

ROBERT. Thank you, Charles! Ever the kind host!

~~JONATHAN. Drink it up.~~

~~ROBERT. Most kind!~~

Robert drinks the water.

JONATHAN. Tell me Thomas, one thing.

ROBERT. Anything, Charles. I shall tell no more lies!

JONATHAN. The glass of poisoned water the Inspector left out for me; what do you suppose I did with it?

ROBERT. Well, I don't know... What do you mean? You don't mean you gave me the... Charley? Charley?!

He clutches his stomach and faces the audience.

No! No!! No!!

Robert dies. Max throws snow from offstage. Jonathan moves centre. Lights fade and a spot comes up on Jonathan.

JONATHAN. Oh how I wish this could have ended differently. Thomas, your lies and deceptions have led you inexorably to this end. If men allow their conscience to be governed by avarice then death and destruction shall prevail. ~~(With finality.) Betrayed by my brother.~~

A short snatch of an English new wave song like "Rio" by Duran Duran plays, then quickly cuts out.

~~Cuckolded by my fiancée~~

House music fades in.

~~and almost murdered by my oldest friend.~~ Let us hope we never again see a murder at Haversham Manor.

Fade to black.

End of Play

* See Note on Songs/Recordings at the back of this volume.