

In-Sanity: a peculiar love story

by Phillip W. Weiss

**Phil's Literary Works LLC
19 West 34th Street
Penthouse
New York, NY 10001
www.philsliteraryworks.com
pwnycny@aol.com
212-388-8690**

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This is a one-act play consisting of six scenes.

The story is set in New York City.

Characters

Victor Dennerman

Eugene Losofsky

Yvette

Dr. Kara Kornbluth

A bouncer

This play is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to any person, living or dead, or any place, past or present, is purely coincidental and entirely unintentional.

Scene 1

Time: 1994

Place: An apartment in Brooklyn, New York

Two men, Victor Dennerman and Eugene Losofsky, both in their early-forties, are having a discussion.

EUGENE

I called her up and she won't talk to me. What the hell happened? We really had something going.

VICTOR

These things happen.

EUGENE

These things happen? That's not telling me anything. You were there when we met. We hit it off immediately and now all of a sudden the brush off. I'm baffled.

VICTOR

Maybe she met somebody.

EUGENE

No way. We've been seeing a lot of each other

VICTOR

Ah, forget about it. You know that these women are sluts.

EUGENE

I can't forget about. I really liked her. Man, I was thinking about asking her to go to California with me.

VICTOR

Really? You just met her.

EUGENE

Oh, shut up. You don't know what you're talking about

Pause

VICTOR

(takes a deep breath)

Listen, Eugene, I think I know what happened.

EUGENE

You do?

VICTOR

Yes, I do.

EUGENE

Okay. Then let me in on the secret.

Victor takes a long deep breath.

VICTOR

Uh, this is kind of hard for me.

EUGENE

Hard for you?

VICTOR

Okay, look, I fucked Renee.

Eugene says nothing. He is stunned.

EUGENE

When?

VICTOR

Two nights ago.

EUGENE

No way. You got to be joking.

VICTOR

No joke. I gave her call and she came over and I fucked her.

Eugene is beginning to feel shock.

EUGENE

Prove it.

VICTOR

She has a small birth mark on her crotch.

EUGENE

(speaking slowly, the truth sinking in)

I can't believe it. You knew how I felt about her.

VICTOR

(laughing)

What are you talking about? She wanted to fuck. She was just a lay.

EUGENE

(bitter)

You rained on my parade.

VICTOR

(still laughing)

Come on, I didn't rain on anybody's parade. I only got laid. So what?

EUGENE

You went behind my back, that's what you did, and fucked up my relationship.

VICTOR

What relationship?

EUGENE

You knew I was seeing her.

VICTOR

I just wanted to fuck.

.

EUGENE

She was my girl, not yours! You know she has problems

VICTOR

Wait a minute. She was nobody's girl.

EUGENE

You're some friend.

VICTOR

Get off your high horse already. C'mon, let's go for a drink.

EUGENE

(sarcastic, bitter laugh)

Look who's talking about getting off their high horse. You're riding real high, at my expense. I bet the two of you had a jolly good time laughing at me behind my back.

VICTOR

Actually we never talked about you, not once. I fucked her and she left.

EUGENE

Yeah, right.

Eugene picks up the phone and dials a number.

EUGENE

Hello. ... Renee? ... Yes, this is Eugene. I'm with Victor right now. ... HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME? ... YOU SLUT, YOU FUCKING WHORE ... I'LL CALL YOU WHATEVER I WANT ... CALL THE POLICE? ... GO RIGHT AHEAD YOU FUCKING TRAMP.

Eugene slams down the phone on the receiver.

EUGENE

(to Victor)

You are a piece of crap. What the fuck possessed you to do this? I ought to shove this phone down your throat.

VICTOR

Hold on now. I think you better can that kind of talk.

EUGENE

(putting on his jacket)

You fool. You stupid fool. You just destroyed our friendship.

Eugene exits, slamming the door hard as he leaves.

End of scene 1

Scene 2

Time: 1997

Place: A singles' dance in midtown Manhattan. Lots of people are milling about. Eugene is talking to a woman named Yvette. He is holding a drink.

EUGENE
Hello.

YVETTE
Hello.

EUGENE
Do you go to many of these dances?

YVETTE
This is the first time I've been to one of these things. How about you?

EUGENE
I've been to a few. *(pause)* What's your name?

YVETTE
Yvette.

EUGENE
My names's Eugene. *(pause)* Where do you live?

YVETTE
In Queens.

EUGENE
I live just a few blocks from here.

YVETTE
Really? Lucky you. I gotta commute every day. I hate it.

EUGENE
What kind of work you do?

YVETTE
I'm a secretary.

EUGENE
Where do you work?

YVETTE
At a bank in midtown. What about you?

EUGENE
What about me what?

YVETTE
What kinda work you do?

EUGENE
I work for the city.

YVETTE
Doing what?

EUGENE
I'm a social worker at City Hospital.

YVETTE
I heard that social work is a hard job.

EUGENE
It's a job; it provides steady employment and pays the bills.

YVETTE
What do you do as a social worker?

EUGENE

I do discharge planning. You know, when a patient is cleared for discharge I make sure that the services they need are in place so they can leave the hospital. *(pause)* You know, you look very attractive.

YVETTE

Thanks.

EUGENE

Maybe we can get together.

YVETTE
(indifferent)

Yeah ... maybe.

Victor enters. He is walking about. Suddenly he sees Eugene.

VICTOR
(yells)

Eugene!

Eugene turns and sees Victor.

EUGENE
(to Yvette)

Oh, no.

YVETTE

What's the problem?

EUGENE

There's a guy here who knows me.

YVETTE

Yeah, so?

EUGENE

He's a first class schmuck.

YVETTE

Well, that ain't saying much.

Victor walks over to Eugene and Yvette. Victor is drunk.

VICTOR

Hey, pal, I haven't seen you in a long time!

EUGENE

So what?

VICTOR

What do you mean, so what? I tried contacting you.

EUGENE

I was busy.

VICTOR

(to Yvette)

You hear that? Busy? A loser like him?

EUGENE

(to Victor)

Why don't you just get lost.

VICTOR

Who's the doll?

EUGENE

None of your business

YVETTE

(to Victor)

My name's Yvette.

VICTOR

(to Yvette)

I'm Victor. Nice to meet you.

EUGENE
(to Victor)

What's wrong with you? Already you're fucking things up. *(to Yvette)* I'm not with this guy. *(to Victor)* Will you please just leave!

VICTOR
Whoa! What's your problem?

EUGENE
(getting angry)
YOU, that's what.

A bouncer enters.

BOUNCER
Any problems here?

VICTOR
Absolutely none, my good man.

EUGENE
Yes, this guy *(gestures toward Victor)* is bothering me and this lady *(points to Yvette)*.

YVETTE
(to Eugene)
Speak for yourself. *(to the bouncer)* Nah, he's not bothering me.

BOUNCER
Look, if I hear anymore yelling, you're all out of here, get it!

EUGENE
I didn't do anything, sir.

BOUNCER
(to Eugene)
I don't want any trouble, okay?

Bouncer exits.

YVETTE
(to Eugene)

I have to go powder my nose.

EUGENE
Why don't you give me your telephone number?

YVETTE
Maybe later. Right now I want to circulate.

Yvette exits.

EUGENE
(to Victor)
Thanks a lot, for nothing.

VICTOR
Whadaya griping about? She's a waste.

EUGENE
You fucked it up for me, as usual.

VICTOR
Don't blame me for striking out. I didn't tell her to leave.

EUGENE
You know, you're evil. And to think that I once thought you were my friend.

VICTOR
I am your friend. You just take yourself too seriously.

EUGENE
You fucked things up for me three years ago and now you want to do it again. Why are you doing this to me?

VICTOR
I'm not doing anything to you. I just want to have a good time.

Yvette returns.

VICTOR
(to Yvette)

Hey, you're back!

YVETTE
(to Victor)

You're very observant. So, what's your story?

VICTOR

I'm just a guy trying to meet someone nice. Excuse me (*Victor reaches inside his jacket and takes out a small bottle of vodka which he pours into his cup*)

YVETTE
(amused)

I see you come prepared.

VICTOR

Yeah, I guess I do. It comes in handy. (to Eugene) What about you? You want a drink?

EUGENE

Why don't you just get out of here.

VICTOR
(laughs)

I'll leave if the lovely lady here will join me. (to Yvette) Let's get outta here and go for a couple of drinks.

YVETTE

I can't. I'm with a friend.

VICTOR

C'mon now. Your friend will understand. Don't she want you to meet a guy?

EUGENE

She said she doesn't want to go with you.

VICTOR
(to Eugene)

Who said that? The only person I've heard say that is you. (to Yvette)
C'mon, this place is a drag. I know a bar a couple of blocks away where we can
get to know each other better.

YVETTE
Okay, but I first have to tell my friend that I'm leaving.

VICTOR
Good. Go tell you friend and then meet me at the door.

Yvette exits.

EUGENE
You selfish fuck. You've fucked me over again.

VICTOR
(scoffing)
No way! I didn't do anything to you. You struck out. It's no big deal. It
happens.

Victor takes out his bottle and drinks what's left.

VICTOR
Mmm, that's good. Well, wish me luck.

Eugene glares at Victor and says nothing. Victor exits.

End of scene 2

Scene 3

Time: 2000

Place: The promenade in Brooklyn Heights.

Eugene is photographing the Manhattan skyline. He's by himself

VICTOR
(off stage)

Hey, Eugene!

Eugene turns. Victor enters, accompanied by Yvette.

VICTOR
(elated)

I haven't seen you in years. Whatchya been up to?

EUGENE
(cool, distant)

Nothing much.

VICTOR

You remember Yvette, don't you?

EUGENE

Kind of.

VICTOR

Whadya mean kind of? You were hot for her!

EUGENE

I don't know what you're talking about.

VICTOR

Sure, you do. Remember when we all met at that dance?

EUGENE

If I correctly recall, it more like you barging in.

VICTOR
(*laughs*)

Ah, so you do remember!

YVETTE
(*to Eugene*)

So, how are you doing Eugene?

EUGENE

Do you really care?

VICTOR
(*laughing*)

Wait a minute! Why the attitude? All she did was ask you a question.

EUGENE

I'm doing okay. Okay?

VICTOR

Great! Guess what? Me and Yvette are getting married.

EUGENE

Okay. Congratulations.

VICTOR

I want you to come to the wedding.

EUGENE

I don't think so.

VICTOR

You don't think so? That's ridiculous. We've been friends for years.

EUGENE

Look, I'm gonna be busy.

You? You're never busy.

VICTOR

Yvette laughs.

Could I talk to you privately?

EUGENE
(to Victor)

What for?

VICTOR

It's personal.

EUGENE

Okay. (to Yvette) Just give me a moment.

VICTOR

Victor and Eugene walk a few feet and stop.

Okay, pal, what's on your mind?

VICTOR

I'm very pissed off at you.

EUGENE

At me? What did I do?

VICTOR

Just stay the hell away from me!

EUGENE
(angry)

Why?

VICTOR

EUGENE

You're ruining my life. First you stole Renee and then you stole Yvette. Enough already.

VICTOR
(surprised)

What are you talking about?

EUGENE

I'm not here on this planet to set you up with women and then show me up, okay?

VICTOR

You didn't set me up with anybody.

EUGENE

Like hell I didn't. I met both of them first, but you didn't care. You just took what you wanted, at my expense. You didn't give a crap about me.

VICTOR

Just because you strike out with women doesn't mean I have to look the other way.

EUGENE

That just shows what kind of guy you are. Just in it for yourself. You're mean. There must be some kind of evil spirit inside you.

VICTOR
(laughs)

Evil spirit? Where'd you get that idea? I think you've been watching too many horror movies. Anyway, the offer stands about you coming to the wedding.

EUGENE

You haven't heard anything I said, have you?

VICTOR

I heard everything you said. Now are you finished?

EUGENE

Yes, I am.

VICTOR

Good.

Victor walks back to Yvette. Eugene turns and resumes taking pictures. Victor and Yvette are exiting, then Victor stops, turns and faces Eugene.

VICTOR
(to Eugene)

Don't forget: we're expecting to see you at the wedding.

Eugene keeps taking pictures. Victor and Yvette exit.

End of scene 3

Scene 4

Time: Three months later

Place: A banquet hall. The room is crowded. Victor and Yvette are mingling with the guests. Then Eugene enters. Victor sees Eugene and walks over to him.

VICTOR
(*elated*)

You made it! I was worried that you wouldn't show.

EUGENE
I wouldn't want to disappoint you now, would I?

VICTOR
Of course not.

Victor calls to Yvette.

VICTOR
Look who's here!

Yvette turns.

YVETTE
Eugene! How nice of you to be here.

Yvette walks over and gives Eugene a quick embrace.

VICTOR
(*to Eugene*)
Some banquet hall, eh?

EUGENE
(*somber*)
Yeah, some banquet hall.

YVETTE
We have a lot good food. Go grab yourself something to eat at the buffet.

EUGENE
In a while. Right now I just want to get a feel of the place.

Yvette gives Eugene a peck on the cheek and returns to the other guests.

VICTOR

Boy, I am so glad you showed up. Between Yvette's relatives and my own lovely family it's been hectic.

EUGENE

I bet it has.

VICTOR

Sometimes I can't believe that this is even happening to me. Boy, did I luck out. Yvette's father wants to make me executive vice president of his company.

EUGENE
(*sarcastic*)

Couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

VICTOR

(*oblivious to Eugene's sarcasm*)

Well, he does. And then he's paying for our honeymoon in the Riviera. If anybody told me that this would happen to me I would have told them they were nuts.

EUGENE

I guess you lucked out.

VICTOR

Enough of me. How are you doing?

EUGENE

Do you really care?

VICTOR

Of course I care. We're friends.

EUGENE

Oh sure, whatever you say.

VICTOR

Hey, don't cop an attitude now. Didn't I invite you to the wedding?

EUGENE

Sure you did and here I am.

VICTOR

So, what's the problem? Enjoy the moment! Like I said: we're friends.

EUGENE

You just forgot one thing.

VICTOR

I did?

EUGENE

I can't stand your guts.

VICTOR

Oh no. Not that again.

EUGENE

That's right. All this should be mine.

VICTOR

(nervous laugh)

C'mon, you're joking. Have yourself a drink. In fact, let's go over to the bar and I'll make you a tall one myself.

EUGENE

I don't think so.

Eugene then pulls out a .357 Magnum hand gun.

VICTOR

(alarmed)

What are you doing?

Eugene points the gun at Victor. Some of the other guests start screaming. Yvette runs over to Victor.

EUGENE

Something that I should have done long ago.

YVETTE

(screams to Eugene)

ARE YOU INSANE!?

VICTOR

(trying to maintain his self-control, to Eugene)

Whatever is bugging you we can talk about. There is no need for guns.

EUGENE

It's too late for talk. You fucked me over once too often. And now I have to do what has to be done.

VICTOR

You got it all wrong. I never fucked you over.

EUGENE

You invited me here to gloat and then rub it in my face.

VICTOR

I swear that's not the case. I thought we were friends.

EUGENE

Some friendship. You're evil and you're my nemesis. Yvette should have been with me, not you.

YVETTE

(to Eugene)

You're wrong!

EUGENE

I'm wrong? He is evil and was sent to destroy me but now I'm about to fix that forever.

The sounds of gunshots, screaming and sirens can be heard as the scene ends.

End of scene 4

Scene 5

Time: One month later.

Place: An office, sparsely furnished. Eugene is wearing a prison jump suit. He is sitting in chair. Sitting opposite Eugene is a middle-aged woman, Dr. Kara Kornbluth.

DR. KORNBLUTH

My name is Doctor Kara Kornbluth. I have been asked by the court to evaluate your competency to stand trial. Do you understand?

EUGENE

Yes.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Do you also understand that this examination is not confidential and that what we say here will generate a report that will be shared with the court?

EUGENE

Yes, I understand.

DR. KORNBLUTH

What is your name?

EUGENE

Eugene Losofsky.

DR. KORNBLUTH

How old are you?

EUGENE

Fifty years old.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Where were you born?

EUGENE

Brooklyn, New York.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Were you ever married?

EUGENE
No, never married.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Are your parents alive?

EUGENE
No. My father died in 1986 and my mother in 1992, both from natural causes.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Any siblings?

EUGENE
None, no relatives, Just me.

DR. KORNBLUTH
What is your work history?

EUGENE
I was employed by the city for twenty-four years, first as a caseworker for the Department of Social Welfare and then for the past ten years as a social worker for the Department of City Hospitals.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Do you understand what you've been charged with?

EUGENE
Yes, I do.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Could you tell me the charges?

EUGENE
Of course. First degree murder.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Who did you allegedly murder?

EUGENE

Victor Dennerman. But why are you asking me all these questions? All of this was discussed in court.

DR. KORNBLUTH

I already told you: to make sure that you are competent to stand trial.

EUGENE

You're wasting your time. There is nothing wrong with me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Okay. Anyway, your attorney felt that this evaluation was necessary and the court agreed.

EUGENE

I don't care what my lawyer said. I knew exactly what I was doing.

DR. KORNBLUTH

What do you mean?

EUGENE

Victor Dennerman was out to destroy me and I couldn't let that happen.

DR. KORNBLUTH

How did you know that he was out to destroy you?

EUGENE

By the way he laughed at me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

So because he laughed at you, you felt that you had to kill him?

EUGENE

No. Not because he laughed at me. It was the WAY he laughed at me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

The way he laughed at you?

EUGENE

Yes.

DR. KORNBLUTH

I don't understand.

EUGENE

It's very simple. Victor had a diabolical laughter which was meant to kill me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Could you please explain this further?

EUGENE

Gladly. The tone of his laughter, and the way he is used it to mock me, was like the sound of a hammer banging inside my brain. It was intolerable, and he knew it.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Why would Victor have wanted to kill you?

EUGENE

To punish me for opposing him and his nefarious plans. So he used his laughter like a knife to cut at me and bleed me like a pig going to slaughter.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Do you feel any remorse for having killed Victor?

EUGENE

No, not in the least, though I do feel badly for the commotion that it caused.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Did you ever have suicidal thoughts?

EUGENE

Yes, I did. Why do you ask?

DR. KORNBLUTH

It's a standard question that I ask all patients.

EUGENE

Oh, am I your patient?

DR. KORNBLUTH

I use that word patient in the generic sense and not to imply any doctor-patient relationship.

EUGENE

I ask only because I don't want to be billed for this examination.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Don't worry about that.

EUGENE

Okay, if you say so, but I hope you understand my cause for concern because right now I have no access to funds.

DR. KORNBLUTH

I understand your concern. Now, could you tell me more about these suicidal thoughts?

EUGENE

After Victor told me in 1994 that he had fucked Renee I considered jumping from the Brooklyn Bridge.

DR. KORNBLUTH

But you didn't.

EUGENE

No, but I thought about it, a lot, and once I actually went to the bridge at night and seriously considered jumping onto the traffic lane below, but I chickened out. I guess I'm a coward when it comes to stuff like that.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Did you ever tell anyone about these suicidal thoughts?

EUGENE

No, I did not because I had no one to talk to, and besides who would have cared?

DR. KORNBLUTH

So you think nobody cares about you?

EUGENE

That's right. Nobody cares.

DR. KORNBLUTH

You said you were employed as a social worker. Correct?

EUGENE

Yes.

DR. KORNBLUTH

So you had training as a mental health professional.

EUGENE

Yes. I have an MSW. So what?

DR. KORNBLUTH

So, wasn't there anyone at work, any mental health professionals, with whom you could confide?

EUGENE

At work I did not want to do or say anything that would call attention to myself and possibly jeopardize my job, and besides I had no need to confide in anyone because thinking about something is not the same as actually doing it. People have all kinds of thoughts and I didn't want to bore anyone with mine. I had lots patients tell me that they had suicidal thoughts and afterwards I would wonder why if it would have been better if they'd just stop talking about it and just do it and get it over with instead of wasting everyone's time alarming people about stuff they had no intention of doing. To me, it was just a childish way of getting attention and the last thing I needed or wanted was attention.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Do you understand the concept of right and wrong?

EUGENE

Yes, I do. I know right from wrong.

DR. KORNBLUTH

When you decided to murder Victor did you understand that to be a wrong act?

EUGENE

No. That was not my understanding at all.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Murdering Victor was not a wrong act?

EUGENE

Not when it was done in self-defense.

DR. KORNBLUTH

I'm sorry, you've lost me.

EUGENE
(annoyed)

Look, you haven't been listening. I already told you that Victor was out to kill me and there was no way I was going to let him do that to me. He had to be stopped.

DR. KORNBLUTH

How was he out to kill you?

EUGENE

I told you! - Through his laughter.

DR. KORNBLUTH

So you took matters in to your own hands ...

EUGENE

He didn't listen to me and he didn't stop. Even at the wedding he was laughing at me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Maybe he was laughing because he was happy and wanted to share his happiness with you.

EUGENE

Victor? No way. He was much too selfish to share anything with me. He was cleverly using his laughter to taunt me and drive me to distraction.

DR. KORNBLUTH

And that angered you?

EUGENE

At first, yes, but later, after I came to realize Victor's real purpose, it scared me.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Why did it come to scare you?

EUGENE

Because I realized that Victor was possessed by an evil spirit which had taken control of his body and was using him to torment me and drive me away from Yvette.

DR. KORNBLUTH

An evil spirit?

EUGENE

Yes, an evil spirit. Obviously he was under the control of some kind of evil spirit; there can be no other explanation for his obnoxious behavior, and the only way I knew to defeat that evil spirit was to destroy the vessel which contained it.

DR. KORNBLUTH

When did you first realize this about Victor?

EUGENE

I first suspected it in 1994 when he told me about him and Renee. Victor going behind my back to fuck Renee and then laughing about it was evil.

DR. KORNBLUTH

Did you speak with a spiritual adviser about this evil spirit?

EUGENE

No. Nobody would have believed me and besides I am not a religious person as such or active in any religious group or organization, so I didn't have any spiritual adviser to talk to.

DR. KORNBLUTH

This concludes the examination.

EUGENE

That's it? How did I do?

DR. KORNBLUTH

Ask your attorney. Your attorney will be provided a copy of my report.

EUGENE

Thank you, and it was nice talking with you, but please, don't send me the bill.

DR. KORNBLUTH

I won't.

End of scene 5

Scene 6

Time: Six months later

Place: The visitors' room in a penal institution. The room contains tables and chairs that are riveted to the floor.

Eugene, Yvette and Dr. Kornbluth are sitting at a table. Eugene is sitting opposite Yvette with Dr. Kornbluth sitting in between.

YVETTE

(to Eugene)

You asked for this meeting and so here I am now. What do you want?

EUGENE

To talk to you.

YVETTE

About what? You killed my husband. What else is there to say?

EUGENE

I think we have a lot to talk about and you know it too, otherwise you wouldn't be here.

YVETTE

(to Dr. Kornbluth)

Is it okay for me to be talking with him?

DR. KORNBLUTH

It's okay, if you're comfortable with it.

EUGENE

Thank you, doctor, and thank you, Yvette, for agreeing to meet with me. I know that you are angry and upset with me, but I'm asking that you please give me a chance to explain what I did because what I did I did for your own good.

YVETTE

(angry and shocked)

WHAT? FOR MY OWN GOOD? WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU MURDERED MY HUSBAND!

DR. KORNBLUTH
(to Yvette)

Are you okay?

YVETTE
(still agitated)

No, I'm not okay. I didn't come here to listen to this bullshit.

DR. KORNBLUTH
Why don't you take a moment to calm down.

YVETTE
Okay.

Pause. Yvette gradually calms down.

DR. KORNBLUTH
(to Yvette)

Are you alright now?

YVETTE
I'm okay now. (to Eugene) Keep talking.

EUGENE
I know what I did and I can understand why you would be upset, but what I did wasn't done out of hatred or animosity but was done in order to protect you from evil.

YVETTE
If anybody here is evil, it's you, so what you're saying is that I need protection from you.

EUGENE
That's not true at all. You have no reason to fear me. Victor was possessed with a spirit that came between us and which would have destroyed me and then you. We were meant to be together and it was because of Victor that we were kept apart and denied true happiness. Can't you understand that?

YVETTE

I have no idea what you're talking about. I saw what you did, and what you did was horrible and terrifying, and something that I can never forget.

EUGENE

Yet I did not harm you, did I?

YVETTE

You sure did. You fucked me up but good. I hope you're happy now, you beast.

EUGENE

I could have killed you but I didn't. Have you ever wondered why I didn't kill you too?

YVETTE

No. I can't figure out what's going on in that muddled brain of yours and furthermore I couldn't care less.

EUGENE

Then let me tell you. It was because you are a blessed angel from heaven sent to earth to do good works, but Victor would have stopped you from fulfilling your destiny because he was evil. Do you understand now?

YVETTE

(contemptuous)

What the fuck are you talking about?

EUGENE

Do you believe in the all mighty?

YVETTE

Don't tell me you're gonna start preaching at me because if you do, this meeting is over.

EUGENE

Please answer the question.

YVETTE
(sarcastic)

Okay, I will, if that will make you happy. I believe in an all mighty. Now what?

EUGENE

Well, then there's your answer.

YVETTE

My answer to what?

EUGENE

To what I'm talking about.

YVETTE

Look, I don't know anything about any religious stuff, okay? I'm just trying to get by and deal with what you did.

EUGENE

(condescending)

Oh you poor uninformed lady. You don't even realize what you really are.

YVETTE

(to Dr. Kornbluth)

Is he for real or is he just pulling my leg?

DR. KORNBLUTH

I can't answer that question. My job is to supervise this meeting and not to interfere. Eugene wanted this meeting and you agreed to attend. What you and he discuss is entirely up to the two of you.

EUGENE

(to Dr. Kornbluth)

Thank you, doctor. *(to Yvette)* My dear, it's really important that we be open and honest with each other so that we can understand each other better. Don't you want to be happy?

YVETTE

I was happy, with Victor, but you ended all that.

EUGENE

No, that's not so. What I did was rescue you from the grip of something malevolent and which would have surely destroyed you if I had not acted. And because of what I did the two of us can now be friends.

YVETTE

Friends? Us!? You must be kidding. I hated you so much after what you did and wanted to hurt you so badly, really badly.

EUGENE

But you didn't, right?

YVETTE

No I didn't, but that's only because you were already in jail.

EUGENE

No my dear Yvette. If you had wanted to, you could have arranged for something bad to happen to me because you have the power, but you didn't because, like I said, you are an angel who's been sent to earth, something which I sensed when I first met you at that dance.

YVETTE

Is that why you started talking to me? Because you thought I was an angel?

EUGENE

At the time I did not know that, but I sensed that you had a very special quality which I found attractive. The fact that we met at all is more than coincidental. We were meant to be together and Victor was the instrument through which our relationship would be forged.

YVETTE

But you hurt people; you hurt me; you killed Victor; you almost destroyed my life.

EUGENE

Yes, that is true. But it was for a higher purpose, to bring us together, in this place where we are now. Now we can be one.

YVETTE

What are you saying?

EUGENE

I'm saying that I love you and showed you my love by killing for you in order to protect you.

YVETTE

If that's true, you chose a horrible way to show it.

EUGENE

It was meant to be.

YVETTE

Whatever you say. Are you finished?

EUGENE

Yvette, we have a glorious future ahead of us.

YVETTE

How can you say that after what you did? How can I ever forget it?

EUGENE

You shouldn't forget it because it has made you a stronger person.

YVETTE

A stronger person? I'm an emotional wreck!

EUGENE

That's what you feel now, but that will pass. Remember this: Victor deserved what he got; and if it wasn't for me, we'd both be dead. He was evil and would have driven you to the deepest depths of hell, but by confronting with him I allowed the both of us to live and be together and create a paradise here on earth.

YVETTE

But Victor was such a wonderful, outgoing, happy person.

EUGENE

Yes, but that was facade meant to deceive you as he plotted his next course of action to suck your life marrow out of your very bones. But now he is gone, and now we're together. Can't we be friends?

Eugene reaches out and touches Yvette's hand. Yvette hesitates and then tentatively takes Eugene's hand into hers.

EUGENE

(staring directly at Yvette's face)

You are a truly beautiful and blessed woman.

YVETTE

I don't know what to say.

EUGENE

Don't say anything. Just be here for me, and I will be here for you.

DR. KORNBLUTH

This visit is over. *(to Eugene)* It's time for you to take your meds.

EUGENE

Of course, doctor. *(Eugene releases Yvette's hand.) (to Yvette)* Will you visit me again?

YVETTE

I don't know. ... Maybe. *(to Dr. Kornbluth)* Can you help me?

Eugene is looking at Yvette. He is smiling.

The End.

