

2

(Something hits the window again. It's a pebble.)

ELLEN. Oh how strange.

DEAN. I better go see what it is.

KATHY. *(reentering with drinks)* Did that come from outside?

DEAN. Probably just some neighborhood urchins.

ELLEN. Be careful, Darling.

DEAN. Don't be silly.

(DEAN goes out the door.)

ELLEN. Oh how strange.

(Maybe it doesn't sound like ELLEN thinks it's all that strange.)

RS25

(Light shifts to outside the house. ROGER is there, in the shadows, pebble in hand.)

DEAN. How dare you.

ROGER. How dare I?

DEAN. Ellen is in there, we're with friends – this is very embarrassing.

ROGER. You made your excuses.

DEAN. How did you know I'd be here?

ROGER. You always check in with the newbies the first week.
And he said Maple and Vine.

DEAN. You did your homework.

ROGER. You wanted to see me too.

DEAN. What are you talking about.

ROGER. That's why you placed him on my floor.

DEAN. They all start out in Boxing, especially the Negroes and Orientals.

ROGER. Or else in Packing – or the steel mill, or anywhere!
But no, he's right there with me, on my watch. Like some kind of message.

DEAN. I told you to leave me alone, remember?

ROGER. Guess I forgot.

(He pulls DEAN into a kiss. They kiss forcefully, angrily.)

OVER

Start

ROGER. Say it.

DEAN. Say what.

ROGER. You know what. Say it.

DEAN. (*barely audible*) I want you to fuck me.

ROGER. What was that?

DEAN. I want you to fuck me.

ROGER. What are we going to do about that?

(*Short pause*)

DEAN. The park at midnight.

Ellen sleeps like a log.

ROGER. I remember.

(*Beat*)

God I miss fucking you.

DEAN. I'm not like you.

I don't need this.

ROGER. Could have fooled me.

DEAN. Get the hell out of here.

(*Back inside the house. KATHY has just opened the present.*)

ELLEN. It's a tea cozy.

KATHY. Oh, how wonderful. We don't have one!

ELLEN. It's supposed to be a frog.

KATHY. I think I see it.

ELLEN. It's, what's the word, abstract.

(*RYU enters.*)

RYU. Hello Ellen.

(*ELLEN bows slightly.*)

ELLEN. Hello.

KATHY. Look what Ellen brought us.

ELLEN. I have a friend who knits them, she's very talented.
You'll meet her soon.

(*DEAN reenters RYU shakes his hand.*)

END
RS 2/0