

THE GREAT

Season 2, Episode 1

Catherine & Peter

EXT. FIELD - DAY

CATHERINE waits with Orlo and her guards. A serf tends to a large table with a decadent feast on display. PETER walks in with his guards.

PETER
(to the serf)
You! Bring me that food.

CATHERINE
No!

PETER
Oh, come on, you won. I can eat.

CATHERINE
Not until we have a deal.

PETER
I can go back and think of ways to win.

CATHERINE
There's black pig ham dusted with fennel pollen on rye with pickled beets.

PETER
Fuck me. Okay, let's do a deal.

CATHERINE
The deal is, you live in the Urals in a house under house arrest. Grigor and Georgina may go with you.

PETER
The Urals? That is a terrible idea.

CATHERINE
I understand you don't like it, but...

PETER
No, for you. You want me in a region alone? I'll charm and buy off the guards in no time, gather the region's loyalists and relaunch against you. I probably shouldn't have told you that. But I care for you. You know, that's my burden. My love for you hangs heavy.

CATHERINE

Right.

PETER

You sure you want to run Russia?
You're a little slow on the
strategy front.

CATHERINE

And yet you are abdicating.

PETER

Toosh. Eh. I always forget the
"eh." Okay. My idea. I live in the
palace as I have done, party, hunt.
You run Russia while I'm doing this
by day, and at night we have much
fiery sex, and when Paul is born,
he takes Russia. We then have more
fiery sex until one day our hearts
give out as we pleasure each other
senseless against a tree in the
forest. You know, I actually had a
dream where that happened.

CATHERINE

I had a dream where I dropped you
down a well that I thought was full
of boiling water but turned out to
be full of angry starving bears.

PETER

I like mine better.

CATHERINE

And I'm not having sex with you.

PETER

Seems rude and also short-sighted.

CATHERINE

I look at you and go dry like sand.

PETER

Fuck me, you are a... Hmm. The more
you toy with me, the harder my cock
gets. There are softer oak trees.

CATHERINE

I could just kill you if I wanted.

PETER

You won't have to. If you don't let
me see Paul, I'll do it myself.

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

Just 20 minutes a day. Please. I just want to be with you and Paul.

CATHERINE

That's what you want?

PETER

Yeah.

CATHERINE

Palace house arrest, agreed.
Breakfast with Paul, agreed. Sex,
not agreed.

PETER

Tongue trick?

CATHERINE

Not agreed.

PETER

You'll regret that. I get Jean-Pierre. My chef.

CATHERINE

Fine.

PETER

And hunting?

CATHERINE

I'm not giving you a gun.

PETER

Have me under armed sight at any time and they may blow my fucking head off at their whim.

CATHERINE

No.

PETER

So, we'll leave that one to be negotiated.

CATHERINE

Know this. Your guards will have orders to kill you at their whim, fillet you alive, boil your organs and force-feed you them unseasoned if you step out of line once. Once. Not twice. Once.

PETER

Unseasoned? Barbaric. Good for you.
Shows promise. Maybe you can do
this.

CATHERINE

All right, we have a deal. Orlo!

PETER

Wait. I'm still Emperor. Just...
Yeah, I'll do this. Orlo! Lobcock
traitorous fuckhead, do you have a
document for me to sign?

ORLO

I do.

PETER

Well, bring it here. Fuck me, you
may need better advisors.

Orlo sets up the document and pen.

PETER (CONT'D)

(to Catherine)

Last chance. We get in the
carriage, forget the coup, and fuck
all the way home.

CATHERINE

Just sign it.

He does.

PETER

Where's that ham?