

SPRUCEHAVEN B

Three dark tales

By Mark Cornell

Tell Me You Love Me

Characters: ISABEL, 30; TOMMY, 30

Time: Late October, 1995

A Thousand Shades of Black

Characters: FIST, 38; ANSEL, 26; NOAH, 26; ISABEL, 45

Time: Spring, 2010

Lemon Drop

Characters: JOHN, 51; ISABEL, 13; OFFICER SNODGRASS, 38

Time: August, 1978

Notes on the play:

All three plays take place in the B cottage at the Sprucehaven Lodge on Bailey Island, Maine.

The actor playing FIST should also play OFFICER SNODGRASS. The actor playing TOMMY should also play NOAH. ISABEL in the first two plays should be played by the same actor. ISABEL at 13 should be played by a teenager. The play, then, requires four men and two women.

This play has interludes between plays one and two, and two and three. The stage crew should come on as "the maid service," and dress and behave as those characters.

This play should have intermissions during the two interludes between plays one and two, and two and three.

TOMMY

How'd you get in here? How'd you get a key?

ISABEL

I stole one. Couple of weeks ago.

TOMMY

Why?

ISABEL

Because I knew, by today, they'd be closed.

TOMMY

What?

ISABEL

Sprucehaven is closed for the winter.

TOMMY

It's closed? Then what the fuck are we doin' here? We're alone?

ISABEL

You didn't see no other guests, did you?

TOMMY

No. (beat) That's why the damper was closed.

ISABEL

Yeah.

TOMMY

An' the lights. Ain't 'cause of the wind. They shut the place up. An' no one knows we're here.

ISABEL

No. No one.

TOMMY

(panicking)

What is this, Isabel? What is all this?

She turns away from him, she finds her coat, puts it on.

TOMMY (cont'd)

Izzy...Izzy?! Where are you going?!

ISABEL

Home.

TOMMY

What're you talkin' about? You can't leave! Sprucehaven is closed for the winter! *No one is gonna come this far down the island until spring!*

ISABEL

I know.

TOMMY

You leave me here an'...

He has a morbid realization.

ISABEL

(grinning)

I know.

She finds her panties and stuffs them in her coat pocket.

TOMMY

Izzy, Jesus fuckin' Christ. Unlock these handcuffs.

ISABEL

No. I wanna give you time to think about what you've done.

TOMMY

What I've done? I've moved on! So should you!

ISABEL

All you had to do was say you loved me.

TOMMY

Oh, bullshit! I tell you I love you an' then you'll wanna get back together, move back into the house, go to all the old haunts, relive the old days until we're fuckin' dead an' buried!

He coughs hard, winces.

ISABEL

All I want is for you to love me.

She turns off the first lantern.

TOMMY

You planned this whole thing. Stealin' the key. Wearin' that skirt. You played me. You knew when I saw you I'd want you. An' you'd be able to handcuff me again. Like you did on the catboat.

By now he is shivering and weakening from the blood loss.

TOMMY (cont'd)
Izzy, for the love of God, let me go...

ISABEL
Chew your arms off.

TOMMY
(his teeth chatter)
You bitch. You fuckin' cunt.

She spits on him. Again. Three times.
He fights to free himself. He screams
in pain, coughs, gasps, moans.

TOMMY (cont'd)
You're a fuckin' psycho, Isabel. You've always been a
fuckin' psycho.

ISABEL
How can you say that to me? Your wife.

TOMMY
It's over, Isabel! It's been over! You're not my wife
anymore! We met today to sign the papers to end this
marriage! You knew that!

ISABEL
(devastated)
What about me? What's to become of me? Everything I ever
knew is gone. All gone. I'm so lonely. I love you, Tommy.

She breaks. Weeping.

TOMMY
Is this love?!

ISABEL
(brokenhearted)
We were king an' queen.

TOMMY
So what?! So fuckin' what?!

ISABEL
There's nothin' more horrible than to be left behind. You'll
come to understand this very soon.

She stares at him. Evil.

ISABEL (cont'd)
You ain't gonna be with her anymore. Never. Never. Never.
NEVER!