

# SEXUAL STEALING

BY

WENDY WALKER



TEMPORARY CULTURE

# SEXUAL STEALING



## PART TWO

# I

## THE ABOLITIONISTS PLEAD

sir  
be necessity  
for esteem merited beyond justice  
alliance long engaged  
to Count mistake unworthy  
to sir honour  
surprise surprise  
indignation as words blushing  
will speak  
of castle  
merely grandeur  
as torture  
with art  
deny engagements  
deny  
deny testimony



William Beckford's Fonthill Abbey, Wiltshire. "View of the West, and North Fronts" from John Rutter's *Delineations of Fonthill*, 1832.

Beaujeu of horrors  
scenes only human  
deep bottom of base  
trembling in grandeur  
perspective with travelers  
deluded and broken  
scream    visit  
dejection domain

2

THE MASTER CLASS

favorite together future  
derived world as banks  
under calmly evening distance  
    evening *debonnaire*  
bank then assembled kindness  
used benevolence  
spread night  
at resign

quiet hand    behind stillness  
bank spoke  
of stratagem repetition  
    Count him determined  
mention attack  
or will  
    by torturing  
request permission  
then aggrandise  
person darker  
penetrate their rude children  
plainly pistols  
proceed however unprepared  
in the Beaujeu

entered white master  
happy for toil    painted as little  
tears his stillness  
of solemn future  
ruins  
the great gothic family  
high sprung from ruffian  
a heart dusty with now  
cloud  
                 now  
shroud

Beaujeu of horrors  
deep bottom of base  
trembling in grandeur  
                 and no feelings

### 3

## THE DEAF EAR

fire with manners  
inferior people  
beneath names  
embroidered while worn  
for safety  
by owners  
of the persecuted  
country  
of little inconveniencies  
intestine to grandeur

sunset not pleasant  
with overhung air  
perfectly refusal unlimited  
by state  
    permission  
with insinuating disdain  
Count composure   resignation  
to intoxicated complacency  
contempt  
declared advice  
in will promise  
oppression



refuse promise  
resist promise impulse  
secretly seconding hatred  
of hope  
    unknown  
plan  
committed suffering to policy  
hastened frenzy  
ordered and provoked  
    flames

- (July) 6th. Get up at half-past four, after an almost sleepless night, thinking of the state of this wretched country. The heat, too, most overpowering . . . General N., &c are returned in a most dreadful heat, their faces quite scarlet and their hair black with perspiration.
- 8th. A night of terror and anxiety, but I must not give way, for the sake of my dear N. and all around me . . .
- 9th. A most awful night. For several hours the sky was quite a sheet of fire, and the thunder came, peal on peal, with scarcely a second between them.

— *Lady Nugent's Journal of Her Residence in Jamaica from 1801 to 1805*, July 1803

## 4

### BOUKMAN'S SOLILOQUY

useless precipitation  
taught prudence to honour  
you Sir  
affectionate St  
smiled and related striking of people

accept tone  
                    resentment  
suffer insufficient conversation  
pursue farther object  
constancy is persecution means  
revoke repentance  
pursue strength  
                    language  
wealth means blameable persons  
self-delusion  
                    not humanity  
priding practical turn  
would teach  
                    valuable apathy  
the sentiment disgrace

come  
readiness  
exile being  
all  
be one reply  
in disturb  
deep blue complacency  
below bidding  
into pretence  
resolved      go  
to prove  
    grave  
efforts of night

5

THE SLAVES WATCH

of night  
now wholly presentiment  
night selected  
and wiped till safe  
look at the melancholy conversation  
declining ideas  
till after steps  
alarmed fears

simplicity

and thoughtfulness  
of the unwilling  
mind    paused  
surveyed  
pointed  
determined  
pressed  
further  
proposed  
extensive preparing  
and  
stopped hastily

chateau languor  
called suspended fever  
disorder taken upon heavy anxiety  
detained feelings  
visited and concealed  
hopes  
formed recommendation

*dress strikingly*  
*rest sullenness*  
*point*  
*to guilty design*  
*coloring modestly*  
*sensible aim*

*flatter me and conform*  
*party continually*  
*and*  
*regard kindness*  
  
*slumbered*

# 6

## THE SLAVES BEGIN

*hand be master soon*



Miguel Lopez Lopez (?), "Dessalines fled the courage of the French while killing whites" in Louis Dubroca's *Vida de J. J. Dessalines, jefe de los negros de Santo Domingo*, Mexico, 1806.

♦ ♦ ♦ I perceived in the gloom a figure which stole from behind a clump of trees near me: I stood fixed, gazing intently; I could not be mistaken. A flash of lightning illuminated the object and discovered its shape plainly to me; its gigantic stature, and the deformity of its aspect . . .

— Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus*, 1818.

strengthening shadows  
black contour glittered  
character now  
determined

struck



