

JOHN / MARY

JOHN:

I tell you, Mary, I won't have it.

MARY:

Have *you* any right to criticize my actions?

JOHN:

It will be the talk of the village!

MARY:

Oh, if it is only village gossip that you mind!

JOHN:

Am I to understand that you will continue to see Bauerstein against my express wishes?

MARY:

If I choose.

JOHN:

You defy me?

MARY:

No, but I deny your right to criticize my actions. Have *you* no "friends" of whom I should disapprove?

JOHN:

What do you mean?

MARY:

You *do* see, don't you, that *you* have no right to dictate to *me* as to the choice of my friends?

JOHN:

(*unsteadily*)

No right? Have I *no* right, Mary?

MARY:

None!

JOHN:

Mary—are you in love with this fellow Bauerstein?

MARY:

Perhaps.