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# Dancer In the Dark

By Lars von Trier

[INFORMATION]

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You're sweating.

I know. I'm excited though.I can see it all happening.

A little turn...

Now side to side.

Other people can sing.

Can we talk out herefor a minute?

She's fantastic.

What are youtalking about?

I think she sings funny.

And her dancing's notall that great either.

That's the first timeshe did it, okay?

Yeah, but I hadall the kits by then.

Because she didn'ttake the kettle,  
so I was stuck.

Do you want me totake the kettle, Samuel?

No, I don't.I just want Kathy  
to put it over here.This is, you know...

If you say these words,and then, boom,  
you just putyour hands out,  
and there they are.They're there.

Please don'tdrop the props, Kathy.

Wait, wait.

Why are you putting iton her head, though?

I'm a little confused.

I don't know.It was, uh...

Because she's notgoing to pick it up.

It looks likeyou're trying to...

put a hat on her heador something.

You're fantastic.

You just have to listento your heart, Cvalda.

I don't want youto call me Cvalda.

Okay, Paul, please.

You're Cvaldato me.  
Let's do some sound effects.  
Wait!  
I told youno tapping  
in "The Soundof Music."  
It really needs rhythm.  
Like drums or something.  
Everybody'sdoing a great job.  
Really.  
"L-T-U..."  
Oh, hello, Selma.Come here.  
- Are you ready?- Yeah, I'm ready.  
Okay, you knowwhere to stand.  
Yeah.  
So let's trythis one.  
"F-E-Z-T."  
Maybeeven this one.  
"T-E-F-P-O..."  
I think you can workthat machine safely.  
I'll write a noteto the plant  
and let them know.  
Thank you.  
Bye.  
Goodbye.  
Bye.  
Goodbye.  
We lost five hours'cause some idiot  
broke the machine.  
Bill's here.  
So?  
Well, he's herewith Gene.  
Oh, that soundslike bad news.  
What are yougoing to do?  
Well, I guess I gotto tell her, don't i?  
You can't bringthe script to work, Selma.  
Keep your eyeson the machine, okay?  
Yeah.  
Sure.  
Bill's here.  
Bill?  
He's here with Gene.  
Not again!  
You got to comeright back, okay?  
Don't be too worried.

We're gonna work this out.  
Here she comes.  
Why are you not in school?!  
Uhh...  
When I say so, you go to school!  
Do you think I joke?  
You have to study!  
Come on, Selma, stop.  
We talked about this. Didn't we talk about it?  
Hanging out with those automobile thieves.  
So what?  
He's learning.  
Selma, he's learning.  
Aw, come on.  
Gene, this is the most important thing.  
You have to go to school.  
Selma, I--I can...  
drive him back to school if you like.  
Since when was that your business?  
What you doing here?  
If you need a ride home--  
I don't even punch out  
until after another two hours.  
Sometimes you punch out around this time.  
I never punch out early!  
Don't need a dumb...  
Don't need a ride!  
In your little head.  
All right.  
Come on, Mr. G. Let's get you to school.  
Thank you, but I...  
I'll just... I'll just ride my bike.  
Bye, Jeff.  
She likes you.  
I'm sure of it.  
You're sure?  
Yeah, I'm sure of it.  
This is my punishment,  
that you help me with this.  
And you've got...  
You've got to make your bed as well.  
And you forgot to wrap up the bread.  
Two times.  
There's no more of that.

You keep reading.  
"So long, farewell,  
auf... wiedersehen...  
adieu, adieu, adieu,  
to yieu and yieu and yieu."  
"To yieu...  
and yieu..."  
What does that mean,  
"yieu"?  
It's your dumb musical.  
"And yieu..."  
It's German.  
- You think?- Mm.  
You want some more ketchup?  
No.  
Are you tired?  
Why--why should you...  
always ask me so...  
so stupid questions?  
Shall I show you my step?  
Oh, hi. Hi, Gene.  
How's the dancing?  
Oh... good.  
- Yeah?- Yeah, Yeah.  
You want to come over to me and Bill's place  
and listen to some music?  
That--that would be lovely.  
But... we couldn't.  
Come on. Come on.  
Yeah... uh...  
Let's go. Come on.  
You should ask Bill about his money.  
Linda likes it when we talk about that.  
You're doing a very nice job with these.  
How about that?  
You have to be very careful  
not to bend the card.  
Uh-huh.  
Otherwise I don't get paid for it.  
No.  
That's fair, because...  
the people in the shops would never want to buy it  
if it's bent.  
You wouldn't buy it if it was bent.

That's true, I wouldn't.  
Wouldn't buy anything if it was bent.  
In Czechoslovakia,  
I saw a film,  
and they were eating candy from a tin  
just like this.  
No.  
I thought to myself...  
how wonderful it must be  
in the United States.  
Yeah?  
You think my house looks like a movie?  
Oh, our house looks like a movie.  
And you look like a movie star.  
Bill gives me a lot of money.  
You know?  
I know.  
Of course, it's all that money you inherited,  
isn't it, Bill?  
That's right.  
Hey, Selma...  
Take the rest with you.  
Are you sure?  
Go on.  
Hello.  
Good morning.  
I've got the rent.  
Oh.  
You always pay right on time.  
Don't worry about Gene. I'll get him off to school,  
okay?  
Thank you.  
Thanks very much.  
Remember your bag.  
Bye-bye.  
Bye.  
I think you're always so serious, Kathy.  
Aw... again we start.  
I don't think inside you're serious at all.  
I don't know.  
Not always.  
Cvalda.  
Why do you call me that?  
It's like... someone who's...

I don't know, just big and happy.  
I am not that big.  
Happy? I don't know.  
Just need someone to pull it out.  
Beautiful eyes.  
Yeah.  
But he's not real happy, is he?  
How is she doing?  
It's when she cannot keep up,  
and she's going to faint.  
Ah, she fainted.  
Please be quiet.  
Oh, give us a break.  
She doesn't see that well.  
I paid good money to see this film.  
Well, so did she.  
I love it when they dance.  
For Pete's sake, it's a musical.  
Of course they're dancing!  
We know that!  
Oh, you're so smart.  
- Yes. - Oh.  
I think you made friends, Kathy.  
Stop!  
So, what'd she say?  
What?  
What did she say?  
She didn't say anything.  
Are you trying to tell me something?  
It's about the bike.  
The bike?  
Mm, the bike.  
Oh, um, I--I--  
I cannot give Gene a bike.  
Is this his idea?  
No, it's not his idea.  
Gene?  
Yeah?  
Did you ask them to come over?  
No.  
No, he didn't. It doesn't...  
He doesn't know anything, Selma. Frankly.  
Why, have I done something?  
No.

I haven't got the money.  
But... I'm almost the only kid in class  
who doesn't have a bike.  
I even know a boy who's got a scooter.  
You know I haven't got any money.  
The only extra money I got  
the times I managed to save up,  
I send it...  
to Grandpa.  
- Come have a look.- I'm not gonna get you  
expensive things.  
Your mother is only teasing.  
Look what she's brought for you!  
It's a bike!  
We cannot accept that.  
Selma, it was second-hand.  
I can't give him any expensive things.  
- Yeah, but--- I can't even give it  
for his birthday.  
- Yeah, but, well--- He's just gonna accept that.  
I'm not that sort of mom.  
I'm--I'm--  
I'm just not that kind of mother, Gene. I...  
Can't you be  
that kind of a mother?  
It's not exactly a scooter.  
Hmm... We'll see.  
We'll see.  
Careful!  
Don't ride too fast.  
Hey, Gene, bring it over here.  
He looks very happy, doesn't he?  
He does look happy.  
Here he comes again.  
Attention!  
Bring it over here.  
Mom...  
Okay.  
Did you hear what she said?  
- She say okay?- Yeah!  
Did you say okay?  
Yeah.  
Promise to go to school.  
Yes, yes.



Every day. On time.  
I didn't know you were such a good biker.  
Rust and women are the same.  
"Rust and women are the same"?  
They are the same.  
What is it?  
Your fat Yeah. id that?  
Some joke...  
I don't know what it meant.  
Look at that. Oh, ho...  
You're so kind. Look at me.  
He did all the work, you know that.  
He's really good.  
Thank you, Jeff!  
You're welcome.  
Come in.  
Something up, Bill?  
No, no, I just couldn't sleep, that's all.  
I have no money.  
All the money that I inherited is...  
It's gone.  
And Linda...  
Linda...  
She spends and spends.  
And my salary's nowhere near enough.  
I can't say no to her.  
The bank's gonna repossess the house...  
because I'm so far behind on the payments.  
And I'm gonna lose Linda.  
I know it.  
I know I am.  
She loves you, Bill.  
Oh, don't cry.  
I shouldn't have told you.  
Don't worry.  
- Shouldn't have told you.- It's okay.  
Don't worry.  
No, I think you've got enough... stuff.  
Would it make you feel better  
if I told you a secret?  
What secret could you tell me?  
I'm going blind.  
Not yet, but...  
Soon.

Maybe sometimethis year.  
Blind...  
It's not as badas it sounds.  
It's, uh...  
It's a family thing.  
But, blind?  
I've always known it.  
From... when I wasa little girl,  
I knew.  
And you're okay?  
Well, I came to America  
because in America,  
they can give Genean operation.  
You know?  
Gene?  
He doesn't knowabout it.  
You... youmustn't tell him,  
because thenit could get worse.  
I just have to save upmoney, you know,  
enough money to...  
Oh, I almost got it.  
To, uh...  
For the operation.  
They can operate on Genewhen he turns 1 3.  
And you made up that storyabout your father?  
Huh.  
I never had a father.  
I made uphis name, too.  
And that's why youput in all these hours  
and do all these pinsand do everything you do.  
For him.  
For his operation.  
Well, it is my fault.  
I guess...  
How is it your fault?  
Because l...I knew he would...  
he would havebad eyes like me.  
But I had him...  
all the same.  
You're very strong.  
I'm not strong.  
I've gotlittle games I play  
when it goes really hard.  
When I'm workingin the factory...

and the machines, they make these...  
rhythms...

And I just start dreaming,  
and it all becomes music.

But you like movies, don't you?

- I love the movies.- Yeah?

I just love the musicals.

Oh, when they're all tap dancing?

All of them tap dancing,  
all of them, this huge, long line.

I... wouldn't you like to be  
in that big, long line?

Yeah.

Kicking your feet up there?

Yeah.

When they're, like, spiraling up  
the huge, enormous wedding cakes  
to the top?

Yeah.

But isn't that annoying  
when they do the last song in the films, though?

Why?

Because you just know when it goes really big,  
and the camera goes, like, out of the roof,  
and you just know it's gonna end.

I hate that.

I really hate that.

I used to cheat on that when I was a little girl  
back in Czechoslovakia.

I would leave the cinema  
just after the next to last song,  
and the film would just go on forever.

It's lovely, isn't it?

That is lovely.

Selma...

Yeah?

Thank you for telling me your secret.

Thanks for telling me yours.

Mum's the word, right?

"Mum"?

We don't tell anybody?

Oh, yes.

I won't tell anyone.

Goodbye.

Goodbye.  
Oh, thank you.  
So, can I get you another?  
Yeah, sure.  
How about a big one?  
How many is there in a big one?  
I'll have a big one.  
What's this guy's name again?  
Who?  
The old man, your old man,  
the guy we're carding these pins for.  
Her father?  
I know. Oldrich.  
Right?  
Yeah.  
Oldrich Novy.  
He used to dance in Prague.  
You commies make a big deal  
out of sharing everything.  
Yeah.  
It's--It's a good thing.  
What are you doing here if, uh...  
Czechoslovakia's so much better  
than the U.S. of A?  
No, Selma, no!  
There are two plates.  
It's all right.  
You know what happens  
when you put two plates in, don't you?  
Well, she didn't do it. I mean, it didn't happen--  
You destroy the tool.  
It takes a whole day  
to mend.  
Never two plates, Selma, never!  
You cheated the doctor.  
You shouldn't be working at the press at all.  
I mean, how dare you! Just how much can you see?  
I could do my job with my eyes closed.  
So could you.  
No.  
It's just because I was daydreaming.  
Daydreaming?  
Dreaming about what?  
Oh, I just hear music.

Come on. I mean, Selma, music?  
You could also cut off your hand  
just like that. You have to watch out  
every second.  
Promise me you'll stay awake.  
I--I promise I will stop daydreaming.  
Aw, you're not--you repeat,  
but you don't even listen to me.  
I don't know why I bother that much.  
Hi, Selma.  
If you're not going with Kathy,  
can I give you a lift?  
I don't want a boyfriend.  
I--I told you.  
Yeah.  
You're a really nice guy, Jeff,  
but...  
I just don't have time for a boyfriend.  
Not right now.  
I know.  
If I wanted a boyfriend, it would be you, Jeff.  
I just don't want one right now.  
All right.  
No problem, you know,  
on the back, to have the bike there.  
Yeah.  
Bye, Jeff.  
I don't think it's very safe, you know,  
to ride a bike wearing glasses and all.  
- Selma?- Bye, Jeff.  
Huh?  
Are you okay?  
Yeah, I'm fine.  
Hello, Selma.  
Hi, Bill.  
Headed home?  
Uh, yes.  
Want to put it in the back?  
Oh, that would be lovely. Yes, please.  
Hi, Jeff.  
Hey. Did you see the truck?  
No?  
They're blind,  
driving like crazy.

He's what?  
He's driving like crazy.  
Getting dirty.  
That's all right.  
Thank you.  
Bye, Jeff.  
Bye.  
Thank you, Bill.  
- Okay?- Okay, yeah.  
If I could just make the next payment,  
I'd have a bit more time.  
Yeah.  
All I need is a loan.  
It'd just be a month.  
This money is Gene's.  
I'm sorry, Bill.  
That's all right. I shouldn't have asked.  
Oh, you had to. Don't worry,  
there's no harm in asking.  
No, no, I shouldn't have asked.  
Linda wants new couches.  
I could always shoot myself.  
You mustn't say things like that.  
It's--Make things easier.  
- You know that, Bill.- Aw, Selma.  
You mustn't say things like that.  
Selma, I'm kidding.  
Hi, Selma. Come on in.  
Hi, Gene.  
Good morning.  
Hi.  
How are you?  
Fine, thank you.  
Can I see the gun?  
Yeah, go on, sure.  
- He's got a gun?- Sure.  
He's a police officer.  
I just didn't know he would keep it here,  
in the house.  
Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah.  
He keeps it in his desk.  
Maybe I should pay more rent.  
It's been the same  
for the whole period I've been here.

No, Selma, I won't hear it.  
You keep your money. You need it more  
than we do.  
Two boxes?  
Did you decide you are going to do  
two boxes at the same time now?  
Yeah.

**Selma... 1 0:**

What happens at 1 0:00?  
I'm--I'm gonna do the night shift.  
The night shift?  
You can hardly see well enough  
to do your own shift.  
It suits me fine.  
It's just after drama class.  
You are going to do that, too?  
I've had my fill of you, Selma.  
You do what you want.  
Go ahead, break your neck.  
Do your night shift,  
but don't think for one second  
I'm going to come and rescue you.  
Selma?  
Kathy split already.  
I'm not looking for Kathy.  
I was looking for you.  
I just have to go to drama rehearsal.  
So what do you say?  
You can always ride your bike.  
You have it over there.  
I left it at home.  
I thought it'd be quicker if I walked.  
How do you reckon that?  
I just walk along the railroad tracks.  
It's a...  
shortcut.  
Look, I don't understand. In musicals...  
why do they start to sing and dance all of a sudden?  
I mean, I don't suddenly start... to sing and dance.  
No...  
You're right, Jeff. You don't.  
The last thing on the list is the bake sale.  
Two Sundays away.

Hi, Selma. Come on in, come on in.  
I'm gonna introduce you to your understudy.  
My understudy?  
Yeah.  
This girl Suzan, who Boris knows,  
is a good singer. She's a good dancer.  
She'll learn your part, too,  
because, say, you get a cold,  
and...  
you can't do it,  
then the show doesn't have to stop.  
Okay?  
Suzan, Selma. Selma, Suzan.  
Could you take off your glasses?  
I think we'll do the part  
without glasses.  
Next Sunday, you will see  
both Marias.  
I mean, Selma will do the role, really,  
but... I'll have you read part of it too.  
All right?  
It's your first time on the night shift,  
right?  
While this is being pressed,  
you'll be cutting on the other machine.  
That means you'll be in charge  
of two machines.  
You have to beat Sarah over there, right?  
This pallet must never be empty.  
Is it always so dark in here?  
What?  
Is it always so dark in here?  
It's exactly the same as the daytime.  
Oh. Okay.  
The only thing is you have to work a little faster.  
That's what you're paid for, right?  
- Okay. - Okay?  
Thank you.  
- Excuse me. - Yeah?  
You have to work a little, you know,  
a little faster than this.  
Okay.  
What are you doing here?  
What do you think?



I didn't put you down for the night shift, Kathy.  
Run along, Norman.  
I'm on my own time now.  
How I spend it is my own business.  
'Night, ladies!  
Good night!  
Faster.  
A little faster.  
I like it better when you dance.  
You should dance more... Cvalda.  
I will dance when there is music.  
It's music.  
Now dance.  
Selma!  
Stop that, you've cut yourself!  
Get away from the machine!  
Henry!  
Oh, Jeff is here.  
Hello, Jeff.  
Hi, Kathy.  
Do you live here?  
Thought she might say yes to a ride  
when it's this late.  
M-maybe Kathy...  
wants a ride.  
No, it's all right.  
What's that, with your hand?  
She cut her...  
Cut my finger.  
Yeah. It's going to be all right.  
The plates are sharp.  
Goodnight.  
Careful.  
I think I found a solution to our problem.  
That makes me really happy.  
It's nothing special...  
But I've made up my mind. I'm gonna tell Linda,  
and, uh...  
I mean, after all, she loves me, and...  
We'll just work it out together.  
That sounds like a really good idea, Bill.  
I'm sorry, I'll let you get to bed.  
I guess I'm kinda tired.  
Thanks, Bill.

Good night, Selma.  
Good night, Bill.  
Bill?  
What's happening now?  
Here we go. Selma, are you ready?  
And...  
You're on.  
Cut. Cut, stop.  
Stop, please.  
This is Selma's entrance, okay?  
Yeah?  
Okay, Paul, please.  
How fardo you think it is?  
I don't know.  
And...  
Kathy, what are you doing?  
This is Maria's entrance.  
Yes. I'm sorry.  
My mistake.  
Please, please!  
I don't have all night!  
Six steps.  
Let's take this a little more seriously.  
Good!  
Okay, I'm thinking maybe, Selma...  
You could take a little sort of circle around Boris  
on this next part,  
unless you have something else you wanna suggest.  
I'm open.  
Okay?  
Samuel.  
Yes?  
I need to talk to you.  
Oh, Selma, please, if it's about the drummer,  
I have been looking everywhere for a drummer--  
It's not about the drummer.  
It's not about the drummer.  
Um... just a quick word.  
Do you wanna go outside?  
Yup.  
Okay.  
I--I'm not gonna play Maria.  
What?  
My heart just isn't in this...

Like, I shouldn't be wasting my time  
on something...  
that isn't...that important really.  
I've been watching Suzan, and she's...  
She's great.  
She's... She's very--  
She's a much better dancer than I am.  
Terrific.  
Suzan's terrific. I'm not denying that,  
but you--I thought you lived for musicals.  
So you've been pretending the whole time?  
Yes.  
I've just been pretending.  
I don't know what else I could do with you.  
I've got everything cast right now.  
Yeah.  
The only part that's left is the old nun  
who lets Maria out of the convent gate.  
I don't think you'd want that part.  
There's no dancing in that.  
She's quite serious then?  
She's serious.  
It's important for the part.  
Okay. I'm not dancing really.  
No.  
I could put a little bit of dancing in there.  
You think so?  
It--I didn't have it in mind.  
You can have your tapping.  
She could be just a little... humorous  
once in a while...  
even though she's a nun.  
You'll always be my perfect Maria.  
Where are all the hairpins today?  
I left them at home.  
And she won't be playing Maria.  
What do you reckon I'm gonna do  
if I can't bowl you out for learning your lines  
on company time?  
One...two...  
Three!  
What kind of a joke is that?  
Well, she's beating me.  
I need a word with you.

We're talking right now.  
All right...  
Come on.  
Please sit down.  
We were off for the whole day.  
Everything stops when the machine breaks.  
You know that.  
I--I can do my job just fine...  
if I stick to the day shift.  
This won't happen again.  
Look, I daydream too much.  
I--I decided to quit.  
And...  
And I guess, then I--I forgot.  
I've been ordered to let you go, Selma.  
You're not gonna have to pay  
for the machine you broke.  
I got them to agree to that.  
Uh, thanks, Norman.  
This is your salary.  
And you know, um...  
Maybe we can find you something  
away from the machines  
where your eyesight wouldn't matter so much.  
Yeah...  
Not right away.  
That's very kind of you.  
I better go.  
I'll be okay. I really will.  
Thanks, Norman.  
Thank you, Selma.  
Thank you.  
What is she going to do now?  
Did you ever think about that?  
Don't worry, Kathy. Really.  
I'm gonna be fine.  
Has anybody seen Jeff today?  
He's usually here early, Selma,  
but not this early.  
It's a shame.  
Selma!  
Selma...  
I could give you a lift if you want.  
I--I will need a lift...

Later.

I need to dosomething important

**at...at 3:**

Well, you need to getyour truck then, don't you?

Yeah.

Train's coming.Get off the track, Jeff.

You have to be careful.

Stay to the side.

You can't see,can you?

What is there to see?

You can't see,can you?

**See you at 3:**

I can see.

Gene hasn'tcome back yet.

I need to talk to Bill.

He decided totake the day off  
to go to the bankfor his box.

Is he--is he upstairs?

Yeah.

I know everything, Selma.

Bill told me.

I want you to move out!

I--I don't understand.

Wh-what would you know?

That you came onto him.

That you asked himinto the trailer,  
but heturned you down!

You've got nothingto say for yourself?

No.

I want to talk to Bill.

Hi, Bill.

Linda saw me go upto the, um...

Up to the trailer.

I told her it was youwho wanted to, uh...

That you'd...

That you'd fallenin love with me.

I know.She told me.

And what didyou tell her?

Nothing.

You didn't tell herI was lying?

Mum's the word, right?

Linda told meyou went to the bank.

I went to the bank to ask for more time.  
But I couldn't do it.  
And I brought the box home instead.  
Linda always gets so proud  
when she sees me sitting in here with it.  
But you have put my money in it,  
haven't you?  
To make it look like it's yours.  
I tried to shoot myself, but...  
I couldn't do that either.  
But it's my money, Bill.  
I'm gonna have to take it.  
Well, you can have it back.  
No, you can have it.  
Bill...  
You can have it back in a month.  
But--but I can't do that, Bill.  
Selma.  
I--I've decided to...  
to pay the doctor  
this afternoon.  
I can't save up more money.  
That's over now.  
Gene doesn't even turn 13  
until after Christmas.  
It was \$2,026  
and 10 cents  
in the tin.  
I can't count it now, but I trust you.  
And it's...  
\$30 I got today...  
which makes it  
and 10 cents.  
It's not enough.  
But it'll have to do.  
Selma...  
- Bye, Bill.- Selma...  
Selma, stop.  
I'm pointing my gun at you, Selma.  
I don't believe you.  
You're just trying to scare me.  
I can't see a gun.  
Selma...  
Just... feel this. Feel this.

Just feel it! Feel it!  
Do you believe I have the gun?  
I believe you.  
But it's my money.  
No, it's my money.  
It's the money I had in my box.  
And you're trying to steal it from me.  
Selma?  
Selma! Selma, stop!  
Selma, stop! Linda!  
- No! - Linda! Linda!  
What's the matter, Bill?  
She tried to steal the money.  
She knew I had the gun in my...  
in my drawer and she--  
Is that why you wanted him,  
for the money?  
Go out to the car and get my handcuffs.  
Go get the handcuffs.  
Give me the money.  
Give me the money.  
Give me the money and I'll let you go.  
No.  
No.  
Where should I go?  
Just give me the money.  
Selma.  
Just give me the money!  
The money.  
Give me the money!  
No!  
No!  
- Get--- No!  
Bill! Oh, Bill!  
You shot me.  
No, no, Selma.  
You did the right thing.  
I should've done it myself.  
Kill me.  
Just kill me.  
Will you just be my friend...  
and show some mercy, please, and just...  
kill me?  
Your handcuffs aren't in the car, Bill.

Just showsome mercy, Selma,  
and just...  
Linda, run.  
Run up to Miller's farm.Just run up to Miller's farm  
and call the station.Tell them to hurry.  
Run! Get up there!Go on to Miller's farm!  
If you wantthe money...  
you're gonna haveto kill me.  
Don't do this to me.  
Don't do thisto me.  
I'm not letting go.  
No.  
Selma, shoot me!  
Just shoot me!Shoot me! Shoot me!  
Shoot me!!  
Cant't youjust stand up  
and pullthe goddamn trigger!  
I'll have totake the money.  
Forgive me.  
Selma?  
Jeff.  
What are youdoing here?

**Is it already 3:**

Uh, not really.  
Hell, I'm always early.  
You cut yourself again.  
There's some bloodon your blouse.  
Strange.  
I couldn't feel itat all.  
Selma...  
We're here now.  
By the bus stop?  
Yeah, the bus stop.  
It's over there.  
And the lakeis here?  
Promise methat you won't follow me.  
Promise.  
Yeah, I promise.  
Dobry Vecer,Pane Doktore.  
Dobry Vecer.  
I would like to payfor the operation now.  
\$2,056...  
and 1 0 cents.



I know it's not quite  
what you told me, but...  
but it's all I could get together.  
Well.  
What last name  
shall I put on the receipt?  
Oh, I don't need a receipt.  
I really don't.  
I have to know the name of your son.  
When he comes in for his operation.  
Novy...  
He will come,  
and he will say that his name is Novy.  
And then you will know...  
that he has been paid for.  
Novy?  
Like Oldrich Novy,  
the tap dancer?  
It is strange, isn't it?  
But he never really made it over here,  
did he?  
I saw his films when I was a kid.  
He was in the first musical  
I ever saw.  
Same here.  
Selma?  
It's Tuesday night.  
What about your rehearsal?  
Yeah, I guess.  
You want to go?  
Yeah.  
Then maybe put your arm around her,  
and... a little bit of...  
Hi, Selma.  
Hi, Samuel.  
We weren't sure you'd show up, actually.  
Sure, I'd show up.  
Hi.  
Nice to see you.  
Be right back.  
Okay.  
She's here.  
Yeah.  
Okay.

Okay.  
Okay, I think--I think you could...  
try it one more time for me.  
But I should--I should be going now.  
I think Gene may wonder where I am.  
Jeff, he--he hasn't seen me all day.  
I think maybe we could do your scene.  
Let's do the tapping scene.  
Okay? We haven't done it in weeks,  
and we really need to rehearse it,  
and while you're here, we might as well  
take advantage of the time, please?  
Okay, let's do the tapping scene.  
You come offstage--  
Let me have the nuns up there.  
Imagine--you're going to do  
Selma's part for her  
for right now, all right?  
You like it?  
Yes.  
We haven't done it for a while.  
Remember that part we did where--  
where you, uh...  
you come to the convent gate  
to say goodbye to the--to Maria?  
I should leave, Jeff.  
What?  
Gene--Gene is probably worried now.  
I haven't seen him all day.  
All right.  
I'm sorry, Samuel, but...  
Betty, come here for a second, please.  
The drummer that you wanted--  
Remember, you asked me for a drummer?  
I found somebody. She's fantastic.  
Her name's Betty. She's right here  
for the first time tonight.  
Please meet her. Selma, this is Betty.  
Hi, Betty.  
You play the drums?  
Yeah.  
Tell her how long you've been studying.  
Two years.  
She's wonderful.

You've got to stay and enjoy this.  
You've got to--I have an idea.  
Let's do the finale.  
I just remembered, you hate finales.  
No finale!  
I've a better idea.  
"Climb Every Mountain," part one.  
The state will show  
that the defendant has not only perpetrated  
the most callous...  
and well-planned homicide in recent memory...  
but is also fundamentally selfish  
individual...  
who cynically hides  
behind a handicap,  
devoid of sympathy for anybody  
but herself.  
This woman found trust and friendship  
when she sought refuge in our country,  
and the evidence will show  
that she has repaid such kindness with betrayal,  
robbery, and murder,  
inflicted upon the very people  
who opened their homes and hearts to her.  
Ladies and gentlemen of the jury...  
The evidence will prove that she herself...  
did not show that mercy she will ask of us.  
Is this the bag here, detective?  
Yes, the very same.  
Houston's blood was all over it.  
Well, shortly before the homicide,  
I had a check upon her vision,  
and I found that she was myopic.  
It's nearsighted--  
Nearsighted, but... She could see.  
Yes.  
She said communism was...  
better for human beings.  
She had nothing but contempt  
for our great country and its principles?  
Apart from its musicals. She said the American one...  
the American ones were better.  
So...  
the defendant preferred Hollywood

to Vladivostok.

I suppose that's an acknowledgement of sorts.

She just asked many times

about the money.

She wanted to know where it was?

That's right.

She asked you about the gun?

Yes, she did.

She wanted to know where it was kept?

That's right.

Bill was lying on the floor

and... he was wounded.

And...

And...

He was pleading for his life?

Yes.

"I--I beg you, I beg you,

I beg you."

You showed him no mercy, Selma!

You shall have no mercy either!

Would you state your name for the record, please?

Selma Jezkova.

And Bill and Linda Houston...

were your friends, is that right?

Yeah.

In fact, you lived in a trailer

on their property.

Yeah.

And didn't they also

take care of your young son

when you were at work?

Yeah.

They bought him a...

birthday present recently.

Is that right?

Yeah. They got him a bike.

Right.

Your sight was poor,

you claim, contrary to

the expert testimony we have received.

But you saw well enough

to inflict 34 wounds on Bill Houston.

So why did you kill him, actually?

If I may be so bold to ask?

He asked me to.

He did?

How intriguing.

A man with a fine career  
and some wealth, a happy marriage,  
why would this Bill Houston  
ask you to kill him?

I promised not to say.

Well, that clears things up immensely.

You promised you wouldn't say.

In that case, we'll just have to take your word for it  
when you say that the money you stole  
that Bill Houston's savings  
also disappeared so mysteriously  
that same day.

Just, uh...

Just where did you get your money?

Well...

I'd been saving up.

Well, I suppose you could call it that.

What were these savings to be used for?

You never bought your son  
so much as a single birthday present,  
as we've heard.

Yes?

My--my father.

In Czechoslovakia.

Your father?

And what, pray tell...

is his name?

My--my father is...

Oldrich Novy.

So...

We're meant to believe...  
that you killed Bill Houston  
by inflicting 34 wounds on him  
because...

He asked you to.

Just as we're meant to believe  
that you were blind when you did it...

Are meant to believe that it was your own savings  
that you stole from him...

Just as we're meant to believe  
that you sent all you had

to your father back home,  
a man by the name of Oldrich Novy.

Is that right?

Yes.

Thank you, Miss Jezkova.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury,  
you've now heard from the defendant's own lips.

You must believe her,  
just as you must believe her  
when she claims her father's name  
is Oldrich Novy.

Your Honor...

at this time, the state calls  
to the witness stand...

Oldrich Novy.

Please state your full name.

The name is Oldrich Novy.

And you used to live in Czechoslovakia?

That is right.

I live now in California, as you know.

That's right, that's where we found you.

What exactly is your relationship  
with the defendant?

I do not know her.

You don't know her?

So...

You have not received money  
from her.

Money that--that...

she says was so dearly earned?

No, I have not.

Perhaps you're not her father then?

No, I am not.

Well, if this relationship  
was made up by the defendant,  
then...

can you think of any way  
she might've come to know your name?

I was once well known in Czechoslovakia  
uh... because of my profession.

Yes, Mr. Oldrich Novy, what is your profession?

Maybe that can give us a clue to why,  
why this somewhat... romantic,  
certainly communistic, woman

who worships Fred Astaire but not his country,  
why she might've lied...  
and misused your name...  
to make us think all her money was spent  
on a poor father and not on her own vanity.  
What is it that you do?  
I was an actor. I made films.  
They were musicals.  
Say it again!  
Will the court please rise?  
The honorable Judge A.D. Mantle presiding.  
Have you reached a verdict?  
Yes, Your Honor.  
Will the defendant please rise?  
We, the jury, find the defendant  
Selma Jezkova  
guilty of murder in the first degree  
and hereby sentence her to death.  
Is this the verdict of this jury?  
You fully understand that it must be unanimous?  
We do, Your Honor.  
Selma Jezkova...  
You are hereby sentenced  
to be taken from this place  
and confined in the state penitentiary  
until such time as you shall be executed  
by being hanged by the neck  
until you are dead.  
This court is adjourned.  
All rise!  
I've just heard about the...  
Supreme Court decision.  
Yeah, I...  
I just want to talk practical stuff.  
On Gene's birthday...  
he will receive a letter.  
And it's so important, Kathy...  
that he reads it really carefully.  
I need you to take care of that for me...  
because I'm not gonna be there  
when he gets it.  
He should not be afraid,  
because there's nothing to be afraid of, Kathy.  
Listen, Gene wants to see you so badly.

Won't you let him? Please?  
There's nothing for him to see.  
He's got you now, Kathy.  
And there's one more thing:  
He has to call himself Novy.  
That's very important.  
All right, time's up, Selma.  
I know that sounds a bit foolish.  
Novy?  
I'm sorry I didn't tell you before  
about all this. I just didn't dare to  
because they would ruin everything.  
But what--Why does he  
have to call himself Novy?  
Stop asking questions like that, Cvalda.  
Please... I let me tell Gene hello...  
from you to him.  
No.  
I know you love your son very much.  
I love him very much.  
Got a boy of my own back home.  
You never told me that.  
Good night, Brenda.  
Good night.  
Say hi to your son from me.  
Thank you, Selma.  
Can I help you?  
Did you once have a patient called...  
Jezkova...  
Selma Jezkova?  
Well, if it wasn't too long ago,  
I can check my records for you.  
Jes... Jez... Jess...  
Sorry, there's no one here by that name.  
What about Novy?  
I have good news for you.  
What's that?  
We found a new lawyer...  
and he's going to get your case re-opened.  
He says your lawyer was incompetent.  
What do you mean?  
Well, the case is going to be re-opened.  
You won't get the death sentence.  
Is that true?



Yes. New information has turned up.  
Wh-what information?  
Well, we know the whole story, Selma.  
Why didn't you tell us anything?  
You know, about...  
about the money for Gene's operation.  
How did you find out?  
Well, Jeff talked to the doctor.  
Does--does Gene know?  
I mean, have you told Gene?  
No. No, I didn't.  
But you've got a much better case now.  
That's very important, Kathy.  
His eyes might get worse from worrying,  
and then the operation won't work.  
Yes, but, Selma...  
Don't you see that it would help you  
if they knew that you were trying to save your son  
from going blind?  
The lawyer, he'll come and see you  
in two weeks' time.  
Kathy, but, uh...  
You know they're hanging me  
in one week.  
We know that, but he says  
you can apply for a stay.  
You know, most cases get one the first time.  
Well, you can smile.  
Selma...  
Yeah... it's just too much for me.  
I thought I was strong.  
I just can't take it, Kathy.  
Apply for a stay.  
What if they don't phone?  
Uh, well, you'll be transferred to the other...  
cell block at some point tomorrow.  
That's the cell block where they hang people.  
Yeah, that's where they...  
spend the last day.  
And then they do their 1 07 steps.  
It's from that room...  
to the gallows, isn't it?  
That's what they say, Selma, but...  
Look at...

You're gonna get your stay.  
Why don't you try to think of something nice,  
all right?  
It's just so quiet here.  
What's that got to do with it, Selma?  
You know, when I used to work in the factory...  
I used to dream that I was in a musical,  
because, in a musical,  
nothing dreadful ever happens.  
But it's so quiet here.  
Don't the prisoners march or something?  
March? No.  
Yeah?  
No, they don't. They don't...  
There's not...  
There's not much noise around here, Selma,  
I know.  
But later they turn on the radio.  
No, no, no. There's no...  
They don't allow radio in the isolation block.  
But I've been listening to the ventilation...  
shaft.  
I hear sometimes people singing there,  
like...  
hymns or...  
That's not against the rules,  
to listen, is it?  
No.  
I wonder if...  
if maybe you're hearing the singing  
coming from the chapel.  
Yeah?  
Maybe you'll even get a sermon.  
Selma...  
Selma...  
You got your stay.  
You got the stay.  
I'm so happy for you.  
I'm your new legal counsel.  
My name is Luke, okay?  
Oh, hi, Luke.  
I'm, uh, quite sure...  
I can get your sentence commuted.  
All I need is a signature

stating you want the case re-opened...  
and then I can get all the paperwork ready  
by tomorrow.

Yeah.

There's a lot of things your other lawyer didn't do  
that I'm going to do.

A lot of ground that wasn't covered  
that I am going to cover.

The fact that you were fighting for your boy  
is something we can really milk.

I have some experience in cases like this, so...

That's what the attorney before said.

Uh... yeah.

You see, he was appointed by the court,  
and you don't get the best legal counsel  
that way.

Y-You were not appointed by the court?

I'm not appointed by the court, no.

You're gonna have to pay me.

But... not to worry.

Yeah?

That's been taken care of.

I made a deal with your... lady friend?

Deal?

Yeah, in regard to my fee.

I've agreed to accept the amount  
that she said she could raise.

How much...

How much was it?

Well, I can tell you precisely,  
because I received an envelope.

It's, uh, two thousand dollars--  
\$2,056.10?

That's it precisely.

Now...

There's something here.

I'd like to just sort of go over our tactics.

I have a couple of questions to ask you.

If he doesn't have the operation next month,  
it's gonna be too late!

And he will never be able to see!

This is what it's all about,  
so he can see his grandchildren!

Well, let me tell you something.

The only thing that's important to me  
in my whole life,  
and you don't understand, Kathy!  
- Listen to me!- It's just plain stupidity!  
- Listen to me!- Waste that kind of money...  
on a blind woman who's gonna spend  
the rest of her life in jail!  
But he needs his mother, you know,  
alive, no matter where!  
You don't understand!  
He needs his eyes!  
- He needs his mother!- No!  
- Yes! Alive!- No!  
Listen to reason for once!  
Selma.  
Selma.  
I listen to my heart.  
I will go to the police. I will tell them that...  
you stole the money from... from Bill.  
Oh, yes, I will tell that.  
I will tell them that,  
that you stole it from Bill,  
and you will never see the money again!  
That will be gone for good.  
No operation! Nothing! No mother! Nothing!  
You can have your money back.  
I just want to make sure  
that you fully comprehend  
what this means, this decision.  
Yeah.  
You fully realize what will happen?  
Yeah.  
I already asked for no more stays.  
Once this starts, there's no stopping it.  
You understand me?  
Yeah.  
I'm prepared.  
Gene says thank you.  
Thanks for what?  
Oh, some comic books on his birthday.  
You can't buy him... presents  
and say it's from me.  
You have to stop doing that, Jeff.  
Uh, maybe you can just...

phone him.  
Just say, you know...  
something to him.  
No, that's--that's not a good idea.  
He wants to be the one...  
who's allowed to be there when it happens.  
But I-- And then they told him  
he's too young.  
Who put that crazy idea into his head anyway?  
I don't want him to be there.  
I'll be there if you would.  
And Kathy?  
You know Kathy. She's...  
She's still angry.  
If you think you can take it...  
I would love you to be there.  
Don't cry, Jeff.  
Jeff, don't cry. It's gonna be fine.  
Jeff.  
Why did you have him?  
You knew he would have the same disease as you.  
I just wanted to hold a little baby...  
just in my arms.  
I love you.  
It's time, Selma.  
Okay?  
Okay.  
Your meal, Jezkova.  
Selma Jezkova...  
It's time.  
Please stand.  
She can walk on her own.  
Selma...  
I'm afraid my legs aren't working very well.  
You can do it, Selma.  
Yeah.  
I have a plan, okay?  
Yeah.  
You're gonna stand up with me.  
Yeah.  
I may make some noise.  
It will give you something to listen to.  
Yeah.  
Listen.

There's 1 07 steps.  
Selma, listento the mark.  
I couldn't even do one.  
You can do it.  
I can't do it!  
Now listen, Selma.  
I want you to doone--there, one.  
Come on.  
Listen.  
Two.  
Three...  
four...  
five... six...  
seven... eight...  
nine... ten...  
Selma Jezkova,  
do you haveany last words?  
Very well.Proceed.  
Selma.  
Selma, you okay?  
It's okay.It's okay.  
Come on now.  
Use the board.  
Oh, no, no. No, wait.Give her a chance.  
She can stand up.She can stand.  
In here.  
It's okay.It's okay.  
It's okay.  
It's okay.  
It's okay.  
The strapson her hands.  
I'm scared.  
It's okay.  
- I'm so scared!- I know.  
On the mark.  
No!  
I can't do the hood!  
It's okay.Selma.  
I have to breathe!  
Nobody told meabout the hood!  
It's just soyou can't see, Selma.  
- I can't breathe!- I know.  
I can't breathe!  
- Look, look--- I can't breathe!

I have to breathe!  
Look, she can't breathe.  
She can't breathe! She can't--  
I'm taking it. I'm taking it.  
This is irregular.  
I don't care if it's irregular.  
- We have regulations.- She's blind--  
I don't care about the regulations!  
The girl is blind, for Christ's sake.  
I'm gonna make a call.  
Yeah, make the call--  
Gene...  
Yeah, we have a situation here.  
I'll hold for him.  
Gene...  
The woman's blind... I'll wait.  
Gene...  
Gene...  
Waiting for a call.  
Gene...  
Gene!  
Gene!  
Gene!  
He--he's just outside.  
He gave me these for you.  
Guard.  
So he had the operation?  
He will see his grandchildren!  
He is just outside.  
You were right, Selma!