

DINNER TALK

“What is acceptable talk at the dinner table?”

Lancer stood up while the meal was going on, and she stared at all the guests. What did she understand?

“This never happened.”

“What did happen?”

“I had something in my eye. .:”

“Who are you going to attract to your side?”

“Are there sides?”

“Are there sides?”

“What side are you on?”

“I work for myself.”

Lancer understood things about the new world. There were new value, new ways of thinking. The unacceptable now became permitted.

“Will there be a time that you need to answer for your offenses?”

“Will there be a time that you will answer?”

“I guess that means war.”

“Is this a war novel?”

“What if it is? What is the actual disposition of forces? How do we feel things differently? What do you have to do to change.”

“There will be a time when all the bad deeds will have to be accounted for.”

“We only look at one part of history.”

“The part where people go down and do not get up.”

“The part that relates to our guys.”

“This is another kind of being.”:

“Can I change?”

“Do you want to change?”

“Would you like to feel better?”

“I do not know how to feel better.”

“We relive the bad times.”

“What is bad to you.

“Layla has a story to tell.”

“What is she going to say?”

“I need to go to work.”

“What is happening at work?”

“I have the critical elements that I need.”

“Do you have what you need to help you to live?”

“You cannot eat your way to happiness.”

“Smile.”

“What color smile do you have?”

“This is the color for change.”

“I had my moment.”

“What did you get?”
 “I need to figure this out.”
 “How much did you spend on that haircut?”
 “It seems like not enough.”
 “I am flying with the birds.”
 “I am an apprentice.”
 “I do not want to wait.”
 “How do you see this?”
 “I got out before I want any deeper.”
 “You are going to have to fuck up things before you know.”
 “This is a job.”
 “I know how to manage it.”
 “How is that?”
 “I am working with your sister.”
 “What is that about?”
 “Come back to the flock.”
 “They come at me from different directions.”
 “I got stopped in midflight.”
 “Tell me who you are.”
 “You can correct this.”
 “I can answer all these questions without thinking about it.”
 “CALL ME AT THE HOUSE. I WILL TELL YOU HOW MUCH FUN I AM
 HAVING.”
 “Do you really consider that fun?”
 “You are not having it.”
 “It seemed to mean something.?”
 “I have been all fixed up.”
 “That is not going to be enough.”
 “I have seen you before.”
 “You do not know me.”
 “I know you.”
 “I am not the person that you think that I am.”
 “This stuff is wonderful.”
 “This is the moment in the day that I feel that power.”
 “I project on the time line.”
 “This is the moment.”
 “I am not asking you to do something that you cannot do.”
 “I am looking at the dial.”
 “That is how the dial works.”
 “Why is this going to be any different for me.”
 “I need to remind myself where I have been.”
 “Where are we going?”
 “Where do we need to go?”

“We need to get something done.”
“There needs to be more than that.”
“We have to go to the other end of the world.”
“I will give you this.”
“He made it to the other side.”
“There is another side.”
“If I had that power, I would use it to my advantage.”
“I have got you.”
“I am not coming back here.”
“Stare at me in the face.”
“Face to face.”
“We do not have to worry about it.”
“Why is that funny?”
“Is he just a comedian or someone who thinks that he is funny?”
“He knows too much of the story.”
“You were in it.”
“What can you say when you walk away?”
“I am completely clean.”
“We are going to check.”
“How do you do that?”
“Sniff.”
“Cut the fish open.”
“I do not want to see think that you are going to make me feel badly.”
“Raw.”
“How do I cut to protect myself?”
“How are they planning my life?”
“He plays to win.”
“Win.”
“Win.”
“There is the playing part.”
“We are way beyond playing.”
“She wants more than that.”
“This is how I explain it.”
“Did I miss a chance?”
“What do I need to do to pretend?”
“You cannot fake it that long.”
“What more is involved?”
“Someone who is acquiescent.”
“We are going beyond Tempest.”
“She learns what kind of pain that she can survive.”
“She has numbing medicine.”
“Are you asking me to take it straight?”
“Is there any other way to protect myself?”

“Do you need help?”
“Use milk.”
“Should I wait.”
“You have not even started.”
“Do you want to do a consultation?”
“She is out for lunch.”
“I need a session.”
“There is a Halloween special.”
“That will work for me.”
“What else is in there?”
“This is brilliant.”
“What do you know?”
“In this show, in this life.”
“What will happen?”
“What are you saving?”
“Spread out my cards. Tell me what you see.”
“You cannot be something that you are not.”
“I should have gone to an alchemist.”
“The alchemist has a limited palette to work from.”
“What else is available?”
“What happened to you?”
“Chill the fuck out.”
“Why do you think that is going to calm me down?”
“Are you going to need someone to help?”
“Do you want a mental health worker?”
“I feel overworked.”
“I only want you to help one person.”
“She saw the prescription.”
“What is in that?”
“Truth serum.”
“Who can tell me what time cannot?”
“Why should I feel protected?”
“It is a little bit of pain.”
“The universe is not coded to observe your experience.”
“They get off on it in a way that others do not.”
“You are taking too much of my time.”
“That could not be better.”
“I know what that is truly about.”
“I do not interfere.”
“Is he here for me?”
“I thought that you wanted to see the soothsayer.”
“We want different things.”
“We start with the same thing.”

“What is different here?”
“Who else is involved.”
“I have one goal.”
“I do not want to look at your face.”
“We are along again.”
“I want an audience.”
They all watched in the operating theater”
“I almost see this completely.”
“I was never quick enough.”
“What was the last song.”
“I will return to the scene.”
“Did you?”
“You did.”
“What did you learn?”
“That it is my story.”
“If it is, I need a delivery.”
“I do not do that kind of thing.”
“Why are things not right?”
“Things are not right.”
“What else is left?”
“What do you expect from me?”
“Why is your nose running?”
“I am about to reveal so much.”
“I got down to brass tacks.”
“Hammering them in there.”
“Has Tempest got used to the problems?”
“She doesn’t feel a thing anymore.”
“Will anything change after this?”
“What else is in the case?”
“I have some things that you need?”
“Why is this going on?”
“I needed the reassurance.”
“These are things that I do not understand.”
“That will not work.”
“I will watch.”
“I can become so much more than I am.”
“You have arrived.”
“Why are you here now? Are things really fucking up in your life.”
“That would be a couple of nights.”
“I want a private session.”
“I can’t make it.”
“I will be whatever you want me to be.”
“Here, take this script.”

“I do not have the same tolerance for pain.”
“What are you willing to take?”
“Where did this start?”
“I am waiting for him.”
“We all are.”
“But you decided to lock yourself in this place.”
“Why do people accept this.”
“What do you want to ask me?”
“You need to accept what is available?”
“You need to explain the game to me.”
“What do you want to know? What can I explain to you?”
“I was waiting for you.”
“We all were.”
“What else is left?”
“There is a lot of time.”
“More revelations.”
“Should I think about that.”
“You are with me.”
“This is part of history.”
“This is how I clean my living room.”
“I am ready to draw the line.”
“Are you kidding?”
“I wasted my time and my money.”
“Think about it as a lesson in learning.”
“It is all about the timing.”
“You could have explained this in a simpler way.”
“I am tired of settling for things that are not going to give me an answer.”
“And you do have all the answers.”
“That is what I really like.”
“And that makes a difference.”
“Bring the animal.”
“What else is in the book?”
“Do you want to operate?”
“Just get me a knife and some whiskey.”
“You could use your imagination.”
“No one really cares.”
“That is not going to solve a thing.”
“He is going to walk through fire.”
“That stuff is not working for anyone.”
“This is not working.”
“What do we need to make it work?”
“Steel reinforcement.”
“Chill out.”

“I do not want to go back to the big house.”

“And you aren’t weird. How do they let other people like you on the planet? You really have little empathy for people. You exaggerate your own bull shit. You are not as productive as you think you are.”

“Tell me.”

“Do not complain.”

“They are going to shut you down when you are not under contract.”

“Turn up the volume.”

“What is your fear?”

“They are going to comment on my anatomy.”

“We were there before.”

“Why are you showing that cowardly face right now? What have you really done to advance humankind.”

“Who wanted this?”

“I know what you are really afraid of.”

“I am back.”

“That is more than I need to think about.”

“We have been invaded.”

“They are going to lose in a procurement fight.”

“Can you explain it?”

“Where do you stay?”

“We do not worry about it?”

“We are going to have to make you walk the plank.”

“What is that about?”

“I did not eat all my vegetables.”

“This will not turn out well.”

“We are going to need the animal.”

“You do not feel comfortable with your situation.”

“What are you protecting?”

“Who else knows?”

“A lot of people know about Tiffany.”

“She was giving people B-12 shots.”

“This is brilliant.”

“You must be fantastic.”

“I want you to do one simple thing.”

“I want you to do one simple thing in a complex way.”

“You told me all that I needed to hear.”

“Ask away.”

“Where does this start?”

“She said that she had some kind of training.”

“Turn up the anesthetic.”

“You were supposed to fast.”

“I wanted to eat some potato chips.”

“Chew away.”
“This is fantastic.”
“You need a close up.”
“Bring those lenses.”
“I love the affect.”
“He can try it.”
“That is so familiar.”
“Did I hear that right?”
“Are you keeping me after school?”
“You did not learn what to do with the anesthetic.”
“I am going to do without.”
“We are way beyond that point.”
“You never came back.”
“You did not hurt the way that I did.”
“What is left out?”
“What is not assigned.”
“I get it.”
“That does not explain a thing.”
“What are you going to add?”
“Taste.”
“What do you want?”
“Something really to quiet me down.”
“I thought that you wanted blood.”
“I am not good at holding on.”
“This is going to end up back at the same place.”
“Let it be.”
“Drink this.”
“I still am nervous.”
“That is what you wanted all this time.”
“We are closer than ever.”
“I WANT TO QUIT NOW.”
“You need to hang on. If you finish all your chores, you can leave.”
“What more can I get you?”
“Do you know what you want?”
“I want to see you do that again.”
“This is nature photography.”
“This will never last.”
“I am not part of this.”
“Do not tell me that things are fine.”
“They are not fine.”
“Tell me what is the future of this.”
“You were never completely honest.”
“I used to have gold.”

“That was all part of the alchemy.”
“I do like the taste.”
“And you were cured.”
“I am going to get the job done.”
“That is not something that I really enjoy.”
“Why should we care?”
“We do not care?”
“Is that going to be enough.”
“You have thought about this great deal.”
“Why should I bother?”
“There are different ways of relating.”
“The dogs have their point.”
“What is this about?”
“You have given me everything that I expected.”
“The filet of fish sandwich.”
“Do you know how to cut the filet?”
“What is that really about?”
“I am from a mining town.”
“And where does that go?”
“There are other minerals.”
“We make an exchange.”
“There are futures.”
“You have five seconds to respond.”
“I can assist.”
“Sell that shit.”
“Can I hang out at the house?”
“This will be something.”
“What is happening at the house?”
“They are very stimulating people.”
“I will get back to that.”
“I need finish.”
“I told you to divest the accounts.”
“You are telling me all kinds of contradictory things.”
“That makes no difference to anyone”
“I did not handle this perfectly.”
“I was trying to follow.”
“Did you follow?”
“I can finish early.”
“What is left out?”
“I don’t play favorites.”
“This is an imposition.”
“That is driving me a little crazy.”
“What are you eating?”

“Nothing good.”
“I could help you with your choices.”
“And where would that go?”
“This seems to be more than it is.”
“More.”
“More, more, more.”
“How do you like it?”
“I love it.”
“It is all up to you.”
“How did you make it all work?”
“I had a schedule.”
“This is all that I want.”
“WANT.”
“I need you to be precise.”
“What are the steps?”
“Sell, sell, sell.”
“I am not getting what I need.”
“This is going to be the first step to understanding.”
“What have you figured out in a matter of years.”
“Who else is involved?”
“The mechanic.”
“You need to build the motor better.”
“I do not want to do any more building.”
“Dinner is served.”
“Do I need to eat it.”
“Dinner is observed.”
“Do I need to watch it.”
“I live to eat.”
“Of course, you do, Tempest.”
“There is another level.”
“Someone needs to tell him that no one cares.”
“I care when I look in the mirror.”
“This is more than i can take.
“This only gets better.”
“You say that all the time.”
“I don’t mean it all the time.”
“I realized what is his name.”
“The prince.”
“You were so good at this.”
“Choose something random.”
“Sauce.”
“Copper.”
“What do you have there?”

“Keep repeating the same thing.”
“Did I really hear that?”
“You did.”
“Where did he go?”
“He is in the hat.”
“I am finished for the day.”
“I do not want anything else.”
“Why would you do that for me?”
“Who even cares?”
“We are all involved.”
“I am going to disappear on myself.”
“There is not much else.”
“I am on pins and needles.”
“Good expression, dear.”
“How else do you want me to explain it?”
“This is something that hurts all the time.”
“You cannot come back to the same thing.”
“And we care a lot.”
“Why are you such a fish out of water?”
“I am drowning.”
“The mechanism did not work.”
“I wanted to care about this.”
“Take the shot.”
“That is cruel.”
“You got away.”
“I do not have long to deal with this.”
“This will be over soon.”
“Over.”
“Over and out.”
“Out.”
“Out.”
“You need to understand more.”
“I cannot look at this for very long.”
“Give me the tuna fish sandwich.”
“I am allergic to tuna.”
“Where does this come from?”
“Be careful, Tiffany, and do not cut your hand on the can.”
“There is not a lot to look at.”
“They need to understand our experience.”
“I lost what I needed.”
“I cannot make it work.”
“Impossible.”
“Do not insult me.”

“I am watching from the luxury box.”

“And what are you seeing?”

“Everyone looking back.”

“We are looking back.”

“What do you see?”

“The sun rising.”

“This better be good.”

“Tiffany, this is your turn.”

“I do not want to feel pain.”

“This is everything.”

“Breathing technique.”

“Bingo!”