

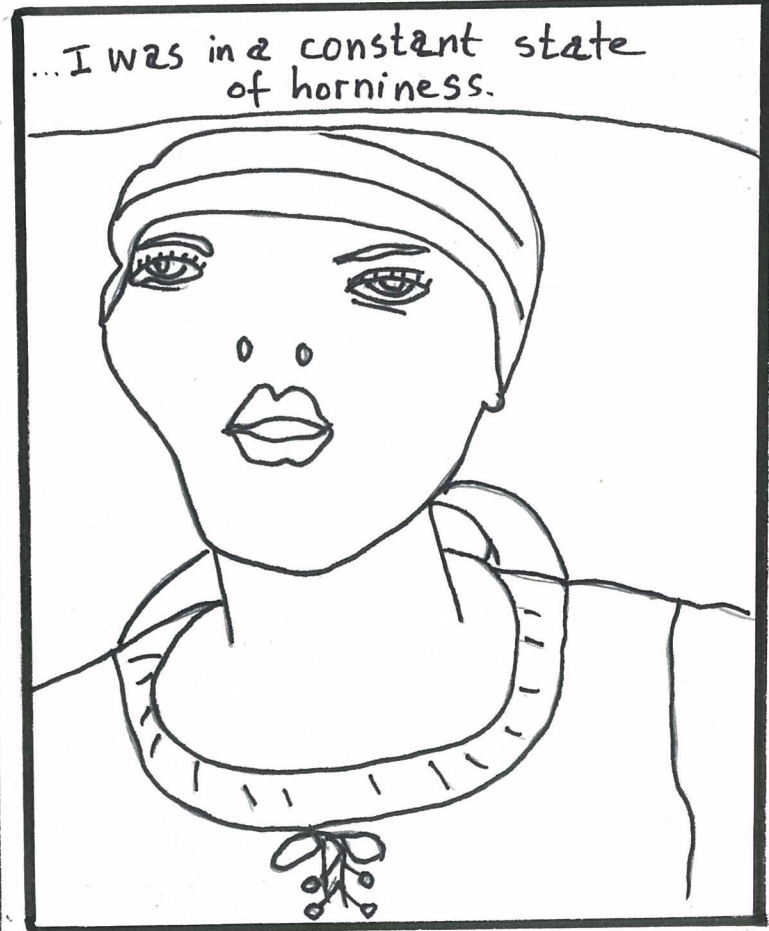


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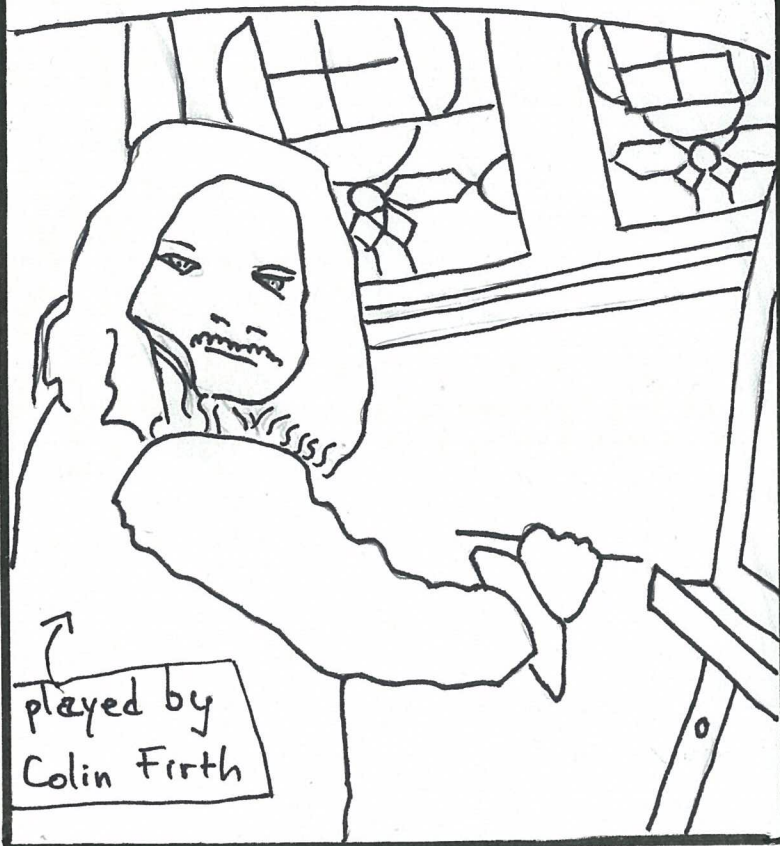
IN THE MOVIE, "GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING"
(2003, BASED ON THE NOVEL BY THE SAME
TITLE BY TRACY CHEVALIER), SCARLETT
JOHANSSON PLAYS A MAID NAMED GRIET
WHO WORKS FOR THE DUTCH PAINTER
JOHANNES VERMEER*, PLAYED BY COLIN FIRTH.

THE STORY IMAGINES THAT THIS MAID,
GRIET, POSED FOR VERMEER AT HIS
REQUEST, OR AT HIS (HORNY) PATRON'S
REQUEST, AND THERE ARE MANY SCENES
IN WHICH SHE IS TOTALLY POWERLESS
IN THE HANDS OF THE POWERFUL
MEN WHO DECIDE HER FATE.

* YUP, THE VERY SAME VERMEER
WE HAVE SEEN IN PREVIOUS
CHAPTERS.



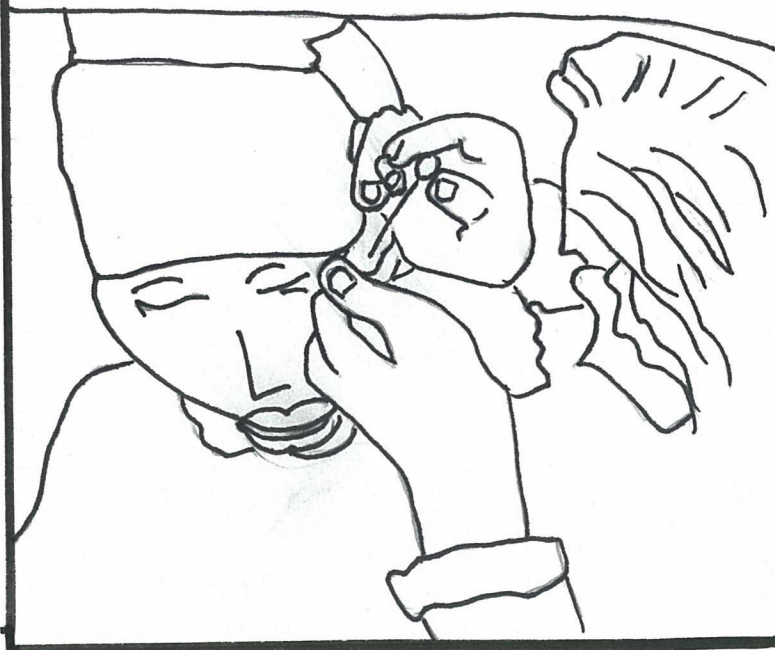
I have to clean Master Vermeer's studio.



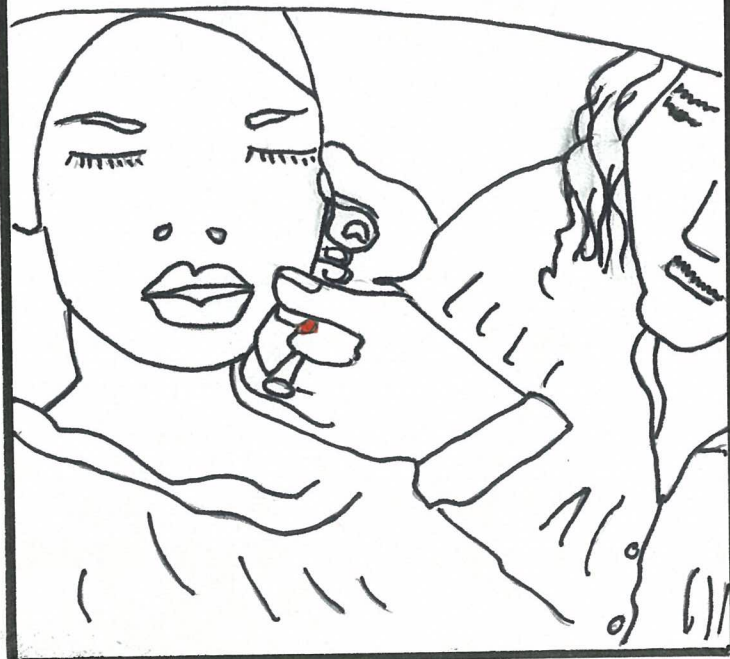
He decides that he wants me to model for him. He has the hots for me.



When he pierces my ear so that I can insert the pearl earring that will make him famous because he will paint me with it...



... it's obvious that the blood drop symbolizes my loss of virginity. And I hand him the needle. Jeez. So obvious.



VERMEER'S PATRON, MASTER VAN RUIJVEN, ALSO HAS THE HOTS FOR GRIET. HE TRIES TO RAPE HER. NOT MUCH SHE CAN DO, RIGHT? IN THE END, VERMEER'S JEALOUS WIFE BANISHES GRIET FROM THE HOUSE.

MANY OF THE EXAMPLES CITED UP UNTIL THIS CHAPTER HAVE ALLUDED TO SEXUAL FAVORS RENDERED BY THE SERVANT TO THE MASTER, THE MAID TO THE EMPLOYER:

- IN "ANGELS AND INSECTS," THE TUTOR AND THE YOUNG MISTRESS OF THE HOUSE.

- IN "THE FAVOURITE," THE QUEEN'S TWO FAVORITE LADIES IN WAITING KEEP THE MONARCH "SATISFIED."

- IN "THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO," THE COUNT ATTEMPTS TO EXERCISE HIS DROIT DE CHASSAGE ON HIS BARBER'S WIFE.

. IN "THE WOMEN OF THE SIXTH FLOOR,"
A SPANISH MAID ENDS UP IN BED
WITH HER EMPLOYER (ALTHOUGH,
IN THIS CASE, THE ATTRACTION IS
SUPPOSEDLY MUTUAL).

TO ADD A FEW MORE ^{NEW EXAMPLES} TO THIS
(EXHAUSTIVE) LIST :

. THE MAID IN THE NOVEL (BY
OCTAVE MIRBEAU) AND THE FILM
(BY LUIS BUNUEL) * IS EXPECTED
TO GRANT SEXUAL FAVORS TO
HER EMPLOYER WHO HAS A
(CLASSIC) FOOT FETISH.

* Diary of a Chambermaid

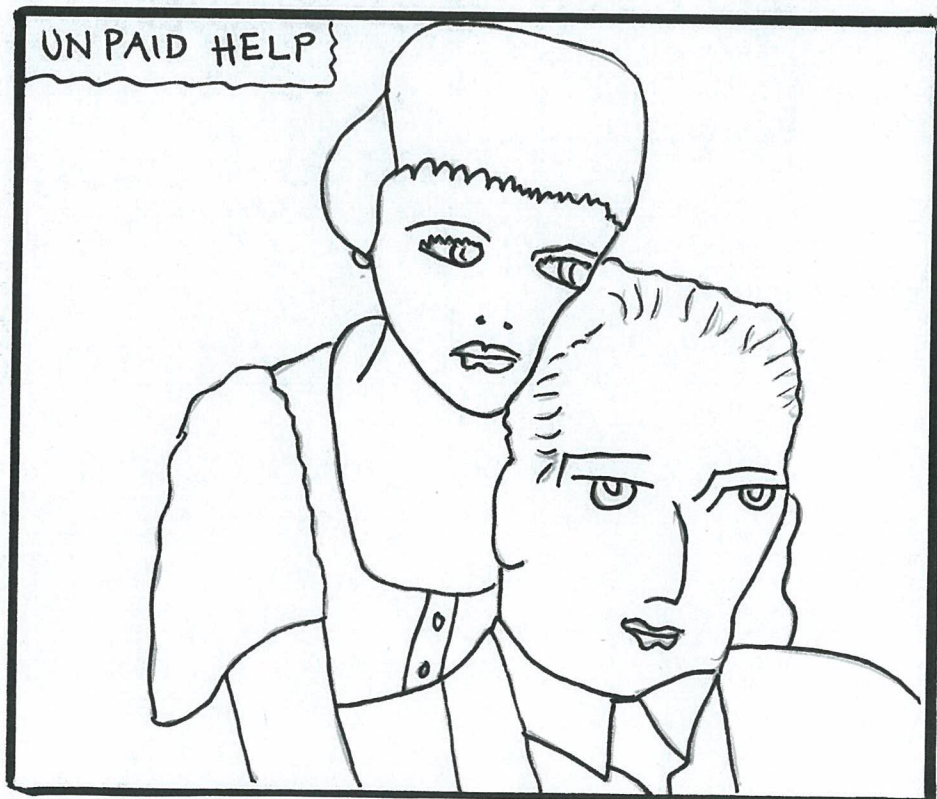


JANE EYRE, THE GOVERNESS, AND ROCHESTER, HER EMPLOYER, IN THE CHARLOTTE BRONTË NOVEL. AGAIN, THE ATTRACTION IS MUTUAL.



FOR THE RECORD, JANE DOES THE SAME TASKS AS HIS WIFE AS SHE DID BEFORE, BUT WITHOUT THE INCOME. OKAY, MAYBE HE GAVE HER AN ALLOWANCE.

SAME GOES FOR MARIA WHEN SHE MARRIES CAPTAIN VON TRAPP...



Literally Just A Bunch C Celebrity Couples Who Allegedly Broke Up After The Man Cheated With The Nanny

A representative for Mick Jagger has denied the affair, but his former nanny C Houseman claimed in a interview with [the Mirror](#) the two once had sex w wife, Jerry Hall, was in next room. "I want to sa to Jerry," she said. "I co help myself. And after a has been through with her philandering husband, I don't think she can really blame me." Jerry later divorced Mick and said his infidelity was the reason.

Over the summer, the up-and-coming actress' life upside down when it was revealed that her famou Jude Law, had cheated on her with his children's mayhem ensued, with a mob of paparazzi stalking she went and *The Daily Mail* somehow blaming Amid all this chaos, Miller was expected to perform audience seven times a week.

MOVIES ➞

Sienna Miller Survived Tabloid Hell. Now She's Thriving

YOU GET ALL OF THAT, AND THIS TOO
NO LATE FEES EVER
NO PENALTY RATE EVER
NO ANNUAL FEE EVER
WANT ALL OF THIS? APPLY



AND IN REAL LIFE, THE TABLOIDS ARE FILLED WITH STORIES OF CELEBRITIES -- MOSTLY MALE -- SLEEPING WITH THEIR NANNIES.

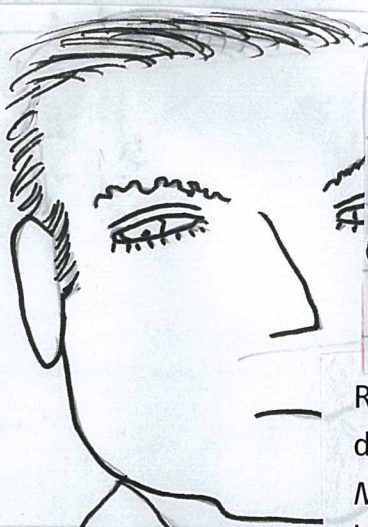
Robin Williams married his family nanny, Marsha Garces Williams, a year after divorcing his first wife, Valerie Velardi. In the [documentary](#) *Come Inside My Mind*, Valerie said that Robin had frequent affairs: "I loved women. And I got it. I understood and I wanted him to come home."

SECRET LOVE

When did Arnold Schwarzenegger have an affair with his housekeeper Mildred Baena?

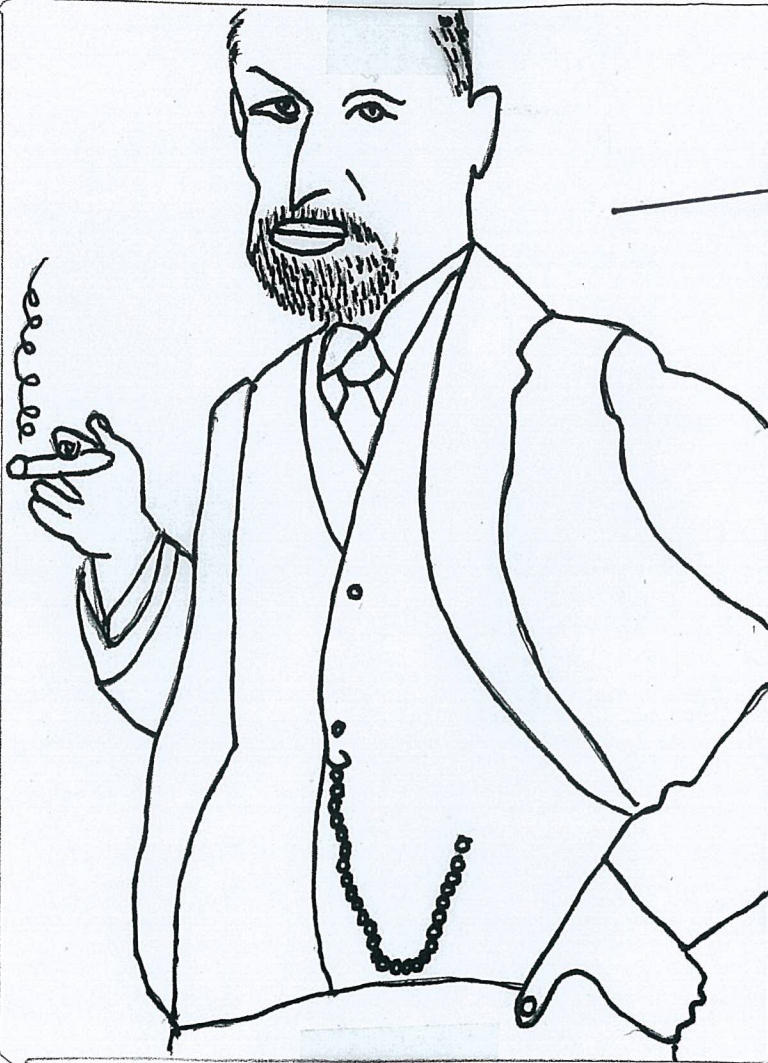
Arnold Schwarzenegger admitted to fathering a child with his housekeeper behind his then-wife Maria Shriver's back. He [told](#) *Men's Journal*, "I can beat myself up as much as I want — it's not gonna change the situation. ... You can't go back. If I could, in reality, be Terminator, of course I would go back in time and would say, 'Arnold...no.' You know, it's always easy to be smart in hindsight. That's not the way it works."

Cheating with 'the help': As Ben Affleck denies fling with kids' nanny.. a look back at how the likes of Arnie, Jude Law and Ethan Hawke made affairs with employees a Hollywood



THEN THERE WAS THE MAN WHO WAS
INSTRUMENTAL IN DEVELOPING PSYCHO-
ANALYTIC THEORY.

SIGMUND FREUD ALSO HAD SEXUAL
RELATIONS WITH A DOMESTIC
WHEN HE WAS A CHILD...



She was my teacher
in sexual matters
and scolded me
for being clumsy
and not being able
to do anything.

WHY HAVE THERE BEEN SO MANY FEMALE DOMESTIC WORKERS IN ART, LITERATURE, FILM AND REAL LIFE THAT FULFILLED ANOTHER ROLE, NAMELY THAT OF SEX WORKER, ENGAGED IN PROVIDING SEXUAL FAVORS TO THEIR MASTERS?

ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHER JANET MOMSEN, THERE ISN'T MUCH OF A DISTANCE BETWEEN DOMESTIC WORK AND SEX WORK...

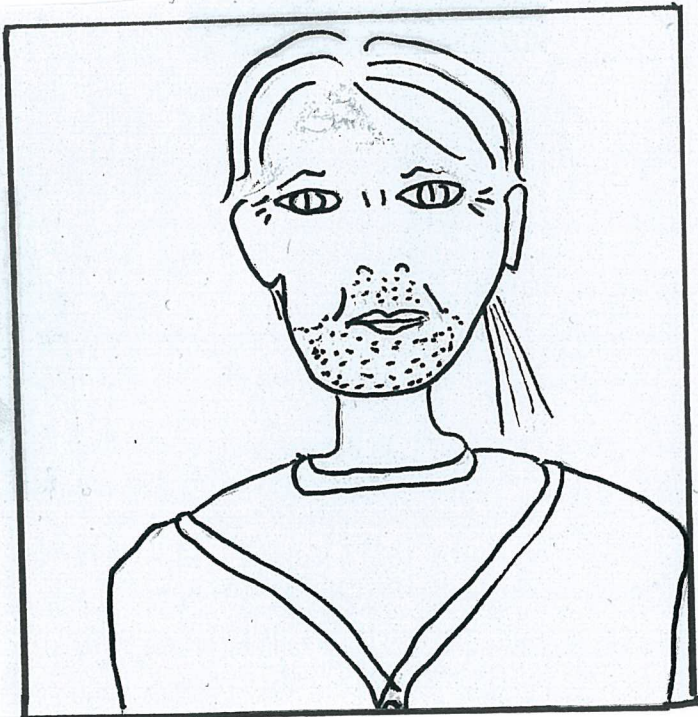


Domestics and Workers in the entertainment/sex industry are increasingly recognized in the international community as the most widely exploited and most vulnerable to abuse and violence among migrant workers.

One of the problems is the fluidity between these two occupations, as perceived by employers, and as sometimes created by unscrupulous recruitment agencies.

THIS ABUSE OF POWER REMAINS ROOTED IN A DEEP SEEDDED MENTALITY THAT FORGETS THAT SLAVERY WAS ABOLISHED A LONG TIME AGO.

HISTORIAN WALTER SIMONS REMINDS US THAT...



The association of domestic service with slavery made female personnel particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse in Renaissance Italy.

A RECENT EXAMPLE OF THE
PERVASIVE VULNERABILITY OF SLAVES
CAN BE FOUND IN THE ANTE-BELLUM
AMERICAN SOUTH.

PATRICIA TURNER EXPLAINS ...

Abolitionists claimed that one of the many brutal aspects of slavery was that slave owners sexually exploited their female slaves, especially light-skinned ones who approximated the mainstream definition of female sexual attractiveness [...]



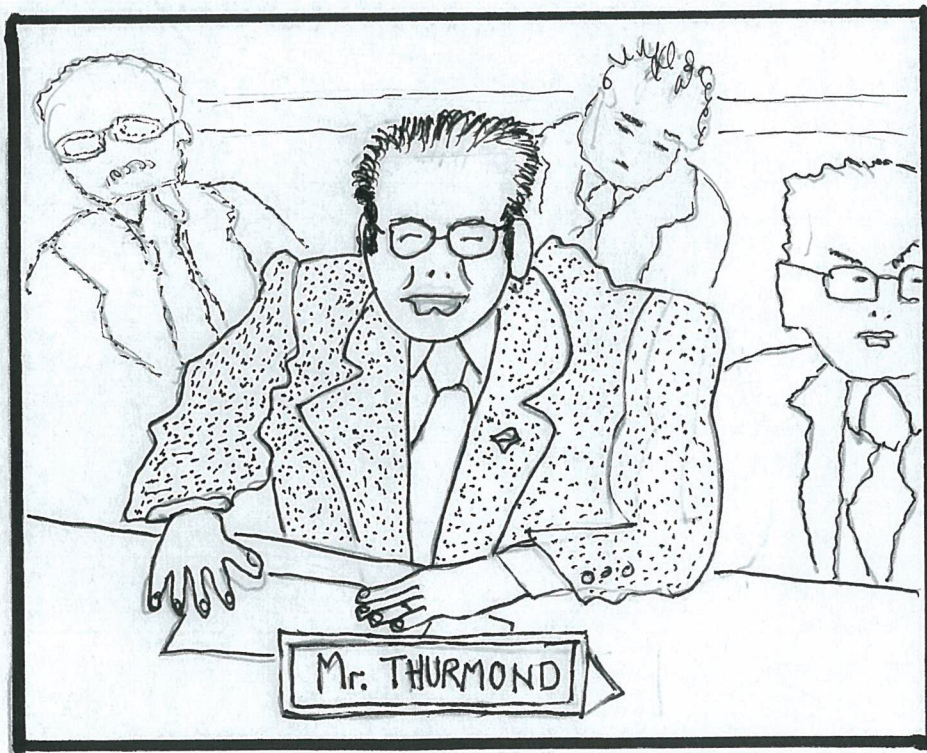
The exploitation of black women by white men was unfortunately common during the antebellum period [as] black women were sexually exploited by rich whites, middle class whites, and poor whites.

Sexual relations between black and whites—whether consensual or rapes—were taboo; yet they occurred often.

All black women and girls, regardless of their physical appearance, were vulnerable to being sexually assaulted by white men.

LONG AFTER SLAVERY HAS BEEN
ABOLISHED, THE PROBLEM PERSISTS.

A MODERN-DAY EQUIVALENT OF A
SLAVE RAPE STORY WAS RECENTLY
REVEALED, BY WHICH SOUTH CAROLINA
SENATOR STROM THURMOND (1902-2003)
FATHERED A CHILD BY RAPING A
TEENAGE SERVANT IN HIS HOME
WHEN HE WAS TWENTY-TWO.



Strom Thurmond's secret biracial daughter dies at 87

The Washington Post

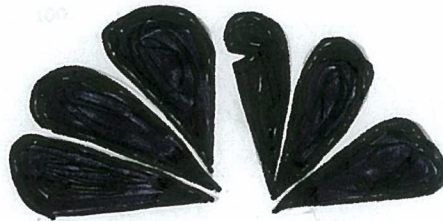


Thurmond's oldest child — born when he was a 22-year-old man and her mother, Carrie Butler, a 16-year-old black maid in his father's house — had kept the senator's secret, an open one rumored about but never revealed when he was alive because, she had said, "He trusted me, and I respected him." As in the case of Thomas Jefferson, another successful southern politician who was father to black children, stories shared among African Americans were long disbelieved until they turned out to be true.

By Mary C. Curtis

February 5, 2013 at 7:32 p.m. EST

NEWS



Essie Mae Washington-Williams, the biracial woman who revealed nine years ago she was the illegitimate daughter of former segregationist Sen. Strom Thurmond, died Monday, her family's spokesman said. She was 87.

Washington-Williams kept her father's identity secret until six months after Thurmond, a segregationist leader for decades, died in June 2003 at age 100.

"I never wanted to do anything to harm him or cause detriment to his life or to the lives of those around him," Washington-Williams said at a

2003 news conference, six months after her father died at the age of 100.

n attorney for the former senator's family confirmed in 2003 that
hurmond fathered a child with a teenage black housekeeper in 1925.
er mother, Carrie Butler, worked as a maid at the Thurmond family
ome in Edgefield, Sout

Strom Thurmond's black daughter: a symbol of America's complicated racial history

Williams, a retired schoolteacher who lives in Los Angeles, announced she is the illegitimate daughter of Thurmond, a former segregationist Butler, a maid for the Thurmond family. Thurmond was 22 and Butler was born in Aiken, S.C., in 1925.

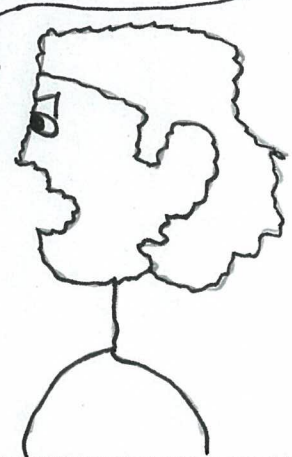
IN THE FILM "THE FAVOURITE," IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG FOR EMMA STONE'S CHARACTER TO FIGURE OUT THAT SEX IS GOING TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN HER PROMOTION FROM LOWLY SCULLERY MAID TO THE QUEEN'S LADY-IN-WAITING AND WIFE OF A NOBLEMAN.

PROVIDING ONE'S EMPLOYER WITH SEXUAL FAVORS CAN WORK IN FAVOR OF A MAID'S PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT, BUT IT HAS MOSTLY EXPELLED HER FROM THE HOUSEHOLD.

But you told me to sleep with your son so that he would be sexually experienced before his wedding day



Yes, but I also told you to make sure not to get pregnant.



But you had promised me that if I did get pregnant, you would take care of the child.



YOU HAVE SHAMED MY FAMILY!
GET OUT AT ONCE!

YOU WOULD THINK THAT IN SEXUAL RELATIONS, FEMALE SERVANTS COULD EXERCISE SOME **POWER** OVER THEIR MASTERS.



BUT NO.

RACHEL FUCHS IN *CONTESTED PATERNITY* EXPLAINS HOW FRENCH LAW WAS ON THE SIDE OF MEN WHEN IT CAME TO ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH (AND EVERYTHING ELSE). FUCHS REMINDS US THAT THE MEN WHO FRAMED THE CIVIL CODE OF 1804 (ALSO KNOWN AS THE NAPOLEONIC CODE)...



...sought to guarantee the sanctity, tranquility, and property of the family under the husband's authority.

They designed a code to calm men's fears that a woman [...] would seduce a middle-class family man and accuse

him of fathering her child in order for her to obtain money or introduce that child into his family's inheritance line.



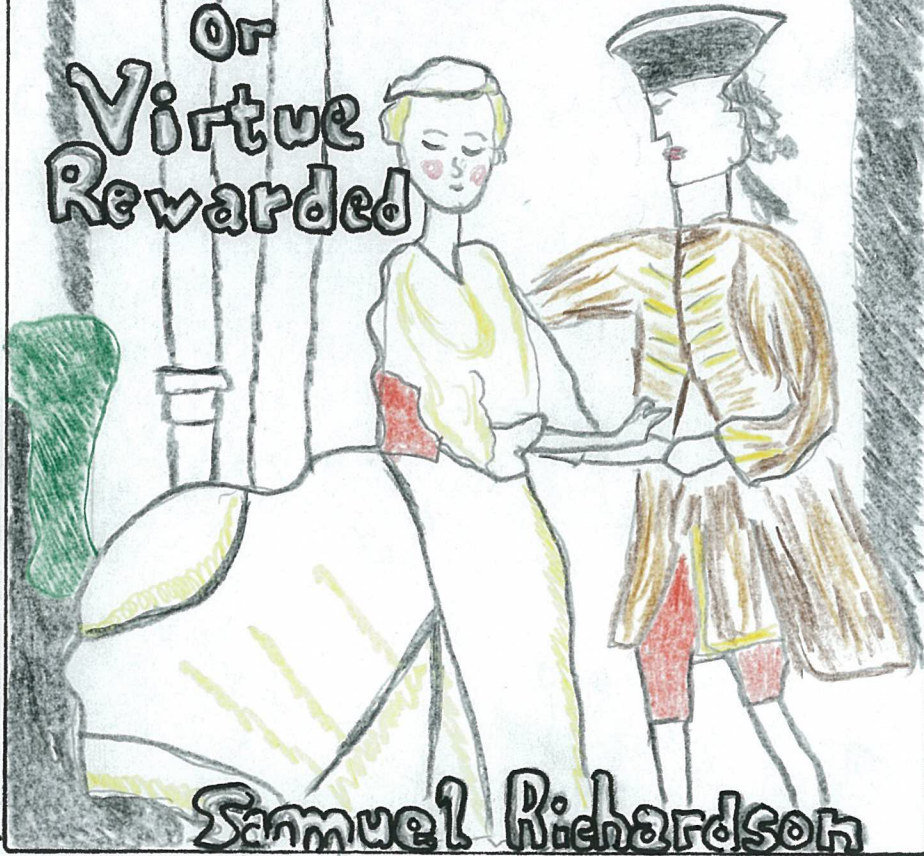
Pamela

Samuel Richardson

DOVER

DOVER THRIFT EDITIONS

Pamela or Virtue Rewarded



Samuel Richardson

IN BRITAIN, THINGS WERE NOT ALL THAT DIFFERENT.

THE BRITISH NOVEL *PAMELA* BY SAMUEL RICHARDSON (1740), RECOUNTS THE EPONYMOUS HEROINE'S RESISTANCE TO HER MASTER'S ADVANCES, A RESISTANCE THAT MANY OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES PARODIED BECAUSE IT WAS DEEMED UNLIKELY AND UNREALISTIC.

HENRY FIELDING, AMONG OTHERS, PARODIED *PAMELA* WITH HIS *SHAMELA*.



I was graded for a mare and
I am compared to a dog and a cow.



Now I live with a respectable gentleman.
But I am pregnant with his child.
...



He doesn't want anything to do with me
anymore because I'm a "bother."
So now I have to go live with
a peasant on his farm.


...



But it was thanks to ME that HE
Got a farm in the first place.
So UNFAIR!




Rose in "A True Story"



ONE CENTURY LATER, FRENCH AUTHOR GUY DE MAUPASSANT'S "A TRUE STORY" ("HISTOIRE VRAIE," 1882) TELLS THE CLASSIC STORY OF A SERVANT GIRL NAMED ROSE WHO IS SEDUCED AND ABANDONED BY HER MASTER.

EVERYTHING IS IN IT:

- THE PEASANT WHO EXCHANGES A HORSE FOR A CONCUBINE/MAID.
 - HE GETS RID OF HIS NOW PREGNANT CONCUBINE (WHO IS GETTING ON HIS NERVES FOR DEMANDING HIS AFFECTION) BY MARRYING HER TO A LOCAL GOOD FOR NOTHING.
 - BUT THE GOOD FOR NOTHING HUSBAND OF THIS MAID RECEIVES PROPERTY THANKS TO THIS MARRIAGE, THUS BECOMING A RESPECTED MEMBER OF SOCIETY, EVEN A MUNICIPAL COUNCILLOR.
- 

THE FACT THAT SHE MUST BE EX-
PELLED FROM THE FAMILY, BUT THAT
ONCE PLACED IN AN UNSUPERVISED
SITUATION, WITH A HUSBAND CHOSEN
FOR HER BY HER MASTER/LOVER, AND
WHO BEATS HER NO LESS, THUS WHO
HAS NOT LEARNED TO BEHAVE ACCORD-
ING TO THE CODE OF THE GOOD MASTER,
SHE HAS IN EFFECT BEEN DRIVEN
OUT INTO WHAT BRUCE ROBBINS CALLS...




...the modern
world of dangerous
unsupervised
mobility.

• SHE DIES.

19th AND 20th CENTURY AUTHORS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CHANNEL DROPPED THE "VIRTUE" CODE WHILE ADOPTING A MORE DIRECT DENUNCIATION OF THE HYPOCRISY AND DECADENCE OF BOURGEOIS FAMILIES.

THE UNFAIR TREATMENT OF SEDUCED FEMALE SERVANTS BECAME A POPULAR THEME.

FOR INSTANCE, REGARDING THE GONCOURT BROTHERS' NOVEL *GERMINIE LACERTEUX* (1865), LITERARY SCHOLAR NAOMI SCHOR REMINDS THE READER THAT GERMINIE IS THE...



...Paradigmatic naturalized female protagonist.

Her entire fictional destiny is determined by her supposedly innate disposition to sexual degradation and that disposition, in turn, somehow justifies her social inferiority.

IN DIARY OF A CHAMBERMAID (REMEMBER THE OLD MAN WITH THE FOOT FETISH?), CÉLESTINE (THE CHAMBERMAID) NARRATES HER OWN STORY. THIS NARRATIVE STRATEGY MARKS A DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS NOVELS, AWARDING SOME AGENCY TO THE DOMESTIC SERVANT FIGURE.

HER AGENCY IS LIMITED HOWEVER.

SHE FIGURES OUT A WAY OUT OF DOMESTIC SERVITUDE, BUT HER NEW SITUATION IS NOT MUCH BETTER. SHE ENDS UP MARRYING ANOTHER GOOD FOR NOTHING WHO TURNS OUT TO BE ANTI-SEMITIC, A RAPIST, A PAEDOPHILE AND A MURDERER.

NOT MUCH AGENCY THERE.

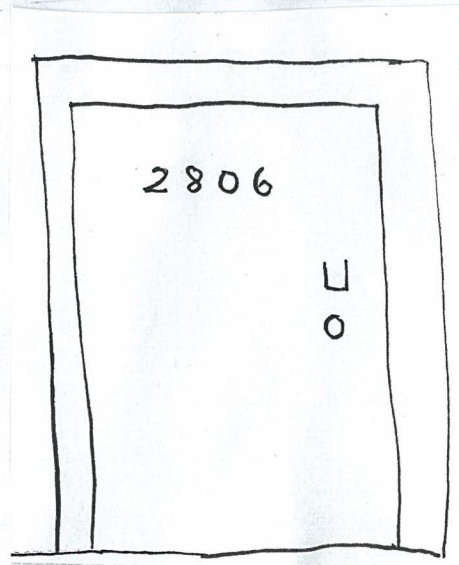
* * * *

BECAUSE SHE IS POWERLESS, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE WHETHER A MAID ACCEPTS OR REJECTS THE SEXUAL ADVANCES OF HER MASTER.

THE ONLY RECOURSE SHE HAS IS TO EITHER LEAVE HER PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AND HOPE TO FIND A JOB ELSEWHERE (WHERE THE MASTER IS LESS HORNY AND SHE MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO RAISE HER KID) OR MARRY THE GUY WHO RAPED HER AND RISE IN THE SOCIAL RANKS.

IN ANY CASE SHE WILL BE PERCEIVED AS A FLOOZY ALL HER LIFE. HER "CHOICE."

SHE CAN ALSO FILE A LAWSUIT



DSK maid to file civil lawsuit for sex assault

It goes without saying that the news that Dominique Strauss-Kahn, or D.S.K., as he is called everywhere, the head of the I.M.F., long time French socialist politician and the leading candidate to oppose President Nicolas Sarkozy in next year's election, has been arrested for attempted rape here in New York—and taken plane at J.F.K., at that—has shocked, overwhelmed generally *bouleversé* all of Paris. (His lawyer has said that he plans to plead not guilty.) “A thunder political bomb” are among the milder descriptions.

The former head of the International Monetary Fund, **Kahn**, has accused political enemies linked to Nicolas Sarkozy's UMP party of destroying his bid for the French presidency. The scandal that erupted last year when he was accused of assaulting a New York hotel maid.

So, How Much Settlement?

L'affaire DSK à New York

Sofitel : un accord le 10 décembre entre DSK et Nafissatou Diallo?

La dernière fois que Nafissatou Diallo est apparue en public, c'était le 10 décembre 2012. Un juge de New York venait d'entériner l'accord conclu avec **Dominique Strauss-Kahn**, classant l'affaire ouverte un an et demi plus tôt. « Bye-bye DSK », twittaient les journalistes. Soutenue par son avocat, elle s'efforçait de garder la tête haute mais, pour la femme de chambre du Sofitel, l'épilogue avait un goût de défaite. Le scandale avait provoqué la chute fracassante du directeur général du FMI, mais la justice pénale avait abandonné toutes les charges contre lui et la décision civile ne lui imposait aucune reconnaissance de culpabilité, pas même des excuses.

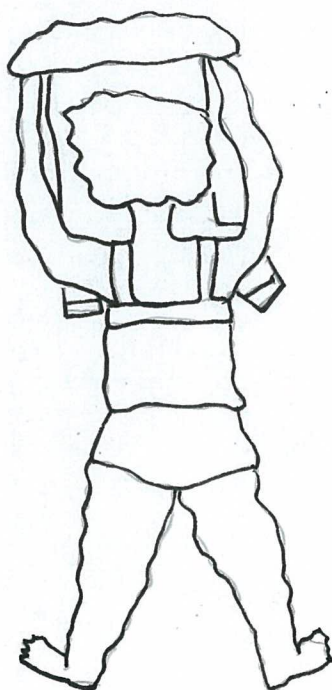
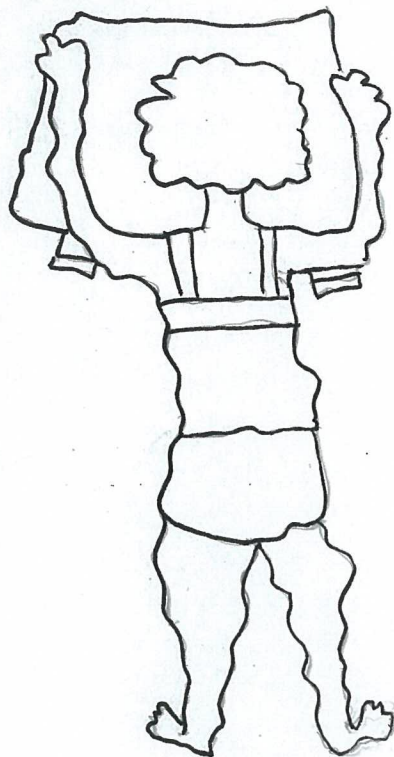
IN 2011 in NEW YORK, SOFITE
CHAMBERMAID NAFISSATOU DIALLO
ACCUSED A GUEST, DOMINIQUE
STRAUSS-KAHN, THE HEAD OF THE
I. M. F. AT THE TIME, OF ASSAULT-
ING HER SEXVALLY.

AFTER MONTHS OF TRIAL, FOUR DAYS
IN PRISON FOR HIM, AND CONFUSING
TESTIMONY FROM HER, THEY SETTLED.

WE WILL NEVER KNOW FOR SURE
WHAT HAPPENED IN THAT HOTEL ROOM.

BUT ONE THING IS FOR SURE.

THE DSK AFFAIR, AS IT BECAME
KNOWN, WAS JUST THE TIP OF THE
ICEBERG.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

May 21, 2011

Case shows dangers faced by hotel maids

New York - Hotel housekeepers say they often feel a twinge of fear when they slide the keycard, turn the door handle and step into a room to clean it -- what will they find?

For Argelia Rico, it was a naked man who touched himself as he ogled her. For Kimberly Phillips, it was a pair of dogs that tore into her leg.

But labor groups and hotel housekeepers have reported at least 10 other attacks in the U.S. in recent years, from the Washington, D.C. suburb of Gaithersburg, Md., to remote Grand Island, Neb.

"It's dangerous work," said Yasmin Vasquez, who works at a hotel in downtown Chicago. "These customers think they can use us for anything they want because we don't have the power that they have or the money that they have."

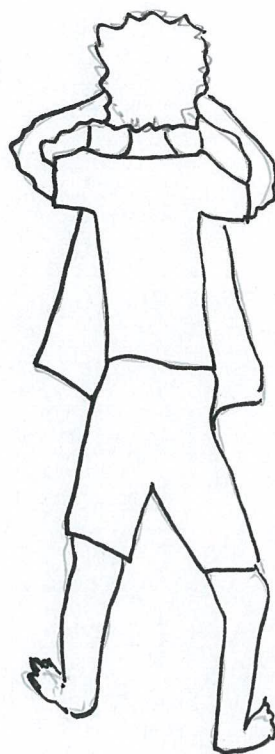
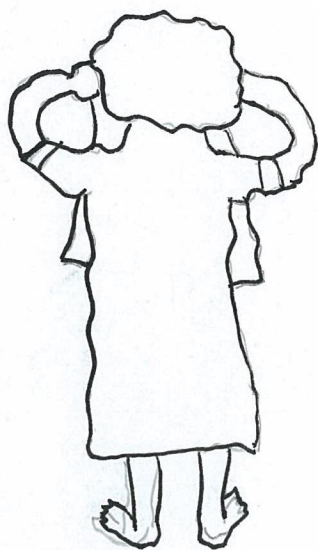
Anthony Roman, a consultant based in New York's Long Island who spent

30 years working security for hotels, said he saw dozens of incidents involving female room attendants, from drunken propositions to rape.

Rico, a 38-year-old housekeeper at a hotel in Irvine, Calif., said she was cleaning a bathroom in 2009 when a guest entered and asked her to change his sheets. She did, then went to get her cleaning supplies out of the bathroom.

When she came out (of the bathroom) he was lying naked on the bed, watching her and touching himself, she said.

"When I told my supervisors, they didn't do anything," Rico said. "From then on I had to ask a co-worker from the floor upstairs to accompany me so I could clean his room, because that really scared me."



Many hotels have adopted policies aimed at protecting housekeepers, such as barring them from cleaning rooms while they are occupied. One standard practice is to prop the open door with a supply cart.

Vasquez, 40, says she started wearing extra clothes under her uniform as an added layer of protection after a VIP guest barged into a bathroom she was cleaning and pulled out his privates in August. She also wears a jacket that comes down to her thighs.

"Anything to hide your figure," she said.

Some hotels will send only male employees to a room late at night if their computers show a guest is watching porn, said Carl Boger, dean of academics at the University of Houston's college of hotel management.





Don't two of you have like secret families with your maids?

INSIDE AMY SCHUMER