I thought you were dead.

MILADY

And I you.

ATHOS

What are you doing here? What do you want?

MILADY

First things first. How did you manage to survive the hanging? Or did the devil resurrect you for his own purposes?

ATHOS

(\textit{MILADY runs for the door. ATHOS stops her.})

We’ll have none of that. Answer the question. Answer me!

MILADY

You forgot to bind my hands.

MILADY

You were unconscious.

ATHOS

I woke up. I was able to reach my hunting knife…

MILADY

And you cut yourself down. Tsk, tsk – how clumsy of me. Next time I’ll know better.

ATHOS

(\textit{He pushes her away then turns and bolts the door.})

And then you swam to England and married the Baron de Winter — even though you were still married to me.

MILADY

By all reports, you were dead.

ATHOS

No, not dead. Just disappeared. I wanted to leave the past behind me.

MILADY

Because I hurt you… You loved me that much. I loved you, too.
ATHOS

How dare you say that to me?

MILADY

I dare because it's true!

ATHOS

And I am to believe you? A liar? A murderer!

MILADY

An innocent falsely accused...

ATHOS

You were convicted! You were branded with the fleur-de-lis!

MILADY

They were mistaken! You are a man of the world. Surely you understand that mistakes sometimes happen?

ATHOS

I married you, didn't I?

(She remains silent. Beat.)

If you were truly innocent, why didn't you tell me?

MILADY

I was afraid you wouldn't believe me. And I was right... wasn't I?

ATHOS

So this was all one big misunderstanding.

MILADY

Yes.

(She approaches him slowly.)

ATHOS

And the diamonds you stole from the Duke of Buckingham? Was that a misunderstanding as well?

(She stops.)