

NOTE: There are internal cuts in this scene for audition purposes. Please refer to this edited scene rather than the full script.

*HARRY and his uncle, LORD GEORGE
FERMOR, at the club.*

GEORGE

Well, Harry, what brings you out so early? I thought you dandies never got up till two and were not visible till five.

HARRY

Pure family affection, I assure you, Uncle George. I want to get something out of you.

GEORGE

Money, I suppose. Well, sit down and tell me all about it. Young people nowadays imagine that money is everything.

HARRY

Yes, and when they grow older they know it. But I don't want money. It is only people who pay their bills who want that, Uncle George, and I never pay mine. What I want is information about Dorian Gray.

GEORGE

Dorian Gray? Who is he?

HARRY

That is what I have come to learn. I have only just met him, but I am very much interested in Mr. Gray at present. He is Lord Kelso's grandson. His mother was a Devereux. Lady Margaret Devereux.

GEORGE

Kelso's grandson! Of course...I knew his mother intimately. She was an extraordinarily beautiful girl, Margaret Devereux. So she left a son, did she? What sort of boy is he? If he is like his mother he must be a good-looking chap.

HARRY

He is very good-looking.

GEORGE

I hope he will fall into proper hands. He should have a pot of money waiting for him if Kelso did the right thing by him. His mother had money too. All the Selby property came to her through her grandfather.

HARRY

He is not of age yet. He has the Selby estate, I know. He told me so. And...his mother was very beautiful?

GEORGE

Margaret Devereux was one of the loveliest creatures I ever saw.

HARRY

Thanks for the information, Uncle. (*HARRY gets up to leave*) I always like to know everything about my new friends and nothing about my old ones. I shall be late for lunch if I stop any longer.

GEORGE

Where are you lunching, Harry?

HARRY

At Aunt Agatha's. I have asked myself and Mr. Gray. He is her latest *protégé*.

GEORGE

Humph! Tell your Aunt Agatha not to bother me any more with her charity appeals. I am sick of them. Why, the woman thinks that I have nothing to do but write cheques for her silly fads.

HARRY

All right, Uncle George, I'll tell her, but it won't have any effect. Philanthropic people lose all sense of humanity. It is their distinguishing characteristic.

HARRY exits.