

"Under the Gaslight"
by Augustin Daly

Mrs. V.

Good night ! of course we'll see you on Tuesday Pearl. To be sure you will. Never spent a jollier hour. Good night, Ray.

Ray Trafford

Good night Mrs. V! Oh Pearl

Pearl

Isn't it a frightful thing to be shut up here on such a beautiful night?

Ray Trafford

Oh Pearl I am so in love with you! We're going to be married shortly!

Sam

Stop!

Burke

Desist!

Edward Demitt

We hate mornings though it becomes us!

Burke

We hate everything but fun

Sam

Larks and dancing

Windel

We are the ne'er do wells! How often do we do well?

Sam, Burke, Edward, Windel

Ne'er!

Ray Trafford

What is the meaning of this?

Counselor Splinter

This woman is of unflattering parentage!

Justice Bowling

Send this false progeny off to the sweatshops of New York!

Ray Trafford

I can't marry a peasant! Good bye Pearl!

They all exit except for Pearl.

Bermudas

Get to it now ladies! We have to hand paint these pocket watches.

Peanuts

But sir doesn't this paint have lead in it?

Bermudas

Yes, but it's the 1800s we don't really care about those things.

Peanuts

Right.

Pearl begins to cry.

Lillywhite

Oh cheer up love; things will get better for us poor women.

Pearl

When Lillywhite?

Lillywhite

Um... well... cheer up.

Bermudas

Time to go home ladies!

All exit except Pearl, enter Rafferdi and Old Judas.

Rafferdi

Hello Pearl we're your drunken parents who live a life of thievery!

Old Judas

That's right and we have arranged you to be married to an old scoundral

Martin

Marry Me Pearl!

Pearl
No! I will never marry you!

Storky
It's me storky! A civil war veteran with one arm! (*hides his arm*) Uh yes, one arm, I'm kind and love Pearl!

Martin
I don't think so Storky. I'm tying you to these train tracks!

The Signal Man at Shrewsbury Road
(*the ne'er do wells are the train*)
Oh no the train is coming! I can't stop! Oh no I'm driving a train!

Pearl appears with an ax!

Pearl
I'm rescuing you Storky!

Storky
Nice!

The Sergeant of the River Patrol
You're under arrest Martin!

Policeman
For villainy and that terrible mustache!

Martin
Unhand me you brutes!

Peter Rich
The only brute here is you Martin, and look, I brought this lady!

Mrs. Van Dam
I'm Mrs. Van Dam from the New York Orphanage society, it turns out that this wealthy family is your actual family.

Laura Courtland
Yes, Pearl, you're my sister and we're from a wealthy family!

Storky

I love you Pearl!

Peachblossom

Hi, I'm peachblossom, I'm poor like you and I live by these here tracks and I saw how brave you were so let's get married.

Storky

I love you peachblossom!

Old Judas

For no apparent reason I'm dead.

Ray Trafford

Oh Pearl you're wealthy again! I've been such an a-donkey, No I wrong that noble animal! We'll be married go straight to Europe and live there for ten years!

Laura

There you have it folks, turns out Pearl came from a wealthy family. That is Under the Gaslight by Augustin Daly What a happy ending.

All

Is it?

The scene ends.

Martin

It's not bad right?

Stage Manager

It's not good.

Guys, melodrama was big, it was exaggerated it would have to retain the attention of thousands of theatergoers, can you make it a little more... I don't know.

Backstage Crew

Energetic?

Stage Manager

Yeah, let's try that!

They repeat the scene.

Stage Manager

What was that?

Backstage Crew

This is a tragedy; we don't know if Pearl will have find love again, can we make it more, I don't know tragic?

They repeat the scene, comically tragic and an actor injure themself.

The Signal Man at Shrewsbury Road

I'm injured! I can't go on! But the show must go on!

Mr. Guerra

We need someone to understudy! Quickly! Get someone from the audience, give them a script!

They repeat the scene wit the member of the audience.