

Guards - Read Marcos

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KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

(At the song's finish, MOLINA, strutting about, still can't seem to get VALENTIN'S attention away from the book he is reading. MOLINA peers over the 'line' and speaks.)

MOLINA. What are you reading? The complete works of Karl Marx? Oh, that sounds like fun. (In an exaggerated basso.) "The struggle is not over until all men are free". I know! Dolores Del Rio said that in "RECKLESS IN RIO". (In falsetto.) "The struggle is not over until all men are free".

(MOLINA pantomimes being shot by a firing squad.)

VALENTIN. (To MOLINA on the floor.) Even ridiculous faggot window dressers who won't shut up!

MOLINA. (Getting up.) Stick to the script, please. Marx didn't say 'ridiculous'.

VALENTIN. Marx didn't spend three days in a cell with you.

MOLINA. ~~Five days. You weren't conscious the first two. For that matter, I'm not sure you're conscious yet. (VALENTIN sits up on his cot.) Oh, I better watch my step. I heard how you Marxists like to take advantage of a girl who's down on her luck. He begins to yell and bang the cell bars. PRISONERS join in offstage.)~~ Guards! Guards! He's trying to convert me. He's putting ideas into my dizzy head. He's making me forget the simple joys of fascism.

(MOLINA'S yells have attracted the attention of MARCOS and ESTEBAN. They come rushing to the cell door.)

MARCOS. QUIET! (To MOLINA.) What do you want, Molina?

MOLINA. Nothing, I was just fooling around.

ESTEBAN. I know what someone like Molina wants.

MOLINA. You're not man enough to give it to me.

(MOLINA is immediately sorry he said this.)

ESTEBAN. What?

MOLINA. Nothing.

ESTEBAN. What did you say, you miserable little...

MOLINA. Nothing. I said nothing.

MARCOS. You said something Molina.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

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(The TWO GUARDS have drawn blackjacks.)

MOLINA. I said I'm a piece of shit.

MARCOS. Louder.

MOLINA. I said I'm a piece of shit.

MARCOS. Louder.

MOLINA. I said I'm a piece of shit.

MARCOS. I still can't hear you.

MOLINA. I said... please don't make me.

MARCOS. Ah, ah, ah! Finish it, maricon, you're almost done.

MOLINA. I said I'm a faggot piece of shit and anytime you want me, I'm here.

MARCOS. Maybe later, sweetheart.

ESTEBAN. (Prodding VALENTIN on his bed.) Hear that, 16115? Anytime you want her, she's all yours. Ain't you the lucky one? Oh, maricon, why are you crying? For your sins? For breaking your mama's heart?

(The GUARDS exit. MOLINA is on his knees, embarrassed and ashamed. VALENTIN raises himself on an elbow and looks at MOLINA.)

VALENTIN. Why do you let them humiliate you like that?

MOLINA. I don't let them. I'm a coward. (Pause.) Besides darling, there are privileges in degradation. It got me my ravishing drapes and my pin-ups.

VALENTIN. (Dismissing him.) Make yourself trivial.

MOLINA. We're both trivial. The only difference between us is that I know it and you don't.

VALENTIN. You go to hell.

MOLINA. We're already there.

VALENTIN. I will go mad alone in this cell with this person!

MOLINA. (Compassionately.) Do you have a girl? Try thinking of her. It helps. I've got a girl.

(Music cue #6 "DEAR ONE")

VALENTIN (To himself):

MARTA, WHERE ARE YOU?

MARTA, I NEED YOU

MARTA, DON'T LEAVE ME NOW

DON'T LET ME GO CRAZY

MOLINA. (Rattling on.) My mother. How do you thank a person

MOLINA:

Does that surprise you?

I think of her nearly

all the time.

End.