

### ***Character Male Monologue:***

#### **Sir Wilfrid:**

Now Mr. Vole I'm going to ask you a very serious question and it's one to which it's vital I should have a truthful answer. You were in low water financially, you had the handling of this lady's affairs. Now did you at any time convert to your own use of the securities that you handled? Now, wait a minute Mr. Vole before you answer because you see there are two points of view. Either we can make a feature of your probity and honesty or, if you swindled the woman in any way, then we must take the line that you had no motive for murder since you had already a profitable source of income. You can see that there are advantages in either point of view. What I want is the truth. Take your time if you like, before you reply.

Oh well, he seems to have impressed both of us favourably. I can't think why. I never heard a weaker story. God knows what we're going to do with it. The only evidence in his favour seems to be his wife - and who's going to believe a wife? She's a foreigner too. 9 out of the 12 in a jury box believe a foreigner is lying anyway. She'll be emotional and upset, and won't understand what the prosecuting counsel says to her. Still, we shall have to interview her. You'll see, shall have hysterics all over my chambers. But, Oh yes the boy ought to go down well with the jury. That cuts no ice with the judge though. And he's the simple sort of chap who might get rattled easily in the box. A lot depends on this girl.

### ***Standard Male Monologue (Lead Role)***

#### **Leonard Vole:**

The other day the papers said that the police were anxious to interview a Mr. Leonard Vole, who had visited Miss French earlier on the evening in question as they thought he might be able to give them some useful information. So, of course I went along to the police station and they asked me a lot of questions. Anyhow, it sounded damned silly to me. I told them all I could and they were very polite and seemed quite satisfied and all that. When I got home and told Romaine about it - my wife that is - she seemed to think that they well, that they'd got hold of the idea that I might have done it, so I thought perhaps I ought to get hold of a solicitor. So, I came along to you. I thought you'd be able to tell me what I ought to do about it.

Miss French had been frightfully kind to me. Actually it was a bit of a bore, sometimes she positively fussed over me but she meant it very well and when I saw in the paper that she'd been killed, I was awfully upset because, you see, I'd really got fond of her.

### ***Character Female Monologue:***

#### **Janet McKenzie:**

I was her housekeeper. Twenty years I've been with her and looked after her. She knew me and she trusted me, and many of the time I prevented her doing a foolish action! Miss French was a warm-hearted body, too warm hearted at times I'm thinking, a bit impulsive too. There was times when she'd have no sense at all, she was easily flattered you see.

It was a Friday and my night out. I was going round to see some friends of mine in Glenister Rd. which is not above 3 minute's walk, I left the house at 7:30. I promised to take my friend the pattern of a knitted cardigan that she'd admired. When I got there I found I'd left it behind, so after supper I said I'd slip back and get it as it was a fine night and no distance.

I got back to the house at twenty-five past nine. I let myself in with my key and went upstairs to my room. As I passed the sitting room door I heard the prisoner in there talking to Miss French. I know his voice well enough. With him calling so often. An agreeable voice it was, I'll not say it wasn't. Talking and laughing they were. But it was no business of mine, so I went up and fetched the pattern came down and let myself out and went back to my friend in Glenister road. She was delighted with the pattern, simply delighted.

I stayed there till twenty to eleven then I said good night to them and came home.

I went into the sitting room then to see if the mistress wanted anything before she went to bed. She was there on the floor, poor body, her head beaten in. I rang the police.

### ***Standard Female monologue (Lead role)***

#### **Romaine Vole:**

Excuse me, I am a foreigner. I do not always know your English terms. But is there not a saying about knowing something of your own knowledge? You do not know that I am devoted to Leonard, of your own knowledge, do you, Sir Wilfred? Leonard told you how devoted I was to him? Men, I often think, are very stupid.

You think Miss French looked upon Leonard as her son. What hypocrites you are in this country! I shock you? I am so sorry.

The police came to see me yesterday evening. I said Leonard came in at 9:25 that night and did not go out again. That was right, was it not? That is what Leonard wants me to say, is it not?

I have to understand, to be sure. If I say yes, it is so, Leonard was with me in the flat at 9:30 will they acquit him? Will they let him go?

And yet when I said that to the police, I do not think they believed me. Perhaps I did not say it very well?

I have already said that I want to understand fully just how black the case against my husband is. I say to the police, Leonard was at home with me at 9:30 and they do not believe me. But perhaps there is someone who saw him leave Miss French's house, or who saw him on the street on his way home? Or it will only be his word and mine. And mine. Thank you, that is what I wanted to know.

### **Romaine as The Woman (Cockney)**

I've got the goods on her all right. It's letters, that's what it is. Letters. Poor, ruddy prisoner, he's been took in by all her all right. I've got something to sell, dear and don't you forget it. Putting it in your own language? Well as I say, I don't expect you to buy without seeing. But fairs fair. If those letters will do the trick, if they'll get the boy off, and put that foreign bitch where she belongs, well it's 100 quid for me. Right? (*They offer her a ten pound note*)

10 bloody quid for letters like these, think again? Alright 50 quid and it's a bargain - that's if you're satisfied?