

# #11 - Marie, Kate, Mollie

*Suddenly the voices stop, and a fight erupts. Soon it's bedlam; tin cups and plates are flying, glass bulbs are breaking; women are screaming, fighting, calling for help. A young inmate, MARIE, comes reeling by MOLLIE'S cell, hysterical, bleeding from the forehead.*

*MARIE:* Help me! Somebody! I can't see!

*MOLLIE (grabbing her):* Hey, hold on—

*MARIE (falling into MOLLIE'S arms):* Help me!

*MOLLIE:* It's all right; you just got a bad cut. (*sets MARIE on the cot, grabs a piece of linen.*) Here, let me clean you up. (*wipes some blood from her eyes.*)

*MARIE:* Is it time? Are they here?

*MOLLIE:* Hold still. (*MOLLIE makes a compress and, cradling MARIE, applies it to her forehead.*) What's happening out there?

*MARIE:* There was salt on the raisins instead of sugar. Kate called the Matron an idiot, and she said Kate was an ungrateful bitch and to shut up and eat. Kate threw her food, and then everybody did.

*MOLLIE (disturbed):* They're smashing everything up!

*MARIE:* Someone opened the fire extinguishers—the whole dining room is flooded. A window shattered, and I got hit by the glass. (*looks at the blood; shrieks.*) I'm dying!

*MOLLIE:* Shh. No, it's just a cut. It'll heal.

*MARIE:* Is it time? Are they here?

*MOLLIE:* Who?

*MARIE:* If it is, take me with you.

*MOLLIE:* Take you where?

*MARIE:* To the anarchist place. Kate always said they'd probably come for you someday, and that we should be ready just in case. And then that man came making a fuss over you and took Mrs. Lilly away. So we thought maybe the revolution might be now.

*A series of loud noises; the screaming and cursing intensifies.*

*MOLLIE (getting up and looking out; disturbed):* They're ripping the beds off the walls!

*MARIE (hysterical):* Take me with you! Please! I know you normally don't take girls like me, Kate already told me. But it was only for a month—we needed the money! Mrs. Lilly says I can still be saved.

*MOLLIE (going back to her):* Relax. Sit back.

*MARIE*: Promise you won't leave me behind!

*MOLLIE*: All right, I promise. You'll go when I go.

*KATE enters, also cut. MOLLIE gives her a bandage.*

*KATE (to MOLLIE, aggressive)*: Well, where are your friends? The gates are still locked. Are they blasting through the walls?

*MOLLIE (sharp)*: No. They're already inside!

*KATE*: Where? I don't see them.

*MOLLIE*: Right here! They're all of you—and me.

*KATE*: What?

*MOLLIE*: Don't you hate this place? Don't you hate being treated like an animal?

*KATE*: Of course we do!

*MOLLIE*: Then don't act like one! Ripping the place apart, running around like lunatics—it's all a waste of strength. Instead, join ranks, stay together. Call a prison-wide hunger strike and hold on. Then the matter is clear—either they give in, or you die.

*LILLY approaches with matrons and THE BUG.*

*KATE*: When are they coming with the bombs? We helped create a diversion. If you're going, so are we.

*LILLY*: So this is the result of the freedom I gave you.

*KATE (pointing to MOLLIE)*: She started it. She egged us on.

*MARIE*: She didn't! It was Kate who threw the food. Ask the Matron.

*LILLY (to the matrons and THE BUG)*: Take them down to the holes.

*MARIE (clutching MOLLIE)*: No!

*KATE is bound and carried away.*

*KATE*: I didn't do anything! *(to MARIE)*: I'll get you.