Emily M. Shaffer *A Divine Kerfuffle* Dramaturg

GLOSSARY

Stoic

- Page 6, "Herta Character Description: "They are a stern stoic."
- Describes a person that can endure pain or hardship without showing feelings or complaining.

Persnickety

- Page 6, "Cyril Character Description: Money conscious, **persnickety**, and a touch snobbish."
- Describes a person that places too much emphasis on the minor details.
- Synonyms: Fussy, Finicky, Difficult.

Nochmal

- Page 7, "HERTA: Nochmal! Again!!"
- German word for "Again"

Nein

- Page 7, "HERTA: Nien!"
- German word for "No."

Fraulien

- Page 8, "HERTA: Fraulien!"
- German word for an unmarried woman.

Benedetta Madre

- Page 8, "EMILIO: Benedetta madre..."
- Italian translation: Blessed mother...

Dio Aiutamil

- Page 8, "EMILIO: Dio aiutamil!"
- Italian translation: God help me!

Grazie

- Page 9, "EMILIO: Grazie!"
- Italian translation: Thank you!

Bien Sur

- Page 9, "SARAH: Daisies, bien sur!"
- French translation: Of course!

Parry-Riposte

- Page 9, "SARAH: Ze florist boy's parry-riposte..."

- Riposte: French for Retort, an offensive action with the intent of hitting opponent.
- Parry: To prevent an opponent's attack from landing.

Frau

- Page 9, "HERTA: Ja, Frau."
- German word for Woman.

Muguet

- Page 9, "SARAH: Peonies or **Muguet**, but no Valerians like ze last time!"
- Literally translates to "Lily of the valley", which is a type of flower.
- Shown in Figure One.

Valerian

- Page 9, "SARAH: Peonies or Muguet, but no **Valerians** like ze last time!"
- Type of flower.
- Shown in Figure 2.

Mon Cher

- Page 10, "SARAH: Cyril- mon cher!"
- French translation: My dear!

Schnell

- Page 10, "HERTA: Schnell!"
- German for Fast.

To Aide and Abet

- Page 11, "CYRIL: I simply must protest using the Daly's accounts to **aide and abet** you in cutting a swath of terror..."
- Phrase that means assisting someone in committing a crime.



Figure 1: Lily of the Valley



Figure 2: Valerians

Hand-Wringing

- Page 11, "SARAH: oh, such hand-wringing...calm yourself."
- The clasping together and squeezing of one's hands, especially when distressed.

Pinch-Fisted

- Page 11, "CYRIL: Would you like to explain to our **pinch-fisted** backers WHY the launderer's man..."
- Phrase was earliest used in the late 1500s.
- Used as a noun to refer to a miser, a person that hoards money rather than spending it.

Mon Coeur

- Page 12, "SARAH: Is it ze business of disappointing my public **mon coeur** into which I am now thrust?"
- French translation: My heart.

Donnybrook

- Page 12, "CYRIL: ...is that I can hardly afford to have my star injured in some **donnybrook** with a dairyman."
- A phrase originating in Australia that is used to describe a scene of uproar and disorder.

Abreast

- Page 12, "SARAH: Ha-HAH! Keep me abreast."
- Originates in late Middle English.
- A phrase that means alongside or even with something.
- Synonym: Up to date with, in touch with, familiar with.

Curtail

- Page 13, "CYRIL: I must insist you curtail charging frivolous expenses to the Theatre..."
- A verb meaning to reduce in extent or quantity.
- Synonym: Cut down, decrease.

Barrage

- Page 14, "CYRIL: ...why is that strange little usher, Clumps, hurling a numerical **barrage** at us?!"
- A verb meaning to bombard someone with something.

Incroyable

- Page 14, "SARAH: Incroyable!"
- French translation: Amazing!

Reprobate

- Page 14, "HERTA: Roman reprobate!"
- A verb used to express or feel disapproval of.

Virile

- Page 15, "CYRIL: Unattainable, save by the most... virile... of men."
- An adjecting meaning having strength, energy, and a strong sex drive, (typically used of a man.)

Pathos

- Page 16, "SARAH: Today's feeble ramblings lack ze passion, ze pathos, ze glory..."
- A noun for a quality that evokes pity or sadness.

Bludgeoning

- Page 16, "CYRIL: End of brotherly **bludgeonings**."
- A verb for beating someone with a heavy object.

Jovial

- Page 18, "STAGE DIRECTION: Digby tries to redirect her dismissal in a **jovial** mannar."
- An adjective meaning cheerful and friendly.

Ulteriorly

- Page 19, "DIGBY: I-I-I would never **ulteriorly** toy after bursting..."
- Meaning to go beyond what is openly said or shown.

Tawdry

- Page 19, "SARAH: You want nothing more than my name attached to your **tawdry** titillations."
- An adjective meaning vulgar or cheaply showy.
- Synonyms: Gawdy, flashy.

Diddling

- Page 19, "SARAH: My purity shall not be stained by your devious diddlings..."
- A verb meaning to cheat or swindle someone.

Piteous

- Page 19, "SARAH: Take your tawdry tome and its **piteous** pastry... and GO!!"
- An adjective meaning deserving arousing pity.

Matchstick

- Page 21, "HERTA: She is matchstick!"
- Describing something or someone resembling a matchstick in slenderness.

Spud

- Page 21, "Victoria appreciates her **spuds**, Mademoiselle, but they..."
- Origin: late Middle English, was used to describe a short knife.
- Used in Mid 19th century as slang and dialect with the sense of 'potato'.

Pandemonium

- Page 22, "SARAH: Oh, Tiddly-winks, you are one part charm and two parts pandemonium."
- A noun meaning wild and noisy disorder.

Wordsmiths

- Page 22, "SARAH: Zis charming group of **wordsmiths** have come to bask in my radiance..."
- A skiller user of words.

Gruff

- Page 22, "SARAH: ... Be not so **gruff**."
- Abrupt or taciturn in manner.
- Synonyms: Blunt, no-nonsense.

Illustrious

- Page 23, "REPORTER 2: Mademoiselle, an **illustrious** career such as yours..."
- An adjective meaning well known and respected.

Toffs in Tails

- Page 24, "CLUMPS: ... what with all the **toffs in tails** out there, it's like finding a black cat in a coal cellar!"
- British English slang for someone who exudes an air of superiority.

Flitting

- Page 24, "SARAH: What has your **flitting** about so zis evening?" To move lightly and swiftly. To skim along.

Pharaonic

- Page 26, "SARAH: Pharaonic."
- An adjective used to describe something relating to a pharaoh or the time of pharaohs.

D'etre

- Page 27, "SARAH: Is zat not it's raison **d'etre**?"
- French translation: to be.

Vexed

- Page 30, "DIGBY: I'll admit I was more than a little **vexed** when you locked me in the coat room..."
- Annoyed, frustrated, or worried.

A-Kilter

- Page 31, "STAGE DIRECTIONS: Things are strewn about and set a-kilter like..."
- Out of balance.

Visage

- Page 31, "SARAH: Je veuz sculpter le sourire de chaque **visage** que je vois..."
- French translation: Face.

Morbs

- Page 32, "CLUMPS: Don't give in to the morbs!"
- A slang for morbid. Sickly, diseased.
- Latin origin.

Gottlich

- Page 31, "HERTA: Gottlich!"
- German translation: Divine.

Zu sein? Oder Nicht zu sein?

- Page 32, Herta line at bottom of page.
- German translation: To be? Or not to be?

Hackneyed

- Page 34: SARAH: ... to trudge through my hackneyed histeronics I laughingly call..."
- Lacking in freshness or originality.

Scheisse

- Page 36, "HERTA: Ja. Title is **scheisse**."
- German for Shit.

Forthwith

- Page 36, "CYRIL: I shall POLKA him right back here **forthwith!**"
- Immediately, without delay.
- Often used in official circumstances.

Huissier

- Page 38, "SARAH: Petit huissier!"
- French translation: baliff.
- An official in a court of law.

Inveigle

- Page 41, "STAGE DIRECTIONS: The **inveigle** commences full bore."
- To persuade someone to do something by means of flattery or deception.

Abruzzian

- Page 42, "HERTA: Abruzzian Amateurs!"
- An adjective relating to or characteristic of the Italian region of Abruzzi or its inhabitants.

Spittoon

- Page 43, "SARAH: You use me as your... your... porcelain **splittoon**!"
- A metal pot typically with a funnel-shape used for spitting into.

Gadabout

- Page 44, "CYRIL: How could I allow this base **gadabout** to sully you body and soul?"
- A habitual pleasure-seeker.

Neophyte

- Page 45, "CYRIL: I see but one recourse that might both save your **neophyte** career and..."
- A person who is new to a subject, skill, or belief.

Dolce

- Page 45, "ELEANORA: Digby, mio dolce..."
- Italian translation: Sweet.

Pue mauvais

- Page 46, "SARAH/CYRIL/DIGBY/ELEANORA: Pue mauvais!"
- French translation: Stinks bad!

Puzza

- Page 45, "SARAH/CYRIL/DIGBY/ELEANORA: Puzza male!"
- Italian translation: Stink.

Fisticuffs

- Page 48, "CLUMPS: What? Fisticuffs?!"
- Fighting with the fists.

Sich schlageen

- Page 48, "HERTA: SICH SCHLAGEEEEEEN!!"
- German translation: Hit each other.

Effrontery

- Page 49, "SARAH: Your **effrontery** is beyond laughable..."
- Insolent or impertinent behavior.
- Synonyms: Cheekiness, impertinence, insolence.

Genoan

- Page 49, "HERTA: Genoan Joke!"
- Native or inhabitant of Genoa.

Scullion

- Page 49, "HERTA: Sicilian Scullion!"
- A servant assigned the most menial kitchen tasks.

Che cosa

- Page 52, "SARAH/ ELEANORA: Quelle? / Che cosa?"
- Italian translation: What?

Quelle

- Page 52, "SARAH/ELEANORA: Quelle? / Che cosa?"
- French translation: What?

Felicitation

- Page 53, "SARAH: You may stuff your faux **felicitations**, you..."
- Words expressing praise for an achievement or good wishes.

Debonair

- Page 56, "STAGE DIRECTIONS: The **debonair** bubble pops..."
- Confident, stylish, charming.

