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Age: 14, Grade: 9

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Educator:

Category: Dramatic Script

Agnello Al Macello (Lamb To Slaughter)

ACT II

SCENE I

Curtain opens to AURELIA'S cottage. She takes her dagger out of her bag and pulls it out of its sheath. AURELIA examines the dagger, flashing it to the audience. She puts it back in its sheath and puts the knife in the pocket of her dress. She is startled by a knock on the door. AURELIA goes and opens the door. ELISABETTA, LISABETTA, ISABETTA, and NICCOLETTA are at her doorstep. AURELIA tried her best to look and sound happy.

AURELIA: [fake smiles] Ciao!

ELISABETTA, LISABETTA, ISABETTA, NICCOLETTA: Ciao!

ELISABETTA, LISABETTA, ISABETTA, and NICCOLETTA let themselves into the cottage.

ELISABETTA: [giggles] You've had yourself a fun day.

AURELIA: [softly chuckles] Yeah. I'll never forget it.

LISABETTA: I cannot believe you and Leo kissed!

AURELIA: [raises an eyebrow] Is it that unbelievable?

LISABETTA: No, it was just so sudden. You've only known this boy for three days.

AURELIA: [softly chuckles] Yeah. I guess you could say that I work fast.

LISABETTA: [giggles] You go, girl!

ISABETTA: Is something the matter Aurelia?

AURELIA: [pauses then softly grunts] Nothing really, I'm just not feeling too well.

ELISABETTA: Come on girls, let's let Aurelia rest.

ELISABETTA, LISABETTA, ISABETTA, and NICCOLETTA get up and head for the door.

AURELIA: Wait! Before you go, could you let Leonardo know to meet me at the bridge at 5:00?

NICCOLETTA: [gasps then winks] Sure, we'll let him know.

AURELIA: [scoffs] It's not like that.

ISABETTA: Sure it isn't.

LISABETTA, ISABETTA, and NICCOLETTA exit the cottage. ELISABETTA stays behind.

ELISABETTA: I believe that it's not like that, however, I'm just going to tell you to not do anything I wouldn't do.

AURELIA: Yes ma'am.

ELISABETTA: [softly laughs then turns and leaves, closing the door behind her]

AURELIA: [sighs a defeated sigh and starts softly sobbing]

Lights dim and curtain closes. End of Scene I.

SCENE II

Curtain opens to a setting in the woods with a bridge over a river of water. AURELIA is upstage left. She looks defeated. LEONARDO enters stage right and sees AURELIA. He walks over to her.

LEONARDO: [kisses the side of AURELIA's head] You wanted to see me?

AURELIA: [looks straight ahead] I do.

LEONARDO: [notices AURELIA's gloomy expression] What's wrong?

AURELIA: [turns her head and looks at LEONARDO] Leonardo, I haven't been truthful with you. I think now is the time to tell you who I truly am.

LEONARDO: [confused] What do you mean?

AURELIA: [looks straight ahead] My family didn't kick me out. They're supposed to be dead.

LEONARDO: W-what?

AURELIA: My family died because of the Black Death. I don't know how I didn't die. I was broken, I had no one. Then this... force... came and made a deal with me. They promised me that I would get my family back if I would work for them. I didn't know what that meant, so with me being a naive 16-year-old, I agreed. I should've known to never make deals with the Devil. They tricked me. I thought I would get my family back- and I did, but they don't remember or notice me. Now, I'm stuck here doing the Devil's bidding, and there's nothing I can do about it. If I disobey, more people die. I can't stay in one place for too long or else people get suspicious, so I make up the lie of my family kicking me out. But, no one questions it. I mean... why wouldn't you want to trust an innocent little girl?

AURELIA: [pauses then sighs] I-I'm stuck.

LEONARDO: [pauses and looks at AURELIA like she is crazy] What do they have you do?

AURELIA: Steal, trick, torture people. But, worst of all... they make me kill.

LEONARDO: [pauses] How many?

AURELIA: W-what?

LEONARDO: How many people have you killed?

AURELIA: [sighs] I lost count when I turned 17. I regret everything, but it doesn't even matter anymore, they're dead.

LEONARDO: [pauses]

LEONARDO: [assertively] I can help you.

AURELIA: [scoffs and turns to LEONARDO] How? Don't you think I tried everything?

LEONARDO: No. No, we will find a way. I'm not going to lose you! Not this soon.

AURELIA: [pauses and tears well up in her eyes] And I don't want to lose you either.

AURELIA kisses LEONARDO.

LEONARDO: [breaks away from the kiss and looks at AURELIA] Why are you telling me this?

AURELIA pauses and discreetly reaches for the knife in her pocket.

AURELIA: Because... I thought it would be fair to tell you why you have to die.

AURELIA suddenly stabs LEONARDO and pulls the knife out of his body. LEONARDO looks back at AURELIA confused and terrified. LEONARDO starts spewing blood out of his mouth and slowly falls to the floor. AURELIA stands over LEONARDO.

AURELIA: [sniffles] I'm sorry Leonardo.

AURELIA takes the knife and stabs him in the heart. LEONARDO twitches but then stops moving. AURELIA slowly takes the knife out of LEONARDO'S body. She goes to the river and washes the blood off of the knife and slips the dagger back into its sheath. She places the dagger into the pocket of her dress and then washes her hands in the river's water. When she finishes, she slowly walks back towards LEONARDO's body. AURELIA bends down and gently closes his eyes.

AURELIA: [holds back tears] I'm sorry so Leonardo. You didn't deserve this. I didn't deserve you.

AURELIA walks to center-left stage and grabs her bag hidden in a bush. She goes behind a group of trees at upstage right and changes into new clothes. She emerges from the trees and exits stage right. Lights dim and curtain closes. End of Scene II.

SCENE III

Curtain opens to the entrance of Constalluccio. AURELIA walks out of the entrance towards stage left. When she gets to center stage she stops and looks back at the town. Tears are in her eyes. She looks down in despair, sighs, and then continues walking. Lights dim and curtain closes. End of Scene III.

SCENE IV

Curtain opens to a winding road entering a new town. A woman is standing at the entrance planting flowers. AURELIA enters stage right, walks down the winding road, and stops at the woman.

AURELIA: Mi scusi , what town are we in?

WOMAN: We are just entering the town of Luccia.

WOMAN stops planting the flower and looks at AURELIA.

WOMAN: Are you lost, cara ?

AURELIA: [shyly] No, just trying to find a new home. My family kicked me out and I have nowhere else to go. I don't mean to burden you, but could you help me? Per favore ?

Lights dim and curtain closes.