

# Lucy

62

DRACULA

ACT III

~~Lucy. (Crossing to door and sitting on end of chair.)~~

HARKER. *(Turns to window)* Oh, Lucy, how can you? The poor devil! Thank God—*(Turns to window)*—it will soon be dawn now.

LUCY. Dawn. The ebb tide of life. I hate the dawn. How can people like daylight? At night I am really alive. The night was made to enjoy life, and love— *(HARKER turns to her; hesitates.)* Come to me, John, my own John. *(He comes and sits L. of her.)*

HARKER. Lucy, I'm so happy that you are better and strong again—

LUCY. I've never been so well—so full of vitality. I was only a poor, washed-out, pale creature. I don't know what made you love me, John. There was no reason why you should. But there is *now*.

HARKER. I worship you.

LUCY. Then tell me something, John. *(HARKER turns slightly away.)* If you love me, you'll tell me. *(HARKER turns front.)* Now don't turn away from me again.

HARKER. *(Wearily and sadly)* You made me promise that I wouldn't tell you—anything.

LUCY. Oh, but I release you from your promise. There, now. What were you and Father and the funny Professor doing all day?

HARKER. I can't tell you. I promised.

LUCY. *(Angrily)* You say you love me, but you don't trust me.

HARKER. I would trust you with my life, my soul.

LUCY. Then prove it. What were you doing—over there in Carfax? With the hammer and the horrible iron stake. *(He shakes his head. She registers anger. He puts his head in his hands, as though crying.)* You don't think I'm asking you because—I'm just trying to find out whether you really love

me. (HARKER recoils from her, facing up.) So you try to hide your schemes and your plots. Afraid I'd give them away, are you? You fools. Whatever he wants to know, he finds out for himself. He knows what you do. He knows what you think. He knows everything.

HARKER. Lucy! (Puts his head in her lap and sobs. LUCY makes clawlike movement with both her hands, then as he sobs she changes attitude and gently strokes his head.)

LUCY. My dear, I'm sorry. Let me kiss away the tears. (She starts to kiss him. He quickly rises; backs away a few steps.)

HARKER. No, you mustn't kiss me. You made me promise not to let you kiss me.

LUCY. You don't know why I said that, John darling. It was because I love you so much. I was afraid of what might happen. You've always thought me cold, but I've blood in my veins, hot blood, my John. And I knew if I were to kiss you—but I'm not afraid now. Come, will you make me say it?

HARKER. (Backs step away from her) Lucy, I don't understand you.

LUCY. (Moves toward him) I love you. I want you. (Stretches out her arms to him) Come to me, my darling. I want you.

HARKER. (Goes to her, his resistance overcome, carried away by her ardor) Lucy, Lucy! (He seizes her in his arms. Slowly she takes his head and bends it back. Slowly, triumphantly she bends her head down, drawing back her upper lips. DOGS howl outside. Her mouth hovers over his. She bends his head further back quickly. Her mouth seeks his throat. Doors c. open. VAN HELSING rushes in, holding crucifix in right hand.)

VAN HELSING. Harker! Harker, save yourself! (HARKER rises and to c. With outstretched arm

holds crucifix between them. Her face becomes convulsed with loathing and rage. She snarls like an animal, retreats, fainting onto divan. VAN HELSING follows, crossing to R. end of couch; holds crucifix to her; strokes her forehead with left hand) I warned you, my poor friend. (He kneels beside LUCY; begins to chafe her temples. She revives slowly, looks about her, sees cross and stretches out arm to it. VAN HELSING picks cross up. She seizes it and kisses it passionately. VAN HELSING, fervently) Thank God! Thank God! (Pause. HARKER crosses end of divan.)

LUCY. (Broken-hearted) Don't come to me, John. I am unclean. (He sits on divan, L. of her.)

HARKER. My darling, in my eyes you are purity itself.

VAN HELSING. You love her, and in love there is truth. She is pure, and the evil thing that has entered her shall be rooted out.

LUCY. (In weak voice as in previous Acts to VAN HELSING) You said you could save Mina's soul.

VAN HELSING. Mina's soul is in Heaven. (SEWARD opens door c.)

LUCY. (Murmurs) Tell me how. (Enter SEWARD c. to L. of divan. He comes up to GROUP in alarm, but VAN HELSING motions silence.)

~~VAN HELSING. It is your right to know—now. I entered her tomb. I pried open the coffin. I found her there, sleeping, but not dead—not truly dead. There was blood in her cheeks, a drop of blood like a red ruby on the corner of her mouth. With a stake and hammer I struck to the heart. One scream, a convulsion, and then—the look of peace that came to her face when with God's help I had made her truly dead. (During this speech he holds the crucifix at her side on divan.)~~

~~SEWARD. I'll die, swear to me that you will do this to my body.~~