

## ACTOR 2 – “THE WOMAN” Audition Side

This role requires the performer to act without breaks from the beginning of the show to the end. The Governess will be asked to interact with FLORA a character who does not speak and is not portrayed by a physical actor, as well as expressing a wide range of emotions and reaching levels of deep distress and mania in front of the audience.

GOVERNESS – 20 years old

GOVERNESS:

Before dinner I take a stroll in the garden of my “Hamlet’s Elsinore” –the rooks in the sky, the beeches whispering in the last breeze. I believe I am up to the challenge! I dare say I fancy myself a remarkable young woman! And *someday* this remarkability will be more publicly remarked upon. Someday, sometime soon, *he* will appear and approve –with his light, in his handsome face. I am here to protect and defend his little creatures –*his* children *now*. I have heard stories of masters and governesses before –it is not *unknown* –and there *is* Jane Eyre’s success to comfort my improbabilities. This is my magnificent chance! But still, I ask myself: What would bring the master here? I am deep within the garden when it comes into view. All the sounds stop. What arrests me on the spot is the sense that my imagination has, in a flash, turned real: he *does* stand there! High up, in the clear twilight, at the very top of the tower a figure stands upon the battlement. But it is not the person I had imagined. I have not seen this face before. We look deep at each other –as if in a mutual *challenge*. Then he slowly changes his place –passing to the opposite corner of the tower. And he is gone.