

The Last Flight of the Mercenary
KATE scene with Martin (reader)

(Kate has just had a "time travel" or "out of body" experience and is just waking up from it – Martin is removing her goggles and opening her eyes.)

It was snowing

KATE

Hello there.

MARTIN

Large fluffy snowflakes

KATE

Just keep talking. Open your eyes – one little eye.

MARTIN

Hello Marty.

KATE

Hello.

MARTIN

It was amazing. You should have been there. Actually you were there. It was the most...

KATE

Dangerous thing you have ever done.

MARTIN

Do you know what it was?

KATE

You created an electrical storm and flew a kite into the middle of it.

MARTIN

I mean what I really and truly did.

KATE

You electrocuted yourself.

MARTIN

Along with Franklin, von Kleist, Faraday. Likely Einstein, being the sort of genius he was.

KATE

MARTIN

I didn't realize electrocution was a precursor to being nominated for a Nobel Prize.

KATE

Have I added a few strands of gray?

MARTIN

Am I really supposed to tell a woman who is 39 that she has gray hair?

KATE

I'm not afraid of looking older. Not when I'm on the verge of this kind of a discovery. Do you know what this is? What I'm in the midst of?

MARTIN

(Pours two drinks) Yes – you've plopped yourself into the middle of a Jules Verne novel.

KATE

It was HG Wells. And he was only the first phase -- science fiction. I know the math which makes it real. True. Nonfiction.

MARTIN

Traveling back in time?

KATE

Yes.

MARTIN

You'll lose your tenure.

KATE

(referencing the machine) There's something askew, Martin. I programmed in an exact day and time.

MARTIN

Like a television program.

KATE

Almost. But there was a discrepancy in the focus as if two probabilities of the same time and place were overlapping. I have to try it again.

MARTIN

No. It's too risky.

KATE

Why?

MARTIN

It just seems that time travel has that reputation. More specifically, we have a guest coming in tonight from the States – staying with us. Here.

KATE

Oh yes. The bride.

MARTIN

You forgot. I've been cooking for a week and at the last minute, a wedding you arranged slips your mind.

KATE

For a second, only a second. I was immersed in equations.