

VENUS IN FUR AUDITIONS

VANDA/DUNAYEV #2

Vanda reading as Dunayev. Despite this being a cold read, she has a GREAT grasp of the text and the language. She delivers it with a natural-sounding German accent. The character of Dunayev is both stating her case for how she lives and teasing Kushemski with the prospect of her dominating him.

Pronunciations:

Severin=Se-VER-in

Kushemski=koo-SHEM-skee

Ascetic=uh-SEH-tuhk

Voluptuary=vuh-LUHP-tyoo-eh-ree

Aspasia =uh-SPAY-zhee-uh

VANDA/DUNAYEV. Well, you are certainly unique, Herr Severin von Kushemski. But I'd be careful if I were you. When you obtain your ideal she maybe crueller than you care for.

I know what you are. You're a supersensualist. An ascetic voluptuary.

But me. I'm a pagan. I'm a Greek. I love the ancients because they're not the moderns, who live in their mind, and because they're the opposite of the Christians, who live on a cross. I don't live in my mind, or on a cross. I live on this divan. In this dress. In these stockings and these shoes. I want to live the way Helen and Aspasia lived, not the twisted women of today, who are never happy and never give happiness. Why should I forgo any possible pleasure, abstain from any sensual experience? I'm young, I'm rich and I'm beautiful, and I shall make the most of that. I shall deny myself nothing.

I don't need your respect, excuse me. I will love a man who pleases me, and please a man who makes me happy – but only as long as he makes me happy, not a moment longer.

To a man, there's nothing crueller than a woman's infidelity. To a woman, there is: the enforced fidelity of men.

In our society, a woman's only power is through men. Her character is her lack of character. She's a blank, to be filled in by creatures who at heart despise her. I want to see what Woman will be when she ceases to be men's slave. When she's men's equal in education and partner in work. When she becomes herself. An individual.