



English

Quotations - Sheila Birling

“I’m sorry, Daddy.” She looks attentive, as they all do. (Act 1)

“But these girls aren’t cheap labour- they’re people.” (Act 1)

“Oh - Gerald - you’ve got it - is it the one you wanted me to have? “(Act 1)

“If she’d been some miserable plain little creature, I don’t suppose I’d have done it. But she was very pretty and looked as if she could take care of herself. I couldn’t be sorry for her.” (Act 1)

(rather distressed) “I can’t help thinking about this girl- destroying herself so horribly- and I’ve been so happy tonight. Oh I wish you hadn’t told me.” (Act 1)

“It’s the only time I’ve ever done anything like that, and I’ll never, never do it again to anybody.” (Act 1)
(laughs rather hysterically) “why - you fool - he knows. Of course he knows. And I hate to think how much he knows that we don’t know yet. You’ll see. You’ll see.” (Act 1)

(eagerly) “I know I’m to blame - and I’m desperately sorry - but I can’t believe - I won’t believe - it’s simply my fault that in that in the end she - she committed suicide. That would be too horrible -“(Act 2)

“We all started like that - so confident, so pleased with ourselves until he began asking us questions.” (Act 2)
(slowly, carefully now) “you mustn’t try to build up a kind of wall between us and that girl. If you do, then the inspector will just break it down. And it’ll be all the worse when he does.” (Act 2)

“I’m not a child, don’t forget. I’ve a right to know.” (Act 2)
(rather wildly, with laugh) “No, he’s giving us the rope - so that we’ll hang ourselves.” (Act 2)

“I don’t dislike you as I did half an hour ago, Gerald. In fact, in some odd way, I rather respect you more than I’ve ever done before. But this has made a difference. You and I aren’t the same people who sat down to dinner here.”(Act 2)

“Don’t interfere, please, father.” (Act 2)

“We’ve no excuse now for putting on airs and if we’ve any sense we won’t try.” (Act 2)

“I behaved badly too. I know I did I’m ashamed of it. But now you’re beginning all over again to pretend that nothing much has happened-“ (Act 3)

(flaring up) “It’s you two who are being childish - trying not to face the facts.” (Act 3)

(bitterly) “I suppose we’re all nice people now.”(Act 3)

(flaring up) “Well, he inspected us all right. And don’t let’s start dodging and pretending now. Between us we drove that girl to commit suicide.” (Act 3)

(tensely) “I want to get out of this. It frightens me the way you talk.” (Act 3)

“I tell you - whoever that Inspector was, it was anything but a joke. You knew it then. You began to learn something. And now you’ve stopped. You’re ready to go on in the same old way.” (Act 3)