

Writing Sample
The Cat's Meow

by
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FADE IN:

INT.BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

In the midst of a Bondage scene, harness, black leather and whips, Frederick puts a finger to his lips while zipping shut the mouth mask of his prostitute.

FREDERICK

A peep now could affect your tip.

A car door SLAMS. Frederick pushes a button and an image of the garage comes up on his laptop monitor.

Emerging from a black Mercedes is a sleek pair of legs in heels. Cecelia!

The prostitute struggles as he finds himself gagged and airborne, hoisted in his harness by chains attached to a 15 foot high ceiling.

Frederick silences him with one of his best, 9th grade social sciences one sound out of you and you'll be spending the rest of the year in detention, looks.

FREDERICK

Did you know that the term "cruel and unusual punishment" was first brought into use in the English Bill of Rights, in 1689?

The prostitute shakes his head no.

FREDERICK

Unfortunately, if she were to catch us, it will not help to know that the term applies only to government entities and not individual actions.

Frederick struggles out of his black leather costume, carefully places it in the sex toy hamper, pulls on sweats, brushes his soul patch and slips into flip-flops.

INT.LIVING ROOM - CONTINUING

Cecelia kicks off her heels and heads towards the kitchen. In her hand, a bundle of mail which she flips through until one stops her. She opens it.

Frederick emerges from the bedroom, skips over to Cecelia and embraces her.

FREDERICK
Sweetums! What a pleasant surprise.

Cecelia shrugs off his attentions then stops, and sniffs.

CECELIA
Little early to be wearing cologne.

Frederick guides Cecelia over to a Papa-san chair, kneels by her side and begins rubbing her feet.

A NOISE from the bedroom startles both of them and Frederick rises to his feet.

FREDERICK
My love... I shall protect you.

He tip toes over to the bedroom door, Cecelia rolls her eyes.

CECELIA
Why must he make it so easy?

INT.BEDROOM - CONTINUING

The harness is empty. Frederick searches the room but the prostitute is nowhere to be seen.

Relieved, Frederick straightens up and returns to Cecelia.

But before he is able to leave the room, she is in the doorway.

CECELIA
Well?

Frederick goes back to straightening up. He bumps into the vacuum cleaner and knocks it over.

FREDERICK
Must have been the cat.

Cecelia enters the room and begins disrobing, changing out of her neatly tailored business suit.

CECELIA
Thank God Hallerman broke on the stand today. It got me home before rush hour so I could check up, err, be with you.

Cecelia is in the walk-in closet and Frederick suddenly notices the prostitute's foot sticking out from under the bed. He nudges it back under.

CECELIA

Besides, I love it when men cry. It makes me hot.

In just a satin slip and stockings, Cecelia advances on Frederick. Pushing him down on the bed she begins to peel off his shirt.

Frederick struggles feebly under her grasp.

FREDERICK

Anything important in the mail my love?

Cecelia stops, rolls off Frederick. Their combined body weight on the bed shifts, a GRUNT comes from beneath the bed. The grunt coincides with a GROAN from Cecelia or does it?

CECELIA

Today's the last day to renew my voter's registration. It must be postmarked today.

FREDERICK

They'd never disenfranchise a valuable citizen such as yourself. I was just telling my students today that the right to vote...

Cecelia sits up

CECELIA

I can't chance that the election board ever attended one of your 9th grade lectures.

She heads to the closet and throws on some clothes. Frederick stiffens at the sight of the prostitute scurrying out from under the bed. He is now hiding behind the settee.

Cecelia stops dressing, as if she has heard something.

CECELIA

Maybe you'd be a dear and drop it off for me? I'd love a short nap.

FREDERICK

Now?

CECELIA

Now.

INT.LIVING ROOM - CONTINUING

Cecelia signs her registration form with a flourish and hands the paper to Frederick. He takes it and holds out his other hand.

CECELIA

What now?

FREDERICK

My car is in the shop.

Cecelia grabs her coat off the back of the chair, swings her purse onto her shoulder, slips back into her shoes and snatches the paper out of Frederick's hand.

FREDERICK

Where are you going?

Cecelia is half way out the door. She dangles the keys.

CECELIA

No one touches this baby but me.

FREDERICK

Oh yes, I forgot.

She slams the door shut after her and Frederick rushes into the bedroom...

INT.BEDROOM - CONTINUING

Helps the prostitute to his feet and grabs his things. Frederick ushers the prostitute to the door double time.

INT.LIVING ROOM - CONTINUING

Opens the front door, there is Cecelia, arms crossed, foot tapping.

FREDERICK

How did you know?

CECELIA

We don't have a cat.

(MORE)