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**delivery**

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**by Michael Cheikin**

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**Production Information**

**Synopsis:** DELIVERY is a fictionalized historical one-act based on a true fact about women's health care in the late 1800's.

**Actors:** three:  
two woman, age 20's and 30's (the 20 year old off stage)  
one man, age 30's

**Set:** a doctor's lounge, circa early 1870's, in Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.  
Bookshelves, desk, sofa, small cot.  
  
A sink is important, but doesn't need running water.

**Playing Time:** Approximately 20 minutes

**Props:**

## delivery

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### Time

1875. A fall day.

### Place

The action takes place in the doctor's lounge on the obstetrics-gynecology wing of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance)

- PHYLLIS MOORE:** Female, early 30's, an instructor (low ranking doctor) in obstetrics-gynecology. Energetic and intelligent, not physically attractive.
- SAMUEL CHAMBERS:** Male, late 30's, an associate professor (higher ranking doctor). Arrogant and upper middle class, handsome.
- CHRISTINE:** female patient, age 20's, (off stage voice only).

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**HISTORICAL NOTE**

This story is a combination of several unfortunate but true facts about the history of medicine, and the role of women as patients and doctors:

- 1)"Child-bed fever", or "puerperal fever", the cause of death of many new mothers. It was caused by physicians going straight from the cadaver lab to the delivery ward without washing their hands, then performing pelvic exams on women in labor.
- 2)There were two wards in hospitals--one attended by physicians, the other by midwives (who did not do cadaver dissection). It was common knowledge that women on the midwife ward did better.
- 3)While van Leeuwenhoek invented the microscope in the early 1800's and noticed bacteria, it wasn't until Pasteur's papers in the late 1870's and Koch in 1882 proved the relationship between germs and infection. Prior to this, it was thought that infection, or suppuration, was caused by "spontaneous generation". Lister didn't develop antiseptics until the mid 1880's. (This play takes place in 1875.)
- 4)The famous physician, Oliver Wendell Holmes, did propose the cause of puerperal fever in a paper in 1843. However, because he was a non-practicing physician, his paper was ignored.
- 5)Ignaz Phillip Semmelweiss (1818-1865), of Vienna, was the first obstetrician to wash his hands with chlorine water, which significantly reduced the incidence of puerperal fever. He wrote a definitive paper in 1861, but was ostracized by his peers, including two famous Philadelphia obstetricians (one of who was Meig, mentioned in the play), because his idea was considered heretical. He had to relocate his practice from Vienna to Budapest. He ultimately went mad and died of an infection following work in a cadaver lab.
- 6)The first women physicians were abused and ostracized by their male colleagues.
- 7)Physicians were in the upper class. Only the upper class could afford medical education and practice. Most patients were in lower classes than physicians, so class issues are implied.

1 (LIGHTS COME UP ON A DOCTOR'S LOUNGE, 1875 IN  
2 PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL,  
3 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA. A  
4 SINK, SMALL COT THAT IS  
5 UNMADE, BOOKSHELVES WITH THICK  
6 MEDICAL TEXTS, TABLE, CHAIRS.  
7 IT IS EMPTY.)  
8

9 (A PATIENT, CHRISTINE, IS IN LABOR IN THE ADJOINING  
10 DELIVERY ROOM. WE WILL HEAR  
11 HER MOAN OCCASIONALLY. THESE  
12 MOANS SHOULD BE COMIC.)  
13

14 CHRISTINE

15 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhhh.

16  
17 (PHYLLIS MOORE ENTERS FLYING BACKWARD, PUSHED BY  
18 CHRISTINE. SHE CATCHES  
19 HERSELF BEFORE SHE FALLS.)  
20

21 PHYLLIS:

22 (FALLING BACKWARD, CATCHING HERSELF) Don't worry,  
23 Christine. In just 30 minutes you will be a mother!  
24

25 CHRISTINE

26 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhhh.

27  
28 PHYLLIS:

29 I've summoned Dr. Chambers. He'll be here any moment.  
30 (TO HERSELF) I hope the clerk was able to find him.  
31

32 CHRISTINE

33 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhh.

34  
35 (SHE GOES TO HER BRIEFCASE, AND TAKES OUT SOME PAPERS.)  
36

37 (A FEW BEATS LATER, SHE GOES TO A WINDOW, LOOKS OUT,  
38 PACES.)  
39

40 (A BEAT OR TWO LATER, SAMUEL ENTERS, DRESSED IN A BLACK  
41 SUIT.)  
42

43 PHYLLIS:

44 Dr. Chambers! You got here just in time.  
45

46 SAMUEL:

47 How dilated is she?  
48

49 PHYLLIS:

50 Seven centimeters.  
51

52 SAMUEL:

53 Only seven! I told you not to call me until she's ready  
54 to go!  
55

56 PHYLLIS:  
57 She's progressing fast.  
58  
59 SAMUEL:  
60 Let me take a look.  
61  
62 (HE GOES TOWARD THE PATIENT'S DOOR.)  
63  
64 PHYLLIS:  
65 Wait! Did you come from the cadaver lab?  
66  
67 SAMUEL:  
68 Of course. And I left the students alone when you  
69 summoned me.  
70  
71 PHYLLIS:  
72 Could you wash your hands--before you examine her?  
73  
74 SAMUEL:  
75 Not this newfangled germ theory again.  
76  
77 PHYLLIS:  
78 Sam, I've finally received those articles from Vienna  
79 and Paris.  
80  
81 SAMUEL:  
82 Let me examine the patient please.  
83  
84 PHYLLIS:  
85 No.  
86 (THEY PHYSICALLY STRUGGLE.)  
87  
88 CHRISTINE  
89 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhhh.  
90  
91 (PHYLLIS CLOSES AND LOCKS THE DOOR TO THE PATIENT'S  
92 ROOM.)  
93  
94 SAMUEL:  
95 What are you doing?  
96  
97 PHYLLIS:  
98 Please. Before you examine her--listen to me. It could  
99 mean the life of that mother in there, and her child.  
100  
101 SAMUEL:  
102 Nonsense. My wife delivered here. Pennsylvania  
103 Hospital is the best in the nation.  
104  
105 PHYLLIS:  
106 Well, I'm conducting research on this.  
107  
108 SAM:  
109 Research!? What kind of research?  
110

111 PHYLLIS:  
112 I'm looking at the death rates of these young mothers.  
113  
114 SAM:  
115 You are the lowest ranking physician in this hospital.  
116 You can't conduct research.  
117  
118 PHYLLIS:  
119 Yes I can.  
120  
121 SAMUEL:  
122 Well, I'm not interested. And I must go back to my  
123 students if I'm not going to care for this patient.  
124  
125 PHYLLIS:  
126 No!  
127  
128 (SHE LOCKS THE OTHER DOOR AND PLACES THE KEY IN HER  
129 BOSOM.)  
130  
131 SAM:  
132 Hmmm. I suggest that you abandon this mission of yours.  
133 That is, if you want to remain here. You want to  
134 advance, don't you.  
135  
136 PHYLLIS:  
137 (INSECURE) Yes.  
138  
139 SAM:  
140 Then where will this get you?  
141  
142 PHYLLIS:  
143 Far. I reviewed the last 200 deliveries here on the  
144 doctor's ward. And I compared them with the midwives'  
145 ward.  
146  
147 SAMUEL:  
148 (OUTRAGED) You are comparing us, physicians, with  
149 midwives!  
150  
151 PHYLLIS:  
152 The death rate is thrice. By physicians.  
153  
154 SAMUEL:  
155 Nonsense, I say.  
156  
157 PHYLLIS:  
158 Then what is the explanation?  
159  
160 SAMUEL:  
161 You don't know how to conduct research.  
162  
163  
164  
165

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PHYLLIS:

No! The difference is that doctors come straight from the anatomy lab, where you are working with dead bodies. Midwives don't.

SAMUEL:

So?

PHYLLIS:

What if there are germs? On your hands? And that, is the cause of "child-bed fever"? Doctor!?

SAMUEL:

(LOOKING AT THEM) My hands! Have you gone mad!? What about my hands? Other than the lives they have saved. And delivered, safely.

PHYLLIS:

Let's say you are carrying germs--

SAMUEL:

(LAUGHING) --germs--

PHYLLIS:

--from those dead bodies. When you deliver the baby, you transmit these germs to the mother's bloodstream. It's in these papers.

SAM:

Let me see.

(HE LOOKS OVER THE PAPERS. HE TAKES ONE AND WAVES IT AT HER.)

SAM:

Semmelweiss! He's a Viennese maniac!

PHYLLIS:

His point is well argued. And Pasteur's paper raises some interesting questions about "spontaneous generation".

SAMUEL:

Dr. Meig, here in Philadelphia, has already reviewed these papers. He says they're hogwash.

PHYLLIS:

Sam, every new idea in history has been rejected. Cadaver dissection was outlawed not so long ago. And now, it's the basis of training for physicians. And unfortunately now is the cause of all these young mother's deaths.



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SAMUEL:

The scientific establishment does not agree. Mothers died of childbirth before cadaver dissection. And let me show you what we think of this paper.

(TEASING HER, HE GOES TO RIP THE PAPER. SHE LUNGES AT HIM.)

PHYLLIS:

Nooo!

(SHE IS HOLDING HIS WRISTS TIGHTLY. THEY ARE VERY CLOSE TO EACH OTHER. HE LOOKS AT HER.)

SAM:

So, you want your papers back?

PHYLLIS:

Yes, please. It took me months to get them.

SAM:

You know, up close, you're not so bad looking.

PHYLLIS:

Let go, you foul man.

SAM:

Come on, fight with me.

PHYLLIS:

I wouldn't give you the pleasure.

(SHE RELEASES HIM AND WALKS AWAY.)

SAM:

Aw. I've upset you. Here. You can have your paper back.

(SHE QUICKLY RECOVERS IT. HE IS SMIRKING.)

PHYLLIS:

Thank you.

(SHE REMOVES THE KEY FROM HER BOSOM.)

PHYLLIS:

Here, you can go now.

SAM:

Not easy, is it, being the first woman physician in this hospital?

276 PHYLLIS:  
277 No it isn't. Sam, that young woman in there, she's  
278 starting her family. What if you kill her with your  
279 exam?  
280  
281 SAMUEL:  
282 Hah. You're just jealous.  
283  
284 PHYLLIS:  
285 Of what?  
286  
287 SAMUEL:  
288 That you are not the one delivering.  
289  
290 PHYLLIS:  
291 Now you know--  
292  
293 SAMUEL:  
294 --I remember--at the Christmas party.  
295  
296 PHYLLIS:  
297 I had too much wine.  
298  
299 SAMUEL:  
300 You confided in me. Your sacrifices.  
301  
302 PHYLLIS:  
303 (DEFENSIVE) My accomplishments. I am very proud of  
304 them.  
305  
306 SAMUEL:  
307 And we know what you've paid for them. Your chances of  
308 marrying and having a child are slim.  
309  
310 PHYLLIS:  
311 What does this have to do with science?  
312  
313 SAMUEL:  
314 Jealousy has much to do with science. It's a prime  
315 motivator.  
316  
317 PHYLLIS:  
318 Maybe for you. But my motivator is Truth.  
319  
320 SAMUEL:  
321 Truth...  
322  
323 PHYLLIS:  
324 What I live for.  
325  
326 SAMUEL:  
327 (LAUGHS)  
328  
329 PHYLLIS:  
330 (ANGRY) What are you laughing at?

331  
332 SAMUEL:  
333 A woman. Preaching truth. That's like a... a...  
334  
335 PHYLLIS:  
336 ...a pauper tasting wine.  
337  
338 SAMUEL:  
339 Exactly.  
340  
341 PHYLLIS:  
342 Sam, if you were not my superior...  
343  
344 SAM:  
345 What?  
346  
347 PHYLLIS:  
348 I would say things.  
349  
350 SAM:  
351 What kind of things?  
352  
353 PHYLLIS:  
354 (BITING HER TONGUE) Never mind. I do want to keep my  
355 position here.  
356  
357 SAM:  
358 No--I want to know.  
359  
360 PHYLLIS:  
361 Never mind.  
362  
363 SAMUEL:  
364 No. Let me hear your truth.  
365  
366 PHYLLIS:  
367 I don't have the luxury--to toy with you.  
368  
369 SAM:  
370 How do you hope to advance if you can't play with men?  
371 Huh?  
372  
373 PHYLLIS:  
374 I've played enough. I just want to work.  
375  
376 SAM:  
377 All work and no play?  
378  
379 PHYLLIS:  
380 I don't like your flirtations.  
381  
382 SAM:  
383 (MOCK SURPRISE) What? Me? Flirting? With you?  
384  
385

386 PHYLLIS:  
387 I remember the Christmas party too.  
388  
389 SAM:  
390 I was drunk.  
391  
392 PHYLLIS:  
393 You've been testing me ever since.  
394  
395 SAM:  
396 That is true. I see you now as, as, a, potential.  
397  
398 PHYLLIS:  
399 Potential for what?  
400  
401 SAM:  
402 For some lucky man.  
403  
404 PHYLLIS:  
405 What, is this some complement?  
406  
407 SAM:  
408 Yes.  
409  
410 PHYLLIS:  
411 Well, keep such thoughts to yourself.  
412  
413 SAM:  
414 Phyllis, your... mind... intrigues me...  
415  
416 PHYLLIS:  
417 (BACK TO REALITY) Go back to your wife, doctor. Know  
418 her mind. If you can find it. Beneath her beauty.  
419  
420 SAM:  
421 Beneath her beauty is...air. And you, while you don't  
422 have so much beauty...  
423  
424 PHYLLIS:  
425 What flattery.  
426  
427 SAM:  
428 ...on the outside, on the inside, I've never met someone  
429 as beautiful.  
430  
431 PHYLLIS:  
432 You're confusing me. Complements and insults in the  
433 same breath.  
434  
435 SAM:  
436 Please, let me hear your truth.  
437  
438 PHYLLIS:  
439 I'm just a woman. I can't take the risk.  
440

441 SAMUEL:  
442 The prospect excites me. Go ahead.  
443  
444 PHYLLIS:  
445 How would I benefit?  
446  
447 SAMUEL:  
448 Spoken like a man! What do you want?  
449  
450 PHYLLIS:  
451 Nothing from you.  
452  
453 SAMUEL:  
454 Nothing? What if I promised you anything?  
455  
456 PHYLLIS:  
457 Anything?  
458  
459 SAMUEL:  
460 If you speak the truth. To any question I ask.  
461  
462 PHYLLIS:  
463 I'm up for the challenge. If you are.  
464  
465 SAMUEL:  
466 And what will you ask of me? If you tell me what I want  
467 to know.  
468  
469 PHYLLIS:  
470 Simple. Before you go in there--before you touch that  
471 young mother--you will wash your hands.  
472  
473 SAMUEL:  
474 (IN DISBELIEF) That's all?!  
475  
476 PHYLLIS:  
477 Now. And before you go into any delivery room.  
478  
479 SAMUEL:  
480 Wash my hands...  
481  
482 PHYLLIS:  
483 Yes. And make your students do so as well.  
484  
485 SAMUEL:  
486 (SARCASTIC, COMIC GESTURE) Do we have to dry too?!  
487 What if the baby pops out while we're looking for a  
488 towel?  
489  
490 PHYLLIS:  
491 I'm serious.  
492  
493 SAMUEL:  
494 And you'll tell me--show me your mind? If I wash?  
495

496 PHYLLIS:  
497 Yes.  
498  
499 SAMUEL:  
500 No matter what I ask?  
501  
502 PHYLLIS:  
503 It's a deal.  
504  
505 SAMUEL:  
506 Very well. I accept.  
507  
508 (SHE PUTS OUT HER HAND)  
509  
510 SAMUEL:  
511 What is that?  
512  
513 PHYLLIS:  
514 Shake on it.  
515  
516 SAMUEL:  
517 What are you, a man.  
518  
519 PHYLLIS:  
520 No, but your equal. Doctor.  
521  
522 SAMUEL:  
523 (SCOFFS) What!?  
524  
525 PHYLLIS:  
526 Just a taste. Of my truth.  
527  
528 SAMUEL:  
529 I like it!  
530  
531 PHYLLIS:  
532 Come. Let's shake.  
533  
534 SAMUEL:  
535 Aren't you afraid of, (SARCASTIC VOICE AND FACE)  
536 germs!!!...  
537  
538 PHYLLIS:  
539 Not me. I'm not dilated, with my legs in the air.  
540  
541 SAMUEL:  
542 Very well. Doctor.  
543  
544 (HE GRABS HER HAND. THE SHAKE GOES FOR A WHILE. WE CAN  
545 SEE HIM TIGHTENING HIS GRIP.  
546 PHYLLIS GRIMACES.)  
547  
548 PHYLLIS:  
549 That's enough!  
550

551 SAMUEL:  
552 Not yet!  
553  
554 PHYLLIS:  
555 You're hurting me.  
556  
557 SAMUEL:  
558 I thought you were my equal.  
559  
560 PHYLLIS:  
561 Ow.  
562  
563 (SHE STAMPS ON HIS TOE. HE LETS GO.)  
564  
565 SAMUEL:  
566 Owwwwwwww!  
567  
568 CHRISTINE  
569 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh.  
570  
571 (PAUSE. THEY RECOVER.)  
572  
573 PHYLLIS:  
574 (RECOVERS, HURT, RUBBING HER HAND) The real truth is, I  
575 am your superior.  
576  
577 SAMUEL:  
578 (RUBBING HIS SHIN) Oh?! How is that?  
579  
580 PHYLLIS:  
581 Maybe not in brute force. But certainly in intellect.  
582  
583 SAMUEL:  
584 (HURT, TAKEN OFF GUARD) Oh? How is that?  
585  
586 PHYLLIS:  
587 How else could I get myself into this male-controlled  
588 institution?  
589  
590 SAMUEL:  
591 Wait a minute, I get to ask the questions.  
592  
593 PHYLLIS:  
594 Go ahead.  
595  
596 SAMUEL:  
597 What do you think of me?  
598  
599 PHYLLIS:  
600 What? Is that what you want to know? About you?  
601  
602 SAMUEL:  
603 The truth, please.  
604





660 PHYLLIS:  
661 (SMILES)  
662  
663 SAMUEL:  
664 You're smiling like the Mona Lisa. Answer me. You  
665 shook on it.  
666  
667 PHYLLIS:  
668 You're right. I do find you attractive. Physically.  
669 [Only.] And I get angry at myself because I know what a  
670 beast you really are.  
671  
672 SAMUEL:  
673 Interesting! Tell me more.  
674  
675 PHYLLIS:  
676 (SOMEWHAT ENJOYING THIS RARE FLIRTATION) You have to  
677 ask the right questions. But I warn you, I will ask  
678 more of you, if you follow this line.  
679  
680 SAMUEL:  
681 Have you been with a man?  
682  
683 PHYLLIS:  
684 I am right now.  
685  
686 SAMUEL:  
687 Have you been intimate?  
688  
689 PHYLLIS:  
690 I thought I told you at the Christmas party.  
691  
692 SAMUEL:  
693 You were drunk.  
694  
695 PHYLLIS:  
696 (TEASING) What do you think?  
697  
698 SAMUEL:  
699 If it's true, there's a man somewhere who's missing...  
700  
701 PHYLLIS:  
702 Why, thank you. Why do you say that?  
703  
704 SAMUEL:  
705 Me--the questions--remember?  
706  
707 PHYLLIS:  
708 Right.  
709  
710 SAMUEL:  
711 Well? (PAUSE) Have you? (PAUSE) Have you been  
712 intimate?  
713  
714

715 PHYLLIS:  
716 I can trust you? Sam, with--not to speak of this to any  
717 one. You're not going to ridicule me?  
718  
719 SAMUEL:  
720 You can trust me. With your secrets. Phyllis.  
721  
722 PHYLLIS:  
723 No, Sam. I have not been intimate. I am in my  
724 thirties, alone, and I will remain that way for the rest  
725 of my life. Such is the sacrifice I have made to enter  
726 your world.  
727  
728 SAMUEL:  
729 Do you dream about me?  
730  
731 PHYLLIS:  
732 (PAUSE)  
733  
734 SAMUEL:  
735 Am I? Am I in your fantasies?  
736  
737 PHYLLIS:  
738 (PAUSE) Yes. I'm afraid so.  
739  
740 SAMUEL:  
741 What do you imagine? Tell me.  
742  
743 PHYLLIS:  
744 No. That has nothing to do with the truth.  
745  
746 SAMUEL:  
747 Yes it does.  
748  
749 PHYLLIS:  
750 I told you the truth--but the content of my mind, that  
751 is my private world. [Those details have nothing to do  
752 with the truth.]  
753  
754 SAMUEL:  
755 (ANGRY) You are renegeing. You are going back on your  
756 word!  
757  
758 PHYLLIS:  
759 No I'm not!  
760  
761 SAMUEL:  
762 Yes you are. (PAUSE, RETALIATORY) And I'm not washing  
763 my hands!  
764  
765 PHYLLIS:  
766 But you must! I've already told you far more than you  
767 should ever know.  
768  
769

770 SAMUEL:  
771 I want more. If you're a true scientist, then the truth  
772 is nothing to be ashamed of.  
773  
774 PHYLLIS:  
775 The mind creates images... I don't know where they come  
776 from. But they're there...  
777  
778 SAM:  
779 Images?...  
780  
781 PHYLLIS:  
782 I've been denying them, fighting them, for so long.  
783 But, they keep coming back... stronger... more vivid...  
784  
785 SAM:  
786 (INTRIGUED, NOT YET GETTING THE MEANING) What of? Tell  
787 me.  
788  
789 PHYLLIS:  
790 I'm ashamed. I'm afraid, that I... too... am a beast.  
791  
792 SAMUEL:  
793 What do you mean?  
794  
795 PHYLLIS:  
796 Oh, I can't-- speak--the words. I am a proper woman. I  
797 was taught to speak... civilly... I can't speak...  
798 obscenities!  
799  
800 SAMUEL:  
801 Obscenities! Now I must hear this!  
802  
803 PHYLLIS:  
804 I can't.  
805  
806 (LONG PAUSE)  
807  
808 SAMUEL:  
809 Then... show me.  
810  
811 PHYLLIS:  
812 What!!  
813  
814 SAMUEL:  
815 Show me... what you imagine. Let me be  
816 your...laboratory.  
817  
818 PHYLLIS:  
819 Never!  
820

821 SAMUEL:  
822 That's what I said about the germ theory. Until today.  
823  
824  
825 PHYLLIS:  
826 You believe?  
827  
828 SAMUEL:  
829 I'm willing to consider. That Dr. Meig is an idiot. I  
830 don't know about Semmelweiss, but this Pasteur--his work  
831 does seem... reasonable. More importantly, I do respect  
832 your... opinion.  
833  
834 (PAUSE, PHYLLIS THINKING. SHE IS MORE AND MORE IN  
835 CONTROL.)  
836  
837 SAMUEL:  
838 If you don't, let me in, I'll never wash. Ever. And  
839 I'll oppose you.  
840  
841 PHYLLIS:  
842 You'd sacrifice that young mother--and her child... and  
843 the Truth...  
844  
845 SAMUEL:  
846 ...to experience you...  
847  
848 PHYLLIS:  
849 ...coercing me...  
850  
851 SAMUEL:  
852 ...yes. Without a regret. If we are still speaking the  
853 truth.  
854  
855 PHYLLIS:  
856 Do you realize the risk you're taking? Your father-in-  
857 law is on the city council.  
858  
859 SAMUEL:  
860 You're right. My life is ... missing... something...  
861 You.  
862  
863 PHYLLIS:  
864 I don't know. My risk is even greater. As a woman.  
865  
866 SAM:  
867 Come on. You're not afraid of risk, what people say.  
868 If you were, you'd never'of gotten where you are now.  
869  
870 PHYLLIS:  
871 It would be my word against yours. I'd lose.  
872  
873 SAM:  
874 I'll make it worth your while. I'll promote this germ  
875 theory. I'll get you a lab. I'll support

876 your...research. (PAUSE) Come on, are you going to go  
877 the rest of your life, without... What are you going to  
878 do, find a young man? Another married man? You can  
879 trust me.

880  
881 PHYLLIS:  
882 (PAUSE, SHE THINKS) Let me see something.

883  
884 (SHE GOES OVER AND KISSES HIM PASSIONATELY. HE TAKES A  
885 WHILE TO RECOVER.)

886  
887 SAMUEL:  
888 What was that?

889  
890 PHYLLIS:  
891 One of my images. I'll entitle it, "The Doctor's  
892 Lounge".

893  
894 (HE APPROACHES HER. SHE PUSHES HIM AWAY.)

895  
896 PHYLLIS:  
897 Not so fast. I want a promotion. To assistant  
898 professor.

899  
900 SAMUEL:  
901 What!?

902  
903 PHYLLIS:  
904 I warned you, if you asked more, so would I.

905  
906 SAMUEL:  
907 A woman professor. Never. Never!  
908  
909 (SHE KISSES HIM AGAIN. SHE PULLS AWAY. HE TAKES TIME  
910 TO RECOVER.)

911  
912 SAMUEL:  
913 Would next Monday be soon enough?

914  
915 PHYLLIS:  
916 And another thing.

917  
918 SAMUEL:  
919 What?

920  
921 PHYLLIS:  
922 Tell me. How badly do you want me. A woman in her  
923 thirties. Past her prime. With animal desires.

924  
925 SAMUEL:  
926 You're far richer than any twenty year old I've met. My  
927 wife...

928  
929 PHYLLIS:  
930 And I thought I was alone. At least I have my work.

931  
932 SAMUEL:  
933 With you, I can be...  
934  
935 PHYLLIS:  
936 I want something else.  
937  
938 SAMUEL:  
939 Anything.  
940  
941 PHYLLIS:  
942 I want you to bark. Like the animal that you are.  
943  
944 (SAMUEL BARKS, PLAYFULLY.)  
945  
946 SAMUEL:  
947 Ruff ruff.  
948  
949 CHRISTINE  
950 (FROM OFF) Ohhhhhhh.  
951  
952 SAMUEL:  
953 (HEARS CHRISTINE, HOWLS) Aouuwwwww.  
954  
955 PHYLLIS:  
956 Good boy. Now go wash your hands. And deliver that  
957 baby.  
958  
959 SAMUEL:  
960 And then?  
961  
962 PHYLLIS:  
963 Then I will show you...my mind. You will be my passage  
964 into this men's club. You will be my pet. And I'll  
965 have you on my leash for ever.  
966  
967 (SHE GRABS HIS COLLAR, GIVES HIM A QUICK KISS, AND THEN  
968 LEADS HIM TO THE SINK, BY THE  
969 COLLAR, SAMUEL PANTING, HIS  
970 TAIL WAGGING, AS THE LIGHTS  
971 SLOWLY FADE.  
972  
973 (THE END.)