

UNCLE WILLIE

That is not the point! The point is I have sunk thousands
in that church and I'd like to get some use of it!

(to Mother Lord)

I'm sorry. How many did you say are coming again?

MOTHER LORD

About seven hundred.

UNCLE WILLIE

(sudden, horrid thought)

I'll bet they're expecting food!

(an even worse thought)

Guess I'd better go tell Mrs. Hatcher.

(to Dexter)

It goes without saying, none of this would be happening if
you two had stayed married.

No. 3b

UNCLE WILLIE'S EXIT

(Orchestra)

(Exit, Uncle Willie.)

Dexter smiles at Tracy. Tracy
flashes an icy smile back)

MOTHER LORD

(trying her best to change the mood)

So, Dexter dear, tell us now: where exactly have you been?
No one's seen or heard hide nor hair of you since — well—

TRACY

It was only a divorce, mother, not a death.

DEXTER

Well, mostly I've been sailing the Caribbean. Would've been
here yesterday but the wind gave out. Agh! Damn! Should've
told you this a few days ago. Actually, I tried, but the
ship-to-shore broke down. *Have to get that fixed ...*

TRACY

Told us *what*?

DEXTER

Nothing to get alarmed about! Relax. Recently, I met this
really lovely couple. In Bermuda. Mike Connor and Liz
Imbrie. She's some sort of photographer I think. He writes
short stories. Anyway, turns out, they're old friends of
cousin Jason! So I invited them to the wedding. And I just
hope that was all right.

TRACY

What cousin Jason?

MOTHER LORD

Maybe he means Junius.

DEXTER
Junius! Yes! Sorry!

TRACY
But Junius *died* ...

TRACY AND MOTHER LORD
Ten years ago!

DEXTER
Ah.

(Pause)
Well then. Guess there's nothing to do but tell you the truth.

TRACY
We must *remember* this moment!

DEXTER
About a month ago, I pulled a man out of the sea. *Deep* sea. Miles from land sort of thing.

MOTHER LORD
Dexter, if this is a joke ...

DEXTER
It's not! The man's name was Sidney Kidd.

TRACY
(skepticism personified)
What was he doing out there?

DEXTER
Apparently, his wife had just thrown him overboard.

MOTHER LORD
Dexter!

DEXTER
Within about an hour, I not only understood why she had done this, but began wondering if I shouldn't do the same.
(His tone startles them; Dexter is serious)
It turns out, Mister Kidd is a publisher. For a scandal magazine called "Spy." Guess what they're planning for the next issue?

(lowering his voice)
An exposé. Of your father ...
(lowering his voice even more)
... and a certain dancer in New York.

DINAH
Tina Mara!?