

Valentin

48

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

special meal. Beans with pork. The Warden's in good spirits. Your friend, the one with the bag over his head, told us everything we wanted to know.

VALENTIN. I don't believe you.

(VALENTIN reaches for the food.)

MARCOS. *(Holding it back.)* Say please.

VALENTIN. Go to hell.

ESTEBAN. Big words for someone who hasn't eaten in three days.

(VALENTIN takes the plate and starts wolfing down the food.)

MARCOS. That's disgusting.

ESTEBAN. C'mon, Marcos, let's leave them alone. Homos reunion.

Start
(ESTEBAN and MARCOS exit. VALENTIN continues to devour food greedily as MOLINA sits and watches him.)

VALENTIN. The first food they've given me in days. I was beginning to think they were trying to starve me to death.

MOLINA. Not so fast. Look what happened to me.

VALENTIN. You want to hear something crazy? It's not half bad. I must be cracking up. How was the infirmary?

MOLINA. Males nurses and morphine! I loved it. Did you miss me?

VALENTIN. As a matter of fact, I did.

MOLINA. Now don't get any funny ideas. How did you spend your time? Thinking about Marta?

VALENTIN. It's driving me crazy. If she's sleeping with someone else I'll kill her, then him, with my bare hands.

MOLINA. That will be a nice getting-out-of-prison surprise for both of them. I'm sure she's spending all her time making bombs for the revolution anyway!

VALENTIN. We don't make bombs.

MOLINA. All right, stuffing envelopes then.

VALENTIN. Marta's not in the movement.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN

49

MOLINA. What new twist is this?

VALENTIN. I have a confession to make. She's upper class, drives a little red Mercedes, 180 SL, and plays golf.

MOLINA. She sounds divine. Does she have a brother?

VALENTIN. She's everything Golizar says we're supposed to hate and I'm crazy about her.

MOLINA. Golizar? Alberto Golizar? That Golizar?

VALENTIN. Don't tell me you've heard of him.

MOLINA. I don't just read movie magazines. He's a great man.

VALENTIN. He changed my life. I didn't know there was another way until him. I was seventeen years old when I heard him speak. There were thousands of people. He made us feel like one. He opened our eyes, our minds, our hearts, Molina. It's funny how your life can change forever in an instant.

MOLINA. No, it's not, Valentin.

VALENTIN. The man next to me was hiding a gun. There were plain clothes police everywhere awaiting orders to open fire. It was a massacre. I never went back to my village. I slept in the streets. I stole. I got arrested. I joined the movement.

MOLINA. Please don't tell me any more.

VALENTIN. I started out just being Señor Golizar's personal bodyguard.

MOLINA. I don't want to know.

VALENTIN. Now, I'm in charge of getting fugitives... Oh, God!

MOLINA. What's wrong?

VALENTIN. *(Falling to his knees.)* My stomach! Such cramps! Something in the food! I've never felt such pain. No, oh Jesus God, no!

MOLINA. What happened?

VALENTIN. I'm so ashamed.

MOLINA. Ashamed. Why?

VALENTIN. I shit myself.

MOLINA. Stay there.

End
(MOLINA leaves VALENTIN on the cell floor to get some things from the sink area.)

VALENTIN. What are you doing?