FLEXNER
Very well. Miss Anderson, I don’t think you should stay here tonight.

ANDERSON
Why not?

FLEXNER
I think you should stay somewhere else. It would be for the best.

EINSTEIN
(Pointed) “The best?” For whom?

FLEXNER
(Ignores Einstein; to Anderson.) I can rent you a room at the Colored YMCA.

ANDERSON
I’d prefer to stay here, thank you.

FLEXNER
I really think you’d be more comfortable there.

ANDERSON
Actually, I think I’d be more comfortable here.

EINSTEIN
START: What kind of loathsome nonsense are you up to Flexner?

FLEXNER
Have you looked outside? Have you seen the encampment set up on your front lawn?

EINSTEIN
There’s always an encampment on my front lawn!

FLEXNER
Do I have to spell it out for you, Einstein?

EINSTEIN
Please do! I’m a genius, not a mind reader!

FLEXNER
Miss Anderson is a single woman.

EINSTEIN
So?
She is a single colored woman.

Yes…

(Exasperated.) You are a Jew!

What has that got to do with anything?

I’m trying to avoid a scandal here!

Scandal?

What will people say if it gets out that she stayed in your home un-chaperoned?

If they have any morals they will say it’s a good thing Einstein was on hand to give her a place to sleep so she wouldn’t have to spend the night on the streets!

You don’t understand. That’s not how things work in America!

I understand all too well how things work in America! The treatment of the Negro here differs little from the treatment I received in Germany.

You both need to be mindful of appearances!

Flexner, I’m tired of your constant meddling in my personal affairs!

And I’m tired of having to salvage these predicaments that you are always getting into. You pay no mind to how things are done in this country. It’s outrageous!

Outrageous? I’ll tell you what’s outrageous! The philistine that runs the Nassau Inn! After availign himself of Miss Anderson’s talents tonight at the concert, he thought it was
acceptable to throw her out on the street so that she could sleep in a gutter! If you’re going to be outraged, Flexner, be outraged at that!

(There is a commotion outside. There is the sound of the reporters peppering someone—a woman—with questions.)

Offstage conversation/overlapping:

REPORTER
(Off.) What’s your name ma’am?

TERRELL
(Off.) Let me through, please.

REPORTER
(Off.) Can you give us a statement?

TERRELL
(Off.) No, I can’t. Excuse me.

Oh no. It’s starting

ANDERSON
What? What’s going on?

REPORTER
(Off.) Let the lady through.

TERRELL
(Off.) Let me through please. Let me pass!

(Suddenly there is a knock on the front door.)

ANDERSON
Oh dear, there’s someone at the front door.

FLEXNER
It’s the reporters!

EINSTEIN
No, it’s not.

FLEXNER
How do you know?