



## **AFTER THE FALL** by Arthur Miller

### ACT I

*Quentin speaks to his wife Louise about intimacy and his recent affair.*

#### QUENTIN

I didn't do that to dispose of you, Louise. I thought we'd settled about that girl? Is that what this is all about? You mean you think I'm still – Tell me something: until this party the other night - in fact this whole year, I thought you seemed much happier. I swear to God, Louise, I thought we were building something 'till the other night? I've been trying like hell to show what I think of you. You've seen that, haven't you? What I resent is being forever on trail, Louise. Are you an innocent bystander here? ... The summer before last, didn't you come to me and say that if I didn't change you would divorce me? You said if it came down to it you would divorce me – that's not a contribution? How much shame do you want me to feel? I hate what I did. But, I think I've explained it – I felt nothing. I shouldn't have, but I did, and I took the only means I knew to – Look, you're not at all to blame, hey?! Well, for example – you never turn your back on me in bed? You have turned your back on me in bed, Louise, I am not insane! Well, I'm not very demonstrative I guess. Louise - I worry about you all day. And all night. And, well, I wouldn't mind a little praise - what's wrong with praise?