

AUNT MARCH

Where is Josephine?

MEG

I'll go find her.

(*SHE goes*)

AUNT MARCH

(*calls to Meg*)

And tell Amy I wish to talk to her about receiving line etiquette. We have the cream of Concord society arriving any moment.

JO

(*SHE comes out*)

I understand you want to talk to me?

AUNT MARCH

I suppose you realize this could have been your day.

JO

You think I made a ghastly mistake?

AUNT MARCH

I do not. Amy and Laurie are ideally suited to each other.... I've gone over my will.

JO

(*not wanting to discuss this*)

Aunt March -

AUNT MARCH

Meg will inherit most of my money. Amy is making her way into society and won't need any of it. And as for you -

JO

I don't want -

AUNT MARCH

I know, you don't want anything. And yet you want everything. Josephine, every girl - every woman - needs something to fall back on when times are bleak. I'm leaving you my house.

JO

Your house?

AUNT MARCH

Do something worthwhile with it. Make a library of it. Or a school.

JO

It's very generous of you.... Thank you, Aunt March.

(SHE kisses her awkwardly on the cheek)

AUNT MARCH

I don't like that dress.

JO

It's one of your old ones.

AUNT MARCH

Well, it looked better on me.

(SHE goes. MEG comes out)

MEG

Jo, there's a strange man at the front gate asking for you.

4b - Professor Bhaer Entrance

Professor Bhaer

(SHE goes back inside. JO goes one way. PROFESSOR BHAER enters from another. HE holds a tied up ream of paper and an umbrella. JO turns)

JO

(surprised)

Professor Bhaer - ?

PROFESSOR BHAER

Hello.

JO

Hello. This is a surprise.

PROFESSOR BHAER

I know. You wrote if I should ever come north, I should come visit you.

JO

Yes, but -

PROFESSOR BHAER

You never thought I would do it. Well, I did it. I am here. Should I go?

JO

No -

PROFESSOR BHAER

I am not intruding?