

MDM ARMFELDT

MDM ARMFELDT is in a wheelchair, she is playing a game of Solitaire

FREDRIKA

If you cheated a little, it would come out

MDM ARMFELDT

(Continuing to play)

Solitaire is the only thing in life that demands absolute honesty. As a woman who has numbered kings among her lovers, I think my word can be taken on this point. What was I talking about?

FREDRIKA

You said I should watch.

MDM ARMFELDT

Watch...what?

FREDRIKA

It sounds very unlikely to me, but you said I should watch for the night to smile.

MDM ARMFELDT

Everything is unlikely, dear, so don't let that deter you. Of course the summer night smiles. Three times.

FREDRIKA

But how does it smile?

MDM ARMFELDT

Good heavens, what sort of a nanny did you have?

FREDRIKA

None really. Except Mother, and the other actresses in the company...and the stage manager.

MDM ARMFELDT

Stage managers are not nannies. They don't have the talent.

FREDRIKA

But if it happens...how does it happen?

MDM ARMFELDT

You get a feeling. Suddenly the jasmine starts to smell stronger, then a frog croaks...then all the stars in Orion wink. Don't squeeze your bosoms against the chair, dear. It'll stunt their growth. And then where would you be?