

MARIANNE & ELINOR 2

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ELINOR

She could not be silent when her favorite topics are introduced, and she had neither shyness nor reserve in their discussion. *[pause]* If anyone can out-charm a charmer, it's my sister.

*[Pantomime continues. WILL gets up and acts out his charming goodbye. ELINOR stays out. WIL exits. MARIANNE joins ELINOR standing.]*

Well, Marianne, for *one* morning I think you have done pretty well. You have ascertained his opinion in almost every matter of importance.

MARIANNE

For some, it only takes a short time to become acquainted.

ELINOR

If you *are* to see him again, you'll have nothing left to discuss.

MARIANNE

I see what you mean. I *have* been too open-

ELINOR

You left *nothing* out-

MARIANNE

I ought to have been reserved, spiritless, dull, *deceitful*-

ELINOR

You actually discussed opera! No one your age discusses *opera*-

MARIANNE

Will said he loves it! He goes with his aunt to the Met -

ELINOR

Nobody who hunts *loves* opera, Mare! He was simply telling you what you wanted to hear.

MARIANNE

Not all men are spiritless! Some have real pursuits. Had I held back, had I spoken only once in ten minutes, had I acted like *you*- this reproach would have been spared! *[she exits in a huff on crutches]*