

**MASHA** (*to Sonia*):

Well, it's not as if my career has been without disappointments, just like your life, Sonia. I've suffered too. I'm a movie star, but am I known as a classical actress on the stage?

That's a path I didn't get to take. Remember when that famous acting teacher was going to cast me as Masha in *Three Sisters*. He said I was born to play that role. Imagine how wonderful I would have been. "Oh my sisters, let us go to Moscow! To Moscow, let us go." I would have said that line with an ache in my voice and my soul, and it would have been heartbreaking. I feel the public doesn't know how heartbreaking I can be. Oh missed opportunities! Regret, regret, regret!

That famous acting teacher said I was born to play the classics. And that once I did *Three Sisters*, he said I would have one classical triumph after another. I'd be the American Judy Dench. But I had to go do that movie about the nymphomaniac serial killer. It was a terrible script, but I was so good in it that it became this enormous hit and, of course, we made five of them, eventually. Did you see all of them?

That movie, *Sexy Killer*, really changed my life—it took me from being a respected actress to being a global celebrity. And then they begged me to do a sequel, and it seemed inescapable to me. And those movies made me millions. But my point was the theatre lost a great tragic classical actress when I didn't play my namesake Masha in that famous acting teacher's production of *Three Sisters*. I remember I had three fabulous sessions with him. He taught a combination of Stanislavskian sense memory mixed with Meisner repetition technique. I'd say, "Oh, Olga, let's go to Moscow," and he'd say back to me, "Oh, Olga, let's go to Moscow?" And I'd say, "Oh, Olga—let's GO to Moscow." And he'd say, "Oh, oh, oh, Olga, let's got to MosCOW." And then I said, "Ho, ho, ho, let's go to Moscow, Olga, Moscow, Moscow, Olga. Oh, Oh, Olga, let's go!" I'm sorry, this is sounding incredibly false as I'm saying it. It makes one think I would've been horrible in *Three Sisters*. Maybe I would have been. No, no, I would've been great! Let's not talk about it anymore. Let's talk about something else. Sonia, what's new with you?