MORRIS AND ESTHER SIDE #2

MORRIS: A man of 90 years, loving spouse of ESTHER for 67 of them; hypochondriacal and very tender-hearted. Can be played by a much younger actor, who has a strong sense of time, love, of suffering and of the quiet density of long experience.

ESTHER: A woman of 88 years, spouse of MORRIS; a canny, determined, cantankerous yet affectionate partner to her husband; denies all suffering, to the relief of her husband, who suffers constantly; saves coupons, knows where everything is; is in very poor health. Also can be played by a much younger actor.

Note: both of these characters will have intimacy choreography in the production

ESTHER: Was it so wrong to ask? I wanted to see them!

MORRIS: I’ll show you what you want, Esther, what is it you want to see?

ESTHER: No, no! When I asked Mara to show me her breasts!

MORRIS: Why? Why did you do that? When did you do that?

ESTHER: I bathed her right when she was born, Morris! She was so little! I want to see them! She’s grown so pretty!

MORRIS: But Esther, you can’t…

ESTHER: How beautiful! Hour after hour, year after year, I looked at her! I wanted to see them, Morris, she’s my grandchild!

MORRIS: You can’t see her, Esther, there’s part of her you can’t see!

ESTHER: I hate growing old, Morris, if there’s part of her I can’t see!

MORRIS: We are lucky to be so old! It brings many problems to solve and still we’re lucky.

ESTHER: I don’t mean us, Morris, the children! The children get older and then we can’t see! Less and less we can see! They’re too big, too smart, too fancy!

MORRIS: They have their own lives, that’s all, it’s not anything wrong, they grow up!

ESTHER: I don’t like growing up!

MORRIS: Dear, we…

ESTHER: I wanted to see her breasts. Just to see them. She was a baby!

MORRIS: I know.

ESTHER: She’ll get married in a pretty dress! Such a nice bosom she has! Like a balcony!

MORRIS: She’s a beautiful girl.

ESTHER: I’ll die, I’ll never see them.