

Lulu/Ninian

N: H...m. Well, I want to tell you something about yourself.

L: About me?

N: Something that I'll bet you don't even know. It's this: I think you have it pretty hard around here.

L: Oh, no!

N: See here. Do you have to work like this all the time? I guess you won't mind my asking.

L: But I ought to work. I have a home with them. Mother too.

N: But glory! You ought to have some kind of a life of your own.

L: How could I do that?

N: A man don't even know what he's like till he's roamed around on his own... Roamed around on his own. Course a woman don't understand that.

L: Why don't she? Why don't she?

N: Do you? I've had twenty-five years of galloping about- Brazil, Mexico, Panama.

L: My!

N: It's the life.

L: Must be. I-

N: Yes, you. Why, you've never had a thing! I guess you don't know how it seems to me, coming along- a stranger so. I don't like it.

L: They're very good to me.

N: Do you know why you think that? Because you've never had anybody really good to you. That's why.

L: But they treat me good.

N: They make a slavey of you. Regular slavey. Damned shame *I* call it.

L: But we have our whole living-

N: And you earn it. I been watching you ever since I've been here. Don't you ever go anywhere?

L: Oh, no, I don't go anywhere. I-

N: Lord! Don't you want to? Of course you do.

L: Of course I'd like to get clear away- or I used to want to.

N: Say- you've been a blamed fine-looking woman.

L: You must have been a good-looking man once yourself.

N: You're pretty good. I don't see how you do it- darned if I do.

L: How I do what?

N: Why come back, quick like that, with what you say. You don't look it.

L: It must be my grand education.

N: Education: I ain't never had it and I ain't never missed it.

L: Most folks are happy without an education.

N: You're not very happy though.

L: Oh, no.

N: Well you ought to get up and get out of here- find- find some work you *like* to do.

L: But, you see, I can't do any other work- that's the trouble- women like me can't do any other work.

N: But you make this whole house go round.

L: If I do, nobody knows it.

N: I know it. I hadn't been in the house twenty-four hours till I knew it.

L: You did? You thought that... Yes, well if I do I hate making it go round.