



Stagebox Online Audition

BRIDGERTON

Season 2 Episode 7

ELOISE

How you managed an entire season of these absurd events alongside people like Cressida Cowper is beyond me. And it's not just her.

It is all of them. Staring at me as if I were some fine china teapot. How did you do it on your own, Pen?

PENELOPE

I do not share your difficulties, El. "Insipid wallflower," remember?

ELOISE

Ugh. That is not— Cressida is incensed that even her new dress cannot hide her character.

PENELOPE

It's not that bad, you know. The wallflower thing. Mmm. I always get the first glass of lemonade. I know who all the best dancers are just from watching. I can always tell when a suitor is serious about courtship just by how he looks when a young lady dances with another. The wall even affords me the chance to hear what the footmen say in secret.

ELOISE

You've been keeping it from me. You do not have to pretend any longer, Pen. You like all of this.

PENELOPE

Well, it can be amusing (*chuckles*). I know you have begun to think little of her, but is Lady Whistledown still not a source of amusement?

ELOISE

It's not that I think little of her. When she was gone, I thought I would miss her. I thought I needed her to make sense of this world. But... now she is back, reporting on the same old things. Just another reminder of how trapped I am. I can feel people's eyes on me. Every time I walk into a ballroom, I know they are comparing me to Daphne. She was so good at being the diamond and it made my mother so happy. I can never live up to that. I do not want to live up to that, but it does not make it any easier to know you are constantly disappointing people just by walking into a room.

PENELOPE

I never thought of it that way. No one truly notices me. I suppose that is what I like. When you're invisible, you have all the amusement you want without any of the expectations popularity brings. It frees you.

ELOISE

Do you think that is why Whistledown remains anonymous?

PENELOPE

Perhaps.