

**PHILIP** *watches her go, then looks at GINNY. He is silent for a moment. GINNY moves to below cane armchair and picks up her handbag.*

**PHILIP** *(moving towards her-sotto voce)* What are you doing here?

**GINNY** I thought your wife went to church? *(She takes cigarettes and lighter out of her bag)*

**PHILIP** Not the third Sunday after Trinity.

**GINNY** Mmm?

**PHILIP** Mr Dodsworth-

**GINNY** What?

**PHILIP** Nothing. She didn't.

**GINNY** You've told her?

**PHILIP** Told her what?

**GINNY** About us?

**PHILIP** I haven't told her anything.

**GINNY** *(putting her bag on the stool)* Well, she knows. *(Moving right)* Hasn't she said anything to you?

**PHILIP** Not a word. Not about that. Not about us.

**GINNY** She just told me that we make a lovely couple. And she doesn't seem to care.

**PHILIP** No. Well, she has her mind on other things just at the moment. What are you doing here?

**GINNY** *(sitting in the cane armchair)* This alters things a lot.

**PHILIP** What does?

**GINNY** Her knowing.

**PHILIP** Don't you mean-her going?

**GINNY** Going?

**PHILIP** Yes. Somewhere in Kent. *(He moves to right of GINNY)*

**GINNY** She's leaving you? How do you know?

**PHILIP** She told me. Or rather, he told me.

**GINNY** Who?

**PHILIP** The man in the kitchen.

**GINNY** Who?

**PHILIP** I don't know. *(Moves on to lower step of terrace at left centre)* Some sallow youth. Just now. He came out here, stood there in front of me, calm as you like, and then asked me if they could get married. Married-to my wife!

**GINNY** He didn't?

**PHILIP** You're not losing a wife, you're gaining a brother-in-law. All that sort of thing.

**GINNY** What did you do?

**PHILIP** I was as co-operative as I could be. Refused the divorce of course. *(He moves to left of GINNY)*

**GINNY** I bet you did.

**PHILIP** But told them they could go where they liked as far as I was concerned. After all, it's a heaven sent opportunity as far as we're concerned, isn't it?

**GINNY** We?

**PHILIP** Who else?

**GINNY** No, Philip.

**PHILIP** No?

**GINNY** *(pause)* There's someone else.

**PHILIP** I know.

**GINNY** How?

**PHILIP** I spoke to him on the phone this morning.

**GINNY** You what?

**PHILIP** It's all right. No cause for alarm.

**GINNY** Damn you, Philip. *(She rises, backs to right of farmchair)*  
Damn you!

**PHILIP** Now don't get worked up. I rang off as soon as he answered.

**GINNY** No. Damn you. This is serious. This time I'm getting married.

**PHILIP** Are you?

**GINNY** He's asked me.

**PHILIP** *(laughing)* Infectious, this marriage epidemic. I seem to be the only one who's developed immunity.

**GINNY** Philip, if you mess things up for me, I'll never forgive you.

**PHILIP** *(sitting in the canvas chair)* Does he know about me?

**GINNY** A little.

**PHILIP** Is he jealous?

**GINNY** He's human.

**PHILIP** Does he know where you are today?

**GINNY** Why?

**PHILIP** He doesn't, does he?

**GINNY** No. He thinks I'm visiting my parents, if you must know.

**PHILIP** Your who?

**GINNY** Well, I could be, couldn't I?

**PHILIP** They're in Australia! *(He laughs)* You really ask for trouble, don't you? One of these days- *(He rises, moves on to a lower step of terrace, upstage of GINNY)* I'd hate to lead a life as complicated as yours.

**GINNY** He'll never know.

**PHILIP** Unless someone tells him?

**GINNY** They won't.

**PHILIP** *moves to behind GINNY and puts his arms round her.*

**PHILIP** You have been avoiding me, haven't you?

**GINNY** *(moving away)* Don't.

**PHILIP** Why not?

**GINNY** Your wife. They could easily see us through the window.

**PHILIP** Don't worry. They'll be far too concerned wondering whether we're looking in at them.

**GINNY** *(now frosty and determined)* Philip-you must understand, this has got to stop. It's over. Leave me alone.

**PHILIP** *(injured)* I have.

GINNY You have not. All those flowers, the chocolates, the phone calls-it's not fair on me, Philip. Can't you see that?  
*(She turns to face him)* Please leave me alone.

PHILIP Is that why you came all the way down here-to tell me that?

GINNY Yes. That is it.

PIDLIP Right.

*Pause.*

GINNY And I want those letters back.

PHILIP Ah. That's more like it.

GINNY *(firmly)* Please-Philip-

PHILIP I think they might be safer where they are.

GINNY Where are they?

PHILIP Safe.

GI Are you going to let me have them or not?

PHILIP I don't know. They mean rather a lot to me, you see.

Sentimental value and all that.

GINNY *(moving to him-appealing)* Philip, please.