

THE FAVOURITE

ANNE: About time, Mrs. Freeman. This fucking leg. It's like a monster attacking me. Cut it off for me, will you?

ABIGAIL: I don't think so, Your Majesty.

ANNE: Why are you here?

ABIGAIL: Lady Marlborough sent me, as I am an excellent whist player and she has been unavoidably detained with business of state, but will be here posthaste.

ANNE: It's my state. I am the business of state. Did she actually send me her maid?

ABIGAIL: Your Majesty, I wasn't always a maid. I'm educated, I speak Latin, French. My family fell on hard times. - I'm also her cousin. -

ANNE: It's all very fascinating. You shall leave, regardless, and tell her to come.

ABIGAIL: They're gorgeous.

ANNE: They're my babies. Let them out, please.

ABIGAIL: How many are there?

ANNE: Seventeen. It's Hildebrand's day today.

ABIGAIL: Which one is he?

ANNE: That one there. Shy, but stubborn.

ABIGAIL: May I?

ANNE: He likes you. I lost some 17 children. Some were born as blood, some without breath... and some were with me for a very brief time. Oh, my dear. Today is Hildebrand's day.

ABIGAIL: The day you lost him.

ANNE: Yes. Each one that dies, a little bit of you goes with them. Would you like to join me?

**Analysis:**

Beginning, Anne is waiting anxiously for visit with lover/best friend.

She is beside herself with anger when a maid arrives instead.

When the stranger compliments the rabbits, Anne is reminded of babies and it instantly triggers loss and sorrow for her.

**Anne's emotional chord: Eternally wounded child with ultimate power**