

FADE IN:

The set is the living room of an elegant penthouse apartment. It is lit only by MOONLIGHT. Patio doors are open. MUSIC plays.

MARIO and YVETTE enter. They are a handsome couple, dressed very chicly. HE has a silk shirt, white ducks and a white dinner jacket draped over his shoulders. SHE has a long white summer gown on. SHE'S casually dragging a maribou. Even though it's night time, MARIO has dark glasses on. There's a jaded, jet-set look about them, as THEY slowly cross the room.

MARIO turns on the LIGHT. THEY stare at each other seductively for a moment. Without speaking, MARIO moves coolly toward her, hands her an orchid from a vase on the table. SHE smells the orchid, smiles seductively, and takes a cigarette out of a cigarette box on the table. MARIO lights it and pours two glasses of champagne from a champagne bottle in a bucket on the table.

THEY stare at each other seductively and take sips of champagne, their eyes never leaving each other. MARIO moves even closer. HE puts down his champagne glass, takes the white dinner jacket off his shoulder, and lays it neatly over the chair. Then, HE takes the cigarette from her mouth and flicks it out the patio door. HE takes her champagne glass and throws that out the door. Then HE takes the orchid he gave her and throws that out the door.

HE moves close enough that their bodies are almost touching. YVETTE, although burning with passion, turns away from him, frightened. MARIO grabs her wrist. SHE tries to pull free, but he's too strong for her. HE pulls her close to him. SHE beats on his chest. HE forces a kiss. SHE furiously tries to fight him off, but HE continues the kiss. Suddenly, SHE weakens; her body goes limp.

The kiss becomes totally passionate for both of them, as THEY lock in each other's arms and sink to the couch. Suddenly, MARIO gets up, takes the dinner jacket off the chair, puts it over his shoulders and starts pacing the room.

MARIO

I'm no good.

YVETTE

On, you're good. You're good

MARIO

No, I would just use you.

YVETTE  
Use me. Use me.

MARIO  
I would destroy you.

YVETTE  
(crossing to him)  
Destroy me. I just want you to be  
happy.

MARIO  
I drink.

YVETTE  
Everybody drinks.

MARIO  
I push dope.

YVETTE  
What could you do without an  
education.

MARIO turns his back to her and walks away.

MARIO  
I've served time in prison.

YVETTE  
I don't care.

MARIO  
For beating up a little girl.

YVETTE  
Well, who hasn't wanted to?

MARIO  
She was my baby sister.

YVETTE goes to him again.

YVETTE  
Oh, how awful for you.

MARIO  
Don't you understand what I could  
do to you? If we had an affair, I  
would torture you. I would beat  
you. I would cheat on you.

(MORE)

MARIO (CONT'D)

I would lie to you, and in a fit of rage, I might break every bone in your body.

YVETTE

And then what?

MARIO smacks her in the face. SHE goes sprawling. YVETTE lifts herself off the floor, her eyes full of tears.

YVETTE (CONT'D)

Mario, I love you.

MARIO walks to her.

MARIO

You mean you can forgive me?

YVETTE

Forgive you? I feel cleaner just having known you.

MARIO suddenly melts and embraces her passionately.

MARIO

Oh, Yvette, you're still a saint, you're a Madonna. I worship the ground you walk on.

THEY kiss passionately and fall back on the couch. Suddenly YVETTE breaks free.

YVETTE

Please let me go. You don't know what I'm like.

YVETTE walks away from him.

MARIO

You're good.

YVETTE

I've lied. I've cheated. I've stolen.

MARIO

No, you're good. You're good.

YVETTE

No, I'm not. I'm rotten.

MARIO goes for her.

MARIO  
Yes, but inside that rot, you're  
good.

YVETTE turns to him angrily. With great hostility.

YVETTE  
I've slept with you best friend.

MARIO  
Dirty Herbie?

YVETTE  
And Lou and Jack and Harry and  
Stanley... the whole team.

MARIO touches her cheek with his hand, softly.

MARIO  
Me, too.

YVETTE pulls away from him, runs to the other side of the  
room and turns angrily, screaming.

YVETTE  
I'm the lowest animal that walks  
the jungle of this earth.

YVETTE falls to her knees. MARIO falls to his knees and  
crawls toward her.

MARIO  
I'm the dirt underneath that  
animal!

YVETTE crawls toward him.

YVETTE  
I am the little earthworm that  
lives in that dirt.

THEY are now face to face on their hands and knees.

MARIO  
I am the lint in that earthworm's  
navel!

YVETTE  
You're the lint in that earthworm's  
navel?

(CONT'D)

MARIO

That's me.

YVETTE

(with total distaste)

Eeek!

YVETTE gets up, picks up her maribou and backs away from him, all the while saying "Eeek!" SHE crosses the room, and exits. We still hear her "Eeeks", as MARIO sits up and stares into space quizzically...

FADE OUT.