

## Side 9

(JACKIE makes a gesture of despair. SIMON is carried out left between DR. BESSNER and the STEWARD. JACKIE follows. SMITH enters right.)

DR. BESSNER. (off) I shall give him an injection.

SMITH. (crossing to left) He's always wanting to give someone an injection. I shall suggest he gives one - lethal - to my aunt-to-be.

CANON. I think you will find Mr. Smith, that Miss Ffoliot-Ffoulkes has undergone a change of heart.

SMITH. What do you mean?

CANON. She knows that you wear your Smith with a hyphen.

SMITH. (turning) Who told her that?

CANON. I did.

SMITH. Damned cheek...

(CHRISTINA looks in right, sees SMITH and retreats.)

Hi - Christina

(He hurries off right. CANON PENNEFATHER sits down in the chair SIMON sat in the previous night. He holds the scarf in his hand, examines it. He thinks, shakes his head. Then, rather obviously, an idea comes. He looks at the window. Slowly he wraps the pistol in the scarf and holds it. Leans back, closes eyes. Then slowly nods his head. He brings out the small bottle. Looks at it, unscrews the top - smells it - puts a drop on the handkerchief - red? Shakes his head. He puts it down on the table. Then he gets up and goes right. Looks out along the deck aft. Then stands where JACKIE stood the night before, staring at SIMON's chair. He begins to hunt about. Finally, with an exclamation, he finds a bullet in the floor near SIMON's chair. He digs it out with his penknife and stands holding it in his hand.)

JACKIE enters dejectedly left.)

JACKIE. Simon's so ill... What's that you are holding?

CANON. A bullet. (He holds it out to her.)

(JACKIE is startled. She looks up from it to his face.)

## Jackie / Canon

JACKIE. Where did you find it?

CANON. Embedded in the floor there.

JACKIE. Is it - is it important?

(CANON PENNEFATHER slowly nods his head.)

CANON. It means that I know now how Kay was killed.

JACKIE. I don't understand.

CANON. This scarf has been wrapped round a pistol and the pistol fired through it. This is evident by the scorching and the bullet holes. (He shows her. JACKIE nods.) It was suggested that this was done in order to muffle the sound of the shot that killed Kay. But Dr. Bessner stated quite clearly last night that the bullet hole in Kay's temple showed scorching, thereby proving that the pistol has been held close against her head. So the shot that killed Kay cannot have been the shot fired through this velvet scarf. You see that?

JACKIE. Yes, I see that.

CANON. Two shots we know to have been fired - the one that killed Kay and the one that you fired at Simon Mostyn - but you certainly had not got this scarf wrapped round the pistol.

JACKIE. Of course not.

CANON. Therefore, you see, there must have been a third shot...

(There is a pause.)

JACKIE. (crossing down center slowly) I see what you mean, but...

CANON. (following her; interrupting) Now when we examine the pistol, it appears that two shots have been discharged - but it is quite possible that three shots were actually discharged and one cartridge afterwards replaced to make it look as though only two shots had been fired. If so, when "was the third shot fired, and what was the object of it?"

JACKIE. (turning) I can't even begin to imagine.

end