. *HAL* hesitates, then abruptly exits. Beat. *CATHERINE* is furious and so upset she looks dazed.)

CLAIRE: Katie. Let's go inside. Katie?

(*CATHERINE* opens the book, tries to rip out the pages, destroy it. *CLAIRE* goes to take it from her. They struggle. *CATHERINE* gets the book away. They stand apart, breathing hard. After a moment, *CATHERINE* throws the book to the floor. She exits.)

(*fade*)

Catherine：那是**對你**而言太先進了。

Hal：這不可能是你的作品。

Catherine：萬一真的是我做的呢？

Hal：你說會怎樣？

Catherine：我告訴你吧！如果這個證明真的是我做的，你們就完了。對於你們這些窩藏在學校裡面，一天到晚做蹩腳數學的人，整天吹牛參加什麼研討會，喔，還搞一個什麼狗屁樂團，哭哭啼啼地說自己在二十八歲過了高峰期的這些人，你們就真的完了。我告訴你，根本不用懷疑，你真的就是過氣了。

【停頓。Hal 有一點猶豫，但還是突然離開了。停頓。Catherine 盛怒，她激動得手足無措。】

Claire：Katie，我們進去吧，Kaite？

【Catherine 打開筆記本，開始用力地想要撕爛它。Claire 衝過來搶，兩人扭在一起。Catherine 搶到了，姊妹倆分站兩頭，喘著氣。對峙片刻之後，Catherine 把筆記本甩在地上，離開。】

(燈光漸暗)

Act Two

Scene 1

The next day. The porch is empty. Knocking off. No one appears. After a moment *HAL* comes around the side of the porch and knocks on the back door.

HAL: Catherine?

(*CLAIRE* enters.)

HAL: I thought you were leaving.

CLAIRE: I had to delay my flight.

(*Beat.*)

HAL: Is Catherine here?

CLAIRE: I don't think this is a good time, Hal.

HAL: Could I see her?

CLAIRE: Not now.

HAL: What's the matter?

CLAIRE: She's sleeping.

HAL: Can I wait here until she gets up?

CLAIRE: She's been sleeping since yesterday. She won't get up. She won't eat, won't talk to me. I couldn't go home. I'm going to wait until she seems okay to travel.

HAL: Jesus, I'm sorry.

【第二幕·第三景】

隔天，陽台空無一人。有人在前面敲門，沒人應。一會兒之後，Hal 鬼鬼祟祟地繞道後陽台，敲著後門。

Hal：Catherine，妳在嗎？

【Claire 從房裡走出陽台】

Hal：我以為妳們已經出發了。

Claire：沒有，我得延期。

【停頓】

Hal：Catherine 在家嗎？

Claire：我想你來的不是時候吧！

Hal：我可以見她嗎？

Claire：現在不好。

Hal：怎麼回事呢？

Claire：她正在睡覺。

Hal：那我可以等她睡醒嗎？

Claire：她從昨天就一直睡到現在，她也不起床，也不吃東西，也不跟我說話，害我也不能回紐約。我得一直等，等到她精神穩定了再說。

Hal：糟糕，真是對不起。

CLAIRE: Yes.

HAL: I'd like to talk to her.

CLAIRE: I don't think that's a good idea.

HAL: Has she said anything?

CLAIRE: About you? No.

HAL: Yesterday . . . I know I didn't do what she wanted.

CLAIRE: Neither of us did.

HAL: I didn't know what to say. I feel awful.

CLAIRE: Why did you sleep with her?

(Beat.)

HAL: I'm sorry, that's none of your business.

CLAIRE: Bullshit. I have to take care of her. It's a little bit harder with you jerking her around.

HAL: I wasn't jerking her around. It just happened.

CLAIRE: Your timing was not great.

HAL: It wasn't my timing, it was both of our—

CLAIRE: Why'd you do it? You know what she's like. She's fragile and you took advantage of her.

HAL: No. It's what we both wanted. I didn't mean to hurt her.

CLAIRE: You DID.

HAL: I'd like to talk to Catherine, please.

Claire：嗯哼。

Hal：我想跟她說說話

Claire：我想這沒什麼好說的。

Hal：她最後有沒有跟你說什麼事情？

Claire：有關你的嗎？沒有。

Hal：昨天……我知道我沒做她想要的事情。

Claire：我們兩個都沒有。

Hal：我不知道該從何說起，我覺得糟透了。

Claire：那你和她上床又是怎麼回事？

【停頓】

Hal：我想這不關你的事吧！

Claire：你在胡說些什麼？我是她姊姊，我得照顧她。

有你在這兒和她亂來，真是礙事。

Hal：我沒有和她亂來啊！事情很自然就發生了。

Claire：那發生的時間還真是不巧。

Hal：這不是我決定的，是我們兩個都覺得…

Claire：那為什麼你要這麼做呢？你知道她的狀況的

啊！她這麼脆弱，而你只是想佔她便宜。

Hal：不是這樣的，我們兩個是情投意合的，我也不想傷害她。

Claire：你已經傷害她了。

Hal：現在我真的很想跟她說說話，可以嗎？

CLAIRE: You CAN'T.

HAL: Are you taking her away?

CLAIRE: YES.

HAL: To New York.

CLAIRE: Yes.

HAL: Just going to drag her to New York.

CLAIRE: If I have to.

HAL: Don't you think she should have some say in whether or not she goes?

CLAIRE: If she's not going to speak, what else can I do?

HAL: Let me try. Let me talk to her.

CLAIRE: Hal, give up. This has nothing to do with you.

HAL: I know her. She's tougher than you think, Claire.

CLAIRE: What?

HAL: She can handle herself. She can handle talking to me— maybe it would help. Maybe she'd like it.

CLAIRE: Maybe she'd *like* it? Are you out of your *mind*?

You're the reason she's up there right now! You have *no idea* what she needs. You don't know her! She's my sister. Jesus, you fucking mathematicians: you *don't think*. You don't know what you're doing. You stagger around creating these catastrophes and it's people like me who end up flying in to clean them up. (*Beat.*) She needs to get out of Chicago, out of this house.

Claire：不行。

Hal：你要帶她走嗎？

Claire：沒錯。

Hal：去紐約嗎？

Claire：對。

Hal：你就一定得逼她去紐約嗎？

Claire：看情況是的。

Hal：難道妳不想聽聽她自己願不願意去嗎？

Claire：她根本不跟我說話，我怎麼辦？

Hal：讓我試一試，讓我跟她談談。

Claire：算了吧！反正這也不關你的事。

Hal：其實我了解妳的妹妹，她沒有妳想像中脆弱。

Claire：妳怎麼知道？

Hal：其實她可以照顧自己的，她也能夠跟我說話的——
說不定這樣會有所幫助，或許她喜歡這樣。

Claire：什麼？她喜歡這樣？你瘋了嗎？就是因為你，所以她才在樓上都下不來的。你根本不曉得她想要什麼，你根本不了解我妹妹。你們這些無聊透頂的數學家，你們根本不用大腦，根本搞不清楚狀況。闖出一大堆麻煩。倒楣的是我，還得從紐約飛來這邊收拾殘局。**Catherine** 是一定得離開芝加哥的，離開這個房子。

I'll give you my number in New York. You can call her once she's settled there. That's it, that's the deal.

HAL: OKAY. (Beat. He doesn't move.)

CLAIRE: I don't mean to be rude but I have a lot to do.

HAL: There's one more thing. You're not going to like it.

CLAIRE: Sure, take the notebook.

HAL: (Startled) I—

CLAIRE: *HOLD ON A SEC, I'LL GET IT FOR YOU.* (She goes inside and returns with the notebook. She gives it to *HAL.*)

HAL: I thought this would be harder.

CLAIRE: Don't worry, I understand. It's very sweet you want to see Catherine but of course you'd like to see the notebook too.

HAL: (*Huffy*) It's— No, it's my responsibility—as a professional I can't turn my back on the necessity of the—

CLAIRE: Relax. I don't care. Take it. What would I do with it?

HAL: You sure?

CLAIRE: Yes, of course.

HAL: Your trust me with this?

CLAIRE: Yes.

HAL: You just said I don't know what I'm doing.

反正我會給你我紐約的電話號碼，到時她安定了，你可以打電話給她。就這麼決定了。

Hal：只好這樣了。【停頓。他沒有要走的意思】

Claire：我不是趕你，我還有很多事要做。

Hal：還有一件事情，我想妳不會答應的。

Claire：我知道，你就把那本筆記本帶走吧！

Hal：【驚訝】我……

Claire：你等一下，我拿給你。【她走入房內並拿出筆記本交給 Hal】

Hal：我以為要大費一番周章的。

Claire：放心，我了解。你想來看我妹妹那是很好的，但是你更想看這本筆記本。

Hal：【微慍】這是一，這也算是我的責任吧。作為一個專業數學家，總不能對這種事置之不理。

Claire：別緊張，這我可不在乎，你就拿走吧！
我留著它也做什麼？

Hal：妳確定嗎？

Claire：沒錯啊，你就拿走吧！

Hal：那你信任我嗎？

Claire：對。

Hal：妳剛剛才消遣我搞不清楚狀況。

CLAIRE: I think you're a little bit of an idiot but you're not dishonest. Someone needs to figure out what's in there. I can't do it. It should be done here, at Chicago: my father would like that. When you decide what we've got let me know what the family should do.

HAL: Thanks.

CLAIRE: Don't thank me; it's by far the most convenient option available. I put my card in there, call me whenever you want.

HAL: Okay.

(HAL starts to exit, CLAIRE hesitates, then)

CLAIRE: HAL.

HAL: Yeah?

CLAIRE: Can you tell me about it? The proof. I'm just curious.

HAL: It would take some time. How much math have you got?

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: I'm a currency analyst. It helps to be very quick with numbers. I am. I probably inherited about one one-thousandth of my father's ability. It's enough.

Catherine got more, I'm not sure how much.

(fade)

Claire：我知道，你們是有點蠢啦！但是還不至於不誠實。總是要有人把這個證明搞清楚，而我又不懂。如果能在芝加哥把這些事情弄清楚，我相信我父親也願意這麼做。等事情都弄清楚之後，你再告訴我們，看我們該怎麼辦。

Hal：真是謝謝妳。

Claire：你不用謝我，我們能做的就是這些了。我的名片在這兒，你隨時打電話給我。

Hal：好。

【Claire 這時把 Hal 叫住，顯出有些猶豫】

Hal：什麼事？

Claire：你可以跟我說一下這個證明嗎？我也蠻好奇的，我想知道。

Hal：這需要一些功夫喔！你知道多少數學？

【停頓】

Claire：我是一個貨幣流通分析師，可能對數字反應蠻快的，我大概有遺傳到我父親千分之一的數學天才，這就夠了吧！Catherine 遺傳了比較多，但是我不曉得她比我聰明多少。

(燈光漸暗)

Act Two

Scene 4

Winter. About three and a half years earlier. *ROBERT* is on the porch. He wears a T-shirt. He writes in a notebook. After a moment we hear *CATHERINE*'s voice from offstage.

CATHERINE: DAD? (She enters wearing a parka. She sees her father *and stops.*) What are you doing out here?

ROBERT: Working.

CATHERINE: It's December. It's thirty degrees.

ROBERT: I know.

(*CATHERINE stares at him, baffled.*)

CATHERINE: Don't you need a coat?

ROBERT: Don't you think I can make that assessment for myself? (*Beat.*)

CATHERINE: Aren't you cold?

ROBERT: Of course I am! I'm freezing my ass off!

CATHERINE: So what are you *doing* out here?

ROBERT: Thinking! Writing!

CATHERINE: You're gonna freeze.

ROBERT: It's too hot in the house. The radiators dry out the air. Also the clanking—I can't concentrate.

【第二幕·第四景】

冬季。時間跳回三年半前。【譯注：也就是 Catherine 到西北大學讀書一學期之後，十二月份美國北方開始了寒冷的冬季。】Robert 在陽台上，穿著一件簡單的 T 恤，在筆記本寫著。沒多久，Catherine 的聲音從幕後傳來。

Catherine：爸？【她穿著一件帶有頭套的大衣進來。看見父親，停下來。】你在外面幹什麼啊？

Robert：我在工作。

Catherine 現在十二月耶，已經零度了耶！

【譯注：美國使用華氏溫標，華氏 32 度是攝氏 0 度。】

Robert：我知道。【Catherine 困惑地盯著老爸】

Catherine 你難道不需要穿個外套嗎？

Robert：妳難道認為，我沒辦法自己判斷嗎？【停頓】

Catherine：你不冷嗎？

Robert：我當然冷啊，我冷得已經凍斃了。

Catherine：那你到底在外面幹什麼？

Robert：思考啊，寫東西啊。

Catherine：你會凍壞的。

Robert：在房裡太熱了，暖爐弄得空氣太乾燥，而且動不動就有霹靂啪啦的聲音，我沒辦法專心。

If the house weren't so old, we'd have central air heating, but we don't, so I have to come out here to get any work done.

CATHERINE: I'll turn off the radiators. They won't make any noise. Come inside, it isn't safe.

ROBERT: I'm okay.

CATHERINE: I've been calling. Didn't you hear the phone?

ROBERT: It's a distraction.

CATHERINE: I didn't know what was going on. I had to drive all the way down here.

ROBERT: I can see that.

CATHERINE: I had to skip class. *(She brings ROBERT a coat and he puts it on.)* Why don't you answer the phone?

ROBERT: Well I'm sorry, Catherine, but it's a question of priorities, and work takes priority, you know that.

CATHERINE: You're working?

ROBERT: Goddamnit, I am working! I say "I"— The machinery. The machinery is working. Catherine, it's on full-blast. All the cylinders are firing, I'm on fire. That's why I came out here, to cool off. I haven't felt like this for years

如果房子沒那麼老舊，我們就可以安裝中央空調系統，我就可以不用出來到陽台上工作了。但沒辦法啊，所以我只好出來把這事兒做完。

Catherine：我進去把暖爐關掉，不會再吵了。進來吧，裡面比較安全。

【譯注：老房子的循環式暖爐，讓燒熱的油質在管道裡循環整個房子，熱油流進冷管道時會發出喀喀的噪音。】

Robert：其實我覺得在外面很好。

Catherine：我之前一直打電話，你都沒聽到嗎？

Robert：電話鈴聲太讓我分心了。

Catherine：我不知道發生了什麼事，害得我一路開車趕回來看你。

Robert：我看得出來。

Catherine：而且你還害我要蹺課。【她已經從裡面拿了一件大衣回來，幫他披上】你為什麼不接電話？

Robert：對不起嘛，**Catherine**，妳知道這是一個優先順序的問題，而且工作總是比較重要的。

Catherine：你真的在工作嗎？

Robert：真的，我真的在工作。我的『心智機器』已經開始運轉了，而且是火力全開，好像汽車的引擎都點了火，我整個人全身是勁！所以我得出來外面冷卻一下，我已經好多年沒有這樣的感覺了。

CATHERINE: You're kidding.

ROBERT: No!

CATHERINE: I don't believe it.

ROBERT: I don't believe it either! But it's true. It started about a week ago. I woke up, came downstairs, made a cup of coffee, and before I could pour in the milk it was like someone turned the *light* on in my head.

CATHERINE: Really?

ROBERT: Not the light, the whole *power grid*. *I lit up*, and it's like no time has passed since I was twenty-one.

CATHERINE: You're kidding!

ROBERT: No! I'm back! I'm back in touch with the source—the font, the—whatever the source of my creativity was all those years ago. I'm in contact with it again. I'm *sitting* on it. It's a geyser and I'm shooting right up into the air on top of it.

CATHERINE: My God.

ROBERT: I'm not talking about divine inspiration. It's not funneling down into my head and onto the page. It'll take *work* to shape these things; I'm not saying it won't be a tremendous amount of work. It *will* be a tremendous amount of work. It's not going to be easy.

Catherine：你在開玩笑吧。

Robert：才不是。

Catherine：我不相信。

Robert：我自己也不相信啊！但是這是真的。大概一個星期以前開始的，我早上起來，走到樓下，自己沖一杯咖啡，就在我把牛奶倒進去之前，忽然就像有人在我的大腦裡面，點亮了燈一樣。

Catherine：真的嗎？

Robert：不只是燈，而是像一整個發電廠。我整個人都亮了起來。就好像一下子回到了二十一歲。

Catherine：真的假的！

Robert：不不不，我真的回來了。回到那種可以接觸源頭，泉源，的感覺，我的所有創造力的源頭。我在這些年喪失的創造力，現在又像噴泉一樣湧現了。我就像是坐在噴泉上面，坐在創造力的源頭上面！

Catherine：我的老天啊！

Robert：它不是神蹟，不是說忽然之間就有一個神開啟了一個管道，然後灌輸觀念到我的腦袋裡面，或者直接透過我的手寫在筆記本上。我還是需要很努力，才能把它成形。而且眼前有一大堆的工作等著我，這夠我做整個後半輩子了。這不是件

But the raw material is there. It's like I've been driving in traffic and now the lanes are opening up before me and I can *accelerate*. I see whole landscapes—places for the work to go, new techniques, revolutionary possibilities. I'm going to get whole branches of the profession talking to each other. I—I'm sorry, I'm being

rude. How's school?

CATHERINE: (*Taken aback*) Fine.

ROBERT: You're working hard?

CATHERINE: Sure.

ROBERT: Faculty treating you all right?

CATHERINE: Yes. Dad—

ROBERT: Made any friends?

CATHERINE: Of course. I—

ROBERT: Dating?

CATHERINE: Dad, hold on.

ROBERT: No details necessary if you don't want to provide them. I'm just interested.

CATHERINE: School's great. I want to talk about what you're doing.

ROBERT: Great, let's talk.

CATHERINE: This work.

容易的事。但是我發現素材已經在這兒了。就好像我們本來塞在車陣裡面，忽然間，前面的整條車道全部都空了，所以我就可以加速向前衝，然後我看到整個全貌，看得出來有哪些工作有待完成，有哪些技術用的上，及革命性的突破，這我全部都看得出來。對不起，我現在只顧著說我自己了。妳在學校過得怎麼樣了？

Catherine：【因話題的轉移而愣住】還好啊。

Robert：妳很用功嗎？

Catherine 當然！

Robert：老師對妳好不好？

Catherine 好啊！爸爸...

Robert：那妳有沒有交朋友？

Catherine 當然有啦！我...

Robert：開始約會了沒？

Catherine：爸，你先不要問了。

Robert：如果妳不想說細節也沒關係，我只是好奇。

Catherine：我在學校很好。但是我現在想要談談你做的事情。

Robert：太好了。那我們就談吧。

Catherine：這個研究。

ROBERT: Yes.

CATHERINE: (Indicating the notebooks) *IS IT HERE?*

ROBERT: Part of it, yes.

CATHERINE: Can I see it?

ROBERT: It's all at a very early stage.

CATHERINE: I don't mind.

ROBERT: Nothing's actually complete, to be honest. It's all
in progress. I think we're talking years.

CATHERINE: That's okay. I don't care. Just let me see
anything.

ROBERT: You really want to?

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: You're genuinely interested.

CATHERINE: Dad, of course!

ROBERT: Of course. It's your field.

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: You know how happy that makes me.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: Yes.

ROBERT: I think there's enough here to keep me working
the rest of my life. Not just me. I was starting to
imagine I was finished, Catherine. Really finished.

Robert：嗯。

Catherine：【指著那一疊筆記本】都寫在裡面了嗎？

Robert：一部份是寫在裡面了。

Catherine：我可以看看嗎？

Robert：都還在很初期的草稿階段。

Catherine：無所謂啊。

Robert：老實告訴妳，都還沒有真正寫完整的，都還在進行中，剛剛我說了嘛，還要好幾年的時間才能夠完成。

Catherine：沒關係，我不在乎，就讓我看一點東西嘛。

Robert：妳真的想看嗎？

Catherine：是啊！

Robert：看來妳真的很有興趣。

Catherine：爸，當然啦！我很想看。

Robert：是啊，這也是妳的領域。

Catherine：嗯。

Robert：所以，妳會明白這讓我多高興啊。

【停頓】

Catherine：嗯。

Robert：我想，這裡的東西夠我花後半輩子的時間去做。還不只是我。曾經有一段時間，我開始想像我已經完了，Catherine，那種真正『完了』的感覺。

Don't get me wrong, I was grateful I could go to my office, have a life, but secretly I was terrified I'd never work again. Did you know that?

CATHERINE: I wondered.

ROBERT: I was absolutely fucking terrified. Then I remembered something and a part of the terror went away. I remembered you.

Your creative years were just beginning. You'd get your degree, do your own work. You were just getting started. If you hadn't gone into math, that would have been all right. Claire's done well for herself. I'm satisfied with her.

I'm proud of you.

I don't mean to embarrass you. It's part of the reason we have children. We hope they'll survive us, accomplish what we can't.

Now that I'm back in the game I admit I've got another idea, a better one.

CATHERINE: What?

ROBERT: I know you've got your own work. I don't want you to neglect that. You can't neglect it. But I could probably use some help. Work with me. If you want to, if you can work it out with your class schedule and everything else, I could help you with that, make some calls, talk to your teachers . . .

I'm getting ahead of myself.

別誤會我的意思；雖然我很高興我還可以回到研究室，可以有一個好的生活，但是私底下我真的很害怕自己再也不能工作了。妳知道嗎？

Catherine：我猜想也是。

Robert：我真他媽的嚇壞了，但當我想起妳的時候，就不再那麼恐懼。妳的創造力在妳這個年齡才剛剛開始。妳會拿學位，做妳的數學。

就算妳當初沒有讀數學，對我來說也可以接受，當然我更高興就是妳也讀了數學。像妳姊姊，她過得蠻好的，我對她也頗滿意。但是對妳，我是真的覺得很驕傲。我不是故意要糗妳，其實，這也就是為什麼我們想要有孩子，想要孩子替我們活下去，完成我們來不及完成的工作。

現在，既然我又可以回到圈子裡了，老實說我有另一個主意，一個更好的主意。

Catherine：什麼主意啊？

Robert：我知道妳在西北大學有自己的進度，也不希望妳荒廢學業。妳不會荒廢的。但是我也許能幫點忙。跟我合作吧，如果妳願意，如果可以從功課跟其他事情擠一點時間出來。我可以幫打幾通電話，跟妳的教授說一說…。

你看，我又扯遠了。

Well, Jesus, look, enough bullshit. You asked to see something. Let's start with this. I've roughed something out. General outline for a proof. Major result. Important.

It's not finished but you can see where it's going.

Let's see. (*He selects a notebook.*) Here. (*He gives it to*

CATHERINE. *She opens it and reads.*) It's very rough.

(After a long moment CATHERINE closes the notebook. A beat. She sits down next to ROBERT.)

CATHERINE: Dad. Let's go inside.

ROBERT: The gaps might make it hard to follow. We can talk it through.

CATHERINE: You're cold. Let's go in.

ROBERT: Maybe we could work on this together. This might be a great place to start. What about it? What do you think? Let's talk it through.

CATHERINE: Not now. I'm cold too. It's really freezing out here. Let's go inside.

ROBERT: I'm telling you it's stifling in there, goddamn it. The radiators. Look, read out the first couple of lines. That's how we start: you read, and we go line by line, out loud, through the argument. See if there's a better way, a shorter way. Let's collaborate.

CATHERINE: No. Come on.

好了好了，不說這麼多廢話了。妳要看看我寫的東西，這就來吧！我草擬了一個東西，就是證明大綱啦！一個很重要的結果，非常非常重要！雖然還沒完成，但是妳可以看得出來方向。你看，【他揀了一本筆記本出來】這裡，【他將筆記本交給 Catherine，她打開來讀】還很粗略。

【讀了好一陣子，Catherine 閣上了筆記本。停頓一下，她坐在 Robert 的身邊。】

Catherine：爸，我們進屋裡去吧。

Robert：我的思路跳得很快，妳大概跟不上，但是我可以帶妳讀過去。

Catherine：爸，你會冷的，我們還是進屋裡去吧！

Robert：就這樣子好了，我們從這裡開始合作。這是個了不起的開始。這東西怎樣？妳有什麼想法？我們把它做出來吧。

Catherine：爸，下次吧，我也冷了。這裡冷死了，我們先進去吧。

Robert：我不是告訴妳裡面悶死了嗎？那個爛暖爐。就一下子嘛，妳大聲唸出來前幾行。我們就這樣開始，妳大聲，我們一行一行，唸出來，檢討看看，有沒有更簡單的，更短的路子。我們合作。

Catherine：不要。走啦！

ROBERT: I've been waiting years for this. This is something I want to do. Come on, let's do some work together.

CATHERINE: We can't do it out here. It's freezing cold. I'm taking you in.

ROBERT: NOT UNTIL WE talk about the proof.

CATHERINE: No.

ROBERT: Goddamnit, Catherine, open the goddamn book and read me the lines.

(Beat. *CATHERINE* opens the book. She reads slowly, without inflection.)

CATHERINE: "Let X equal the quantity of all quantities of X. Let X equal the cold. It is cold in December. The months of cold equal November through February. There are four months of cold and four of heat, leaving four months of indeterminate temperature. In February it snows. In March the lake is a lake of ice. In September the students come back and the bookstores are full. Let X equal the month of full bookstores. The number of books approaches infinity as the number of months of cold approaches four. I will never be as cold now as I will in the future. The future of cold is infinite. The future of heat is the future of cold. The bookstores are infinite and so are never full except in September." (She stops reading and slowly closes the book. *ROBERT* is shivering uncontrollably. She puts her arms around him and helps him to his feet.)

Robert：我已經等這一刻好幾年了。這是我盼望的。
來嘛，跟我一起做數學。

Catherine：我們不要在這外面做嘛！冷得要死。我要帶你進去了。

Robert：妳不跟我好好的把這個證明讀一遍，我就不進去。

Catherine：不要。

Robert：混帳，Catherine，妳給我打開來，唸！

【停頓。Catherine 於是打開了筆記本，緩慢地、平板地唸。】

Catherine：『令 x 等於 x 所有數量的數量，令 x 等於冷，在十二月是冷天，冷的月份等於十一月到二月，一年有四個寒冷月份跟四個炎熱月份，剩下的四個尚未決定溫度的月份。二月下雪，三月的湖是一整湖的冰，九月學生都回來塞滿了書店。令 x 等於書店塞滿人的日子，當冷的月份趨近於四的時候，書的數量趨近無窮大。在將來，永遠不會比現在更冷，所以將來的冷是無窮大。將來的冷就等於將來的熱，書店是無窮的，所以永遠不會塞滿，除非在九月。』

【她讀到這裡停下來，緩緩地閤上筆記本。Robert 止不住地顫抖著。她摟住了父親，撐著他站起來。】

CATHERINE: It's all right. We'll go inside.

ROBERT: I'm cold.

CATHERINE: We'll warm you up.

ROBERT: Don't leave. Please.

CATHERINE: I won't. Let's go inside.

(fade)

Catherine：沒關係，好了，我們進去吧。

Robert：好冷喔，我真的覺得好冷喔。

Catherine：沒關係，我抱著你，我會讓你暖和起來。

Robert：妳能不能今天不要走？拜託。

Catherine：不會，我不會再走了。來，我們進去吧。

(燈光漸暗)

Act Two

Scene 5

The present. A week after the events in Scene 3. *CLAIRE* on the porch. Coffee in takeout cups, *CLAIRE* takes a plane ticket out of her purse, checks the itinerary. A moment.

CATHERINE enters with bags for travel. *CLAIRE* gives her a cup of coffee. *CATHERINE* drinks in silence. Beat.

CATHERINE: Good coffee.

CLAIRE: It's all right, isn't it? (*Beat.*) We have a place where we buy all our coffee. They roast it themselves, they have an old roaster down in the basement. You can smell it on the street. Some mornings you can smell it from our place, four stories up. It's wonderful. "Manhattan's Best": some magazine wrote it up. Who knows. But it is very good.

CATHERINE: Sounds good.

CLAIRE: You'll like it.

CATHERINE: Good.

(*Beat.*)

CLAIRE: You look nice.

CATHERINE: Thanks, so do you.

(*Beat.*)

CLAIRE: It's bright.

【第二幕·第五景】

時間拉回現在，第三景之後一個禮拜。Claire 在陽台上，喝著外帶杯裡的咖啡，從皮包裡拿出機票，查看行程。不久 Catherine 提著一個旅行袋出到陽台。Claire 遞給她一杯咖啡，Catherine 靜靜地喝著。停頓。

Catherine：這咖啡不錯。

Claire：還真是不錯。【停頓】我們在紐約那兒都固定到一個地方買咖啡，他們在地下室有一個機器，專門烘烤咖啡豆，在街上就聞得到味道。有時候早上起來，從四樓都能聞到香味，不是很美妙嗎？雜誌上甚至都寫它是曼哈頓最好的。誰知道啊！反正是蠻好喝的。

Catherine：聽起來不錯。

Claire：你一定會喜歡的。

Catherine：是啊。

【停頓】

Claire：你今天氣色不錯。

Catherine：謝啦！你也是！

【停頓】

Claire：這個陽光真好。

CATHERINE: Yes.

CLAIRE: It's one of the things I do miss. All the space, the light. You could sit out here all morning.

CATHERINE: It's not that warm.

CLAIRE: Are you cold?

CATHERINE: Not really. I just—

CLAIRE: It has gotten chilly. I'm sorry. Do you want to go in?

CATHERINE: I'm okay.

CLAIRE: I just thought it might be nice to have a quick cup of coffee out here.

CATHERINE: No, it is.

CLAIRE: Plus the kitchen's all put away. If you're cold—

CATHERINE: I'm not. Not really.

CLAIRE: Want your jacket?

CATHERINE: YEAH, OKAY.

(CLAIRE gives it to her. She puts it on.)

Thanks.

CLAIRE: It's that time of year.

CATHERINE: Yes. You can feel it coming.

(Beat. She stares out at the yard.)

CLAIRE: Honey, there's no hurry.

Catherine：是啊。

Claire：就是這個光線我最懷念了，整個空間加上這麼棒的光線，妳可以在這裡坐一早上。

Catherine：對，也不會那麼熱。

Claire：你覺得冷嗎？

Catherine：沒有啦！我只是……

Claire：天已經開始涼了。對不起，妳要不要進去？

Catherine：我還好。

Claire：我只是覺得，在這外面簡單喝個咖啡，還蠻不錯的。

Catherine：是啊！是很不錯。

Claire：再加上廚房的東西都已經搬走了。如果妳覺得冷…

Catherine：不會。不算冷。

Claire：要穿個外套嗎？

Catherine：嗯。也好。【Claire 將外套交給她。她穿上。】
謝謝。

Claire：你看，這個時候的天氣就是這樣。

Catherine：是啊，你可以感覺冬天正在過來。

【停頓。她凝視著後院。】

Claire：親愛的妹妹，我們不趕時間。

【譯注：Catherine 顯出不捨，姊姊安慰她可以多待一會兒】

CATHERINE: I know.

CLAIRE: If you want to hang out, be alone for a while—

CATHERINE: No. It's no big deal.

CLAIRE: We don't have to leave for twenty minutes or so.

CATHERINE: I know. Thanks, Claire.

CLAIRE: You're all packed.

CATHERINE: YES.

CLAIRE: If you missed anything it doesn't really matter.

The movers will send us everything next month.

(*CATHERINE doesn't move. Beat.*) I know this is hard.

CATHERINE: It's fine.

CLAIRE: This is the right decision.

CATHERINE: I know . . .

CLAIRE: I want to do everything I can to make this a smooth transition for you. So does Mitch.

CATHERINE: Good.

CLAIRE: The actual departure is the hardest part. Once we get there we can relax. Enjoy ourselves.

CATHERINE: I know.

(*Beat.*)

CLAIRE: You'll love New York.

CATHERINE: I can't wait.

Catherine：我知道。

Claire：如果妳想單獨留在這裡靜一會兒的話…

Catherine：不用，沒什麼大不了。

Claire：其實我們不急，還有二十分鐘左右。

Catherine：我知道啦！謝謝妳老姊。

Claire：妳都打包好了。

Catherine：是的。

Claire：如果真的忘記了什麼東西也沒什麼關係，下個月搬家公司就會幫我們送來的。【Catherine 一動也不動。停頓】我知道，妳不太想離開這裡。

Catherine：還好啦。

Claire：但是我們一起去紐約是一個對的決定。

Catherine：我知道……

Claire：我會盡我所能地讓妳這段過渡時期好過一些，Mitch 也是。

Catherine：喔。

Claire：其實要離家的第一步是最困難的，但是我們到那邊之後就可以輕鬆點了，好好享受一下。

Catherine：對，我知道。

【停頓】

Claire：妳一定會愛死紐約的。

Catherine：是啊，我很想看看紐約。

CLAIRE: You'll love it. It's the most exciting city.

CATHERINE: I know.

CLAIRE: It's not like Chicago, it's really alive.

CATHERINE: I've read about that.

CLAIRE: I think you'll truly feel at home there.

CATHERINE: You know what I'm looking forward to?

CLAIRE: What?

CATHERINE: Seeing Broadway musicals.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: Mitch can get us tickets to whatever you'd like.

CATHERINE: And Rockefeller Center in winter—all the skaters!

CLAIRE: Well, you—

CATHERINE: Also, the many fine museums!

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: I know how hard this is for you.

CATHERINE: Listening to you say how hard it is for me is what's hard for me.

CLAIRE: Once you're there you'll see all the possibilities that are available.

Claire：妳一定會愛上它的，它是最刺激的城市。

Catherine：我知道。

Claire：不像芝加哥那麼了無生氣。

Catherine：我讀過不少有關紐約的消息。

Claire：妳一定會喜歡它的，就像在自己家一樣。

Catherine：妳知道我期待什麼嗎？

Claire：什麼呢？

Catherine：當然是要看看百老匯的音樂劇囉。

【停頓】

Claire：沒問題，妳想看什麼，Mitch 都會幫我們買到票的。

Catherine：還有冬天的洛克菲勒中心，那些溜冰的人們。

Claire：是啊，妳……

Catherine：當然還有那麼多超棒的博物館。

【停頓】

Claire：我知道離開這裡對妳來說有多麼困難。

Catherine：別這樣說，聽妳這樣說才是最難過的事。

Claire：等我們到了紐約妳就知道了，妳可以做很多事，有很多機會等著妳。

CATHERINE: Restraints, lithium, electroshock.

CLAIRE: *Schools*. In the New York area alone there's NYU, Columbia—

CATHERINE: Bright college days! Football games, road trips, necking on the “quad.”

CLAIRE: Or if that's not what you want we can help you find a job. Mitch has terrific contacts all over town.

CATHERINE: Does he know anyone in the phone-sex industry?

CLAIRE: I want to make this as easy a transition as I can.

CATHERINE: It's going to be *easy*, Claire, it's gonna be so fucking easy you won't believe it.

CLAIRE: Thank you.

CATHERINE: I'm going to sit quietly on the plane to New York. And live quietly in a cute apartment. And answer Dr. Von Heimlich's questions very politely.

CLAIRE: You can see any doctor you like, or you can see no doctor.

CATHERINE: I would like to see a doctor called Dr. Von Heimlich: please find one. And I would like him to wear a monocle. And I'd like him to have a very soft, very well-upholstered couch, so that I'll be perfectly comfortable while I'm blaming everything on you.

Catherine：有束縛衣、化療、電擊等等。

【譯注：Catherine 冷諷指的是治療精神疾病之種種方法】

Claire：我說的是學校。紐約有很多名校，紐約大學，哥倫比亞...

Catherine：光鮮的大學生活！美式足球隊啦，出遊啦，草坪上的親熱啦。

Claire：或者你對上學沒興趣，那我們可以幫妳找個工作啊！Mitch 有很多人脈的。

Catherine：他在色情電話那一行認識些人吧？

【譯注：Catherine 自諷數學不算就業能力，只能進色情業】

Claire：我真的會盡力幫妳渡過這個階段。

Catherine：妳不用操那麼多心，我的老姐啊！一定會很容易的，容易到妳他媽的都不敢相信。

Claire：謝謝妳。

Catherine：我會乖乖坐上飛機上的，一路飛到紐約。我也會乖乖跟你們一起住在那個可愛的公寓裡。我還會禮貌地回答 Von Heimlich 醫師問我的問題。

Claire：看哪個醫生都行，或者妳不看醫生也 OK。

Catherine：我要一位名叫 Von Heimlich 的醫師，幫我找一個吧！他最好戴著單鏡片，並有張非常柔軟、皮質非常好的沙發，好讓我舒舒服服躺著，跟他說一切的錯都該怪妳。

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: Don't come.

CATHERINE: No, I'm coming.

CLAIRE: Stay here, see how you do.

CATHERINE: I could.

CLAIRE: You can't take care of yourself for *five days*.

CATHERINE: Bullshit!

CLAIRE: You *slept all week*. I had to cancel my flight. I missed a week of work—I was this close to taking you to the hospital! I couldn't believe it when you finally dragged yourself up.

CATHERINE: I was tired!

CLAIRE: You were completely out of it, Catherine, you weren't speaking!

CATHERINE: I didn't want to talk to you.

(Beat.)

CLAIRE: Stay here if you hate me so much.

CATHERINE: And do what?

CLAIRE: You're the genius, figure it out.

(*CLAIRE* is upset, near tears. She digs in her bag, pulls out a plane ticket, throws it on the table. She exits. *CATHERINE* is alone. She can't quite bring herself to leave the porch. A moment. *HAL* enters—not through the house, from the side. He is badly dressed and looks very tired. He is breathless from running.)

【停頓】

Claire：那妳還是別來算了。

Catherine：不，我跟定妳了。

Claire：妳還是待在這邊吧！看妳怎麼過活！

Catherine：我可以的。

Claire：過去這五天來妳根本無法照顧自己。

Catherine：屁啦！

Claire：妳睡了整個星期，我得取消班機，班也上不成。我就差那麼一點點，就要把妳送到醫院去了，到最後妳終於自己爬起來了。

Catherine：我只是累壞了。

Claire：妳根本就是神智不清，Catherine，而且妳也不講話。

Catherine：我不想跟妳說話。

Claire：好！那妳就留在這兒，如果妳這麼恨我的話。

Catherine：我留在這裡要做什麼呢？

Claire：妳不是天才嗎，妳自己想辦法。

【Claire 氣得快哭了，她從包包裡掏出一張飛機票，丟在桌上就離開了。Catherine 獨自一個人，實在無法離開這個陽台。Hal 這時入場——並非從房子的後門，而是從圍欄爬進來。他穿著繻巴巴的衣服，看起來很累。他因為跑過來而喘得上氣不接下氣。】

HAL: You're still here. (CATHERINE *is surprised. She doesn't speak.*) I saw Claire leaving out front. I wasn't sure if you— (He holds up the notebook.) This fucking thing . . . checks out.

I have been over it, *twice*, with two different sets of guys, old geeks *and* young geeks. It is *weird*. I don't know where the techniques came from. Some of the moves are very hard to follow. But we can't find anything wrong with it! There might be something wrong with it but we can't find it. I have not slept. (He catches his breath.) It works. I thought you might want to know.

CATHERINE: I already knew.

(Beat.)

HAL: I had to swear these guys to secrecy. They were jumping out of their skins. See, one e-mail and it's all over. I threatened them. I think we're safe, they're physical cowards. (Beat.) I had to see you.

CATHERINE: I'm leaving.

HAL: I know. Just wait for a minute, please?

CATHERINE: What do you want? You have the book. She told me you came by for it and she gave it to you. You can do whatever you want with it. Publish it.

Hal：妳還在這裡。【Catherine 顯出訝異，不發一語】我剛剛在前面看見 Claire 出去，我不確定妳…【拿起筆記本】這個鬼東西…沒問題了。

我跟兩組人從頭到尾檢查了兩次，一組資深的還有一組年輕的傢伙。真的很奇怪，我不知道這些技巧是從哪裡冒出來，有一些地方還蠻難懂的。但我們找不到任何破綻。當然啦，說不定裡面還是有錯，我們檢查不出來就是了。我都沒睡。

【他喘口氣】這個證明會成立，我想妳會想知道。

Catherine：我早就知道了。

【停頓】

Hal：我硬是讓那些傢伙發了保密的誓。他們急的跳腳呢！看，只要一封 e-mail 傳出去就完了。我威脅了他們。我們應該還安全吧，他們實際上都是膽小鬼。【停頓】我得見妳一面。

Catherine：我要走了。

Hal：我知道。求求妳，等一下。

Catherine：你還想要什麼？你有了這本筆記本，我姊姊說你特地跑回來拿，而她也給了你。你愛做什麼就做什麼。拿去發表啊！

HAL: Catherine.

CATHERINE: Get Claire's permission and publish it. She doesn't care. She doesn't know anything about it anyway.

HAL: I don't want Claire's permission.

CATHERINE: You want mine? Publish. Go for it. Have a press conference. Tell the world what my father discovered.

HAL: I don't want to.

CATHERINE: Or fuck my father, pass it off as your own work. Who cares? Write your own ticket to any math department in the country.

HAL: I don't think your father wrote it.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: You thought so last week.

HAL: That was last week. I spent this week reading the proof. I think I understand it, more or less. It uses a lot of newer mathematical techniques, things that were developed in the last decade. Elliptic curves. Modular forms. I think I learned more mathematics this week than I did in four years of grad school.

CATHERINE: So?

HAL: So the proof is very . . . hip.

CATHERINE: Get some sleep, Hal.

HAL: What was your father doing the last ten years?

Hal：Catherine。

Catherine：只要得到我姊姊同意，你就可以發表了。
她不在乎。反正她根本什麼不懂！

Hal：我不想要 Claire 的同意啊！

Catherine：那難道是要我的同意不成？你就發表吧，
開個記者會告訴全世界的人，我父親偉大的發現。

Hal：我不是要這樣做的。

Catherine：那你是要怎麼做？你乾脆說這個證明是你
自己的作品算了。誰在乎？給自己開一張直達全
世界任何一個數學系的通行證。

Hal：這應該不是妳父親寫的。

【停頓】

Catherine：上禮拜你還這麼認為。

Hal：那是上禮拜，我花了整個星期讀這個證明。我
想我多多少少看懂了，它用了一些最近十年才發
展出來的數學新技術，像橢圓曲線，基模式。我
這個禮拜學到的數學，比過去四年在博士班學的
還多呢。

Catherine：所以？

Hal：所以這個證明是很…很屌的。

Catherine：回去睡點覺吧，Hal。

Hal：過去這十年來，妳父親的狀況怎麼樣？

He wasn't well, was he?

CATHERINE: Are you done?

HAL: I don't think he would have been able to master those new techniques.

CATHERINE: But he was a genius.

HAL: But he was nuts.

CATHERINE: So he read about them later.

HAL: Maybe. The books he would have needed are upstairs. *(Beat.)*

Your dad dated everything. Even his most incoherent entries he dated. There are no dates in this.

CATHERINE: The handwriting—

HAL: —looks like your dad's. Parents and children sometimes have similar handwriting, especially if they've spent a lot of time together.

(Beat.)

CATHERINE: Interesting theory.

HAL: I like it.

CATHERINE: I like it too. It's what I told you last week.

HAL: I know.

CATHERINE: You blew it.

HAL: I—

他不怎麼好，對吧？

Catherine：你到底說完了沒有？

Hal：我想他應該沒辦法掌握那些新的技術。

Catherine：但是他是天才。

Hal：但是他也是個瘋子。

Catherine：有可能他後來讀到那些。

Hal：有可能。但是他有可能用到的筆記本全在樓上。

【停頓】妳父親習慣在筆記本上記下日期，就連他那些最亂七八糟的東西，也會寫上日期。而這一本沒有日期。

Catherine：而筆跡一

Hal：筆跡像是妳父親的。子女和父母的筆跡經常相似，尤其發生在長年生活在一起的情況。

【停頓】

Catherine：這倒是個有趣的理論。

Hal：我喜歡。

Catherine：我也喜歡。這就是上禮拜我告訴你的。

Hal：我現在知道了。

Catherine：可是你已經搞砸了。

Hal：我……

CATHERINE: It's too bad, the rest of it was really good. All of it: "I loved your dad." "I always liked you." "I'd like to spend every minute with you . . ." It's killer stuff.

You got laid *and* you got the notebook! You're a genius!

HAL: You're giving me way too much credit. (*Beat.*) I don't expect you to be happy with me, I just wanted... I don't know. I was hoping to discuss some of this with you before you left. Purely professional. I don't expect anything else.

CATHERINE: Forget it.

HAL: I mean we have questions. Working on this must have been amazing. I'd love just to hear you talk about some of it.

CATHERINE: NO.

HAL: You'll have to deal with it eventually, you know. You can't ignore it, you'll have to get it published. You'll have to talk to someone.

Take it, at least. Then I'll go. Here.

CATHERINE: I don't want it.

HAL: Come on, Catherine. I'm trying to correct things.

CATHERINE: You *can't*. Do you hear me? You think you've figured something out? You run over here so pleased with yourself because you changed your mind. Now you're certain. You're so . . . *sloppy*. You don't know anything.

Catherine：真可惜，除此以外你表現得都不錯。什麼『我敬愛妳父親』啦，『我永遠喜歡妳』啦，『我寧願時時刻刻跟妳在一起』啦，真是把妹高手。你不但和我上了床，還拿到了筆記本。真是個天才！

Hal：你這樣講真是太抬舉我了。【停頓】我並不奢望妳還喜歡我，我只是想…不知道，只是希望在妳走之前，可以和妳討論這些東西。純粹專業上的，沒有其他的奢求。

Catherine：門兒都沒有。

Hal：我是說我們還有一些疑問。做這個證明一定是個玄妙的經驗。我很想聽妳說說這個證明。

Catherine：不可能。

Hal：最終妳還是要處理這件事情，對吧。妳不可能把它丟在一邊不管，終究還是要發表。妳還是得和別人討論的。拿去吧，至少。那我要走了。諾。

Catherine：我不要了。

Hal：別這樣，Catherine。讓我彌補一下。

Catherine：彌補不了了，你懂嗎？你認為你搞懂什麼了是嗎？你自我感覺良好的跑來這裡，是因為你改變主意了。你現在確定了，你實在是太…太隨便了你。你們根本什麼都不知道。

The book, the math, the dates, the writing, all that stuff you decided with your buddies, it's just evidence. It doesn't finish the job. It doesn't prove anything.

HAL : Okay, what would?

CATHERINE: *Nothing.* You should have trusted me,
(Beat.)

HAL: I know. (*Beat.* CATHERINE *gathers her things.*) So
Claire sold the house?

CATHERINE: Yes.

HAL: Stay in Chicago. You're an adult.

CATHERINE: She wants me in New York. She wants to
look after me.

HAL: Do you need looking after?

CATHERINE: She thinks I do.

HAL: You looked after your dad for five years.

CATHERINE: So maybe it's my turn. I kick and scream, but
I don't know. Being taken care of, it doesn't sound so bad.
I'm tired. And the house is a wreck, let's face it. It was
my dad's house . . .

(Beat.)

HAL: Nice house.

CATHERINE: It's old.

HAL: I guess.

CATHERINE: It's drafty as hell. The winters are rough.

筆記本，數學新技巧，日期，筆跡，所有那些你跟那群哥兒們討論出來的東西，全都只是證據。那根本不能解決問題，什麼也不能證明。

Hal：好吧，那什麼才能解決問題？

Catherine：沒別的。你當初就該信任我。

【停頓】

Hal：我知道。【停頓。Catherine 拿起她的行李】所以 Claire 已經賣了房子？

Catherine：是的。

Hal：留在芝加哥吧，妳也是成人了。

Catherine：她要我住在紐約，她要照顧我。

Hal：妳需要被照顧嗎？

Catherine：她認為我需要。

Hal：可是妳照顧父親五年了耶。

Catherine：所以囉！大概現在輪到我了。輪到我又踢又叫，誰知道呢。讓人照顧，聽起來也不錯！我累了，反正這房子破舊不堪，而且又是我爸的…

【停頓】

Hal：這房子不錯啊。

Catherine：它很老了。

Hal：看的出來。

Catherine：它太通風了，冬天冷得要命。

HAL: That's just Chicago.

CATHERINE: Either it's freezing inside, or the steam's on full-blast and you're stifling.

HAL: I don't mind cold weather. Keeps you alert.

CATHERINE: Wait a few years.

HAL: I've lived here all my life.

CATHERINE: Yeah?

HAL: Sure. Just like you.

CATHERINE: Still. I don't think I should spend another winter here.

(Beat.)

HAL: There is nothing wrong with you.

CATHERINE: I think I'm like my dad.

HAL: I think you are too.

CATHERINE: I'm . . . *afraid* I'm like my dad.

HAL: You're not him.

CATHERINE: Maybe I will be.

HAL : Maybe. Maybe you'll be better.

(Pause. *HAL* hands her the book. This time *CATHERINE* takes it. She sits. She looks down at the book, runs her fingers over the cover.)

CATHERINE: It didn't feel "amazing" or—what word did you use?

HAL: Yeah, amazing.

Hal：這就是芝加哥啊！

Catherine：房子裡不是冷得要命，就是暖氣的火力全開，熱得讓你要窒息。

Hal：我倒不介意冬天的冷，腦袋比較清楚。

Catherine：多住幾年你就不會這樣說了。

Hal：其實我一輩子都住這裡。

Catherine：真的嗎？

Hal：真的。跟妳一樣。

Catherine：反正我已經決定不在這裡再過一個冬天了。

【停頓】

Hal：其實妳沒什麼不對的。

Catherine：我想我大概像我爸爸。

Hal：我也是這麼認為。

Catherine：我…我擔心像我爸爸。

Hal：妳不是他。

Catherine：或許我會像他一樣精神錯亂！

Hal：或許。或許妳會比較好。

【停頓。Hal 把筆記本遞給 Catherine。這次她接下了，並坐了下來。她垂首看著筆記本，同時用指尖輕畫著封面。】

Catherine：其實我並不覺得……玄妙，你剛剛是這麼說的嗎？

Hal：對，玄妙。

CATHERINE: Yeah. It was just connecting the dots. Some nights I could connect three or four. Some nights they'd be really far apart, I'd have no idea how to get to the next one, if there was a next one.

HAL: He really never knew?

CATHERINE: No. I worked after midnight. He was usually in bed.

HAL: Every night?

CATHERINE: No. When I got stuck I watched TV.

Sometimes if he couldn't sleep he'd come downstairs, sit with me. We'd talk. Not about math, he couldn't. About the movie we were watching. I'd explain the stories.

Or about fixing the heat. Decide we didn't want to. We liked the radiators even though they clanked in the middle of the night, made the air dry.

Or we'd plan breakfast, talk about what we were gonna eat together in the morning. Those nights were usually pretty good.

I know... it works... But all I can see are the compromises, the approximations, places where it's stitched together. It's lumpy. Dad's stuff was way more elegant. When he was young.

Catherine：嗯。其實就像在玩數字連點拼圖。有些夜晚，我可以一個晚上連上三、四個點，有時候它們又全然地支離破碎，我完全不知道該怎麼連下去，或甚至是否還有辦法連接到下一個點。

Hal：你的父親真的不知道你在做證明嗎？

Catherine：他不知道，我都是半夜工作的，那個時候他都在床上。

Hal：每天晚上嗎？

Catherine：也不是，總是有想不通的時候，我就看看電視，有時候父親也會睡不著，他也會下來跟我坐一塊兒，我們會聊天。當然不是聊數學，他也沒辦法再談數學了。我們會聊聊電影，我會跟他解釋電影的情節。

或者我們又聊著說要修暖氣，卻總又決定不修它。就算它在半夜裡霹哩啪拉作響，讓空氣過分乾燥，我們也都挺喜歡的。

或者我們會計畫早餐要吃什麼，現在想起來那些時光還真的蠻好的。

我知道這個證明基本上是對的，但是裡面還有些蒙混、不精確、東拼西湊的地方。頗粗糙的，不像爸爸，他的證明超優雅的。當然我是指爸爸年輕的時候。

(Beat.)

HAL: Talk me through it? Whatever's bothering you.

Maybe you'll improve it.

CATHERINE: I don't know . . .

HAL: Pick anything. Give it a shot? Maybe you'll discover something elegant.

(A moment. *HAL* sits next to *CATHERINE*. Eventually she opens the book, turns the pages slowly, finding a section. She looks at him.)

CATHERINE: HERE.

(She begins to speak.)

Curtain

【停頓】

Hal：妳想現在跟我討論看看嗎？看看有哪邊是比較麻煩的地方，我們說不定可以一起把它研究出來。

Catherine：我也不太確定...

Hal：就隨便挑一個地方開始，來，我們試一試吧！或許妳會發現更優雅的證明。

【這時 Catherine 跟 Hal 是完全平靜下來了，Catherine 打開筆記本，慢慢翻頁，找到一個段落。她看著他。】

Catherine：從這裡開始吧！

【她開始說明】

落幕