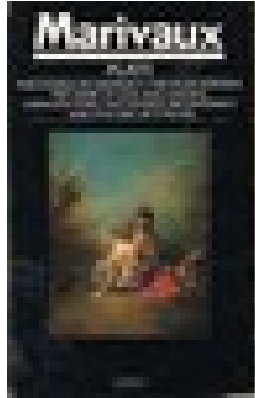


[The Game of Love and Chance](#) by Pierre Carlet de Marivaux



Silvia and Dorante are engaged, by arranged marriage, to be married. Both, however, wanting everlasting love feel it necessary to test the sincerity of the other. Silvia decides to switch places with the maid, Lisette, in order to survey Dorante from a safe distance. Unbeknown to her, Dorante has also decided on this course of action and arrives in disguise as his own servant to try and woo Sylvia. Meanwhile, the servants Lisette and Harlequin play at . and discover . love at the higher end of society. Marivaux's brilliant farce raises issues of identity, class and the nature of love.

The Game of Love and Chance was first performed in 1730 by the Comédie Italienne.

'Marivaux's scepticism, irony and fascination with money and sex make him seem peculiarly modern' *Guardian*

Genre:	Farce	Fee:	£40 plus VAT, per performance
Cast:	m4 f2	Scripts:	ISBN 9780413185600 £14.99
Set:	Paris	Length:	3 acts
Contact:	amateur-rights@bloomsbury.com		

EXTRACT

Silvia I find your behaviour amazing . making me suffer the vulgarities of that animal. Why didn't you send him packing?

Lisette Now look here, madame. I cannot play two roles at once. I have to appear either as a mistress or as a servant. Either I obey or I command.

Silvia Very well. But since he is no longer here, listen to me as your mistress. You can see that that man definitely does not suit me.

Lisette You haven't had the time to examine him very much.

Silvia Are you crazy with your examining? Is it necessary to see him twice to see exactly how

unsuitable he is? To put it briefly, I want nothing to do with him. Apparently my father does not approve of my repugnance . he avoids me and says not a word. This being the case, it is up to you to ease me gently out of difficulty by cleverly letting this young man know that marrying him is not to your taste.

Lisette I cannot do it, madame.

Silvia You cannot? And what prevents you, pray?

Lisette Monsieur Orgon has forbidden me.

Silvia He has forbidden you! I do not recognise my father in such a proceeding.

Lisette Positively forbidden.

If you enjoyed this, you might like:

- *Double Inconstancy* by Marivaux (m4 f3)
 - *The False Servant* by Marivaux (m5 f3 m/f1)
 - *Albert's Boy* by James Graham (m2)
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