START

(SYLVIA)

You don't have to speak to them that way, Mother. It was such a relief to see Peter smiling and laughing again. With all they've been through—

MRS. DU MAURIER

I know what they've been through. And that man is not helping them. "A married man," no less. Do you know what they are saying about you?

SYLVIA

I neither care who they are, nor what they are saying. He's a friend, mother. We have fun. Remember fun? You and father used to laugh all the time—you were positively wild in your younger days.

MRS. DU MAURIER

That was different. It was the sixties.

SYLVIA

If I'm making mistakes, Mother ... well, then, at least they're mine.

MRS. DU MAURIER

Sylvia, I am worried about you.

(A beat.)

You shouldn't have refused to see the doctor I sent for you.

SYLVIA

You shouldn't have sent him. I'm just tired.

MRS. DU MAURIER

Precisely. Why won't you just come and live with me—I have plenty of space, staff to look after you—

SYLVIA

We're fine, thank you.

MRS. DU MAURIER

I'm just thinking of your future, darling. Your "relationship" with Mr. Barrie is hurting your prospects. What matters now is stability.

SYLVIA

Arthur was our stability and he's gone.

END