

Transcriptions of Handwritten Letters from Carl Th. Dreyer's *Præsidenten* (*The President*, 1919)

Compiled by Stephen Larson

<u>Content</u>	<u>DVD (PAL) Time Code Reference</u>
1. [To: Karl Victor] Although I do not curse you, but wish with all my heart that you do not sacrificed me and my daughter, whom I have named Victorine after you, in vain. -Hermine [letter displayed two different times]	0:17:34 – 0:17:47; 0:26:43 – 0:26:55
2. [To: Karl Victor] Dear Friend: I shall come to you in order to talk to you about the wretched Victorine Lippert, infanticide, whom I am to defend. Werner always applies the death penalty in such dread cases, as you know, and <u>I therefore beseech you to take over the bench in this case.</u> -Your devoted friend, Geery Berger	0:19:17 – 0:19:34
3. [Karl Victor to Hermine Lippert] Darling: I cannot marry you, although I love you, I cannot. An oath that I swore my father renders it impossible. Try to forget me, and believe me, an alliance between us would be our ruin.	0:26:03 – 0:26:19
4. [the Countess' son to his mother] Well, mother dear, now I have confessed to you. You must admit that she [Victorine] is at least as much to blame as I am, and I hope that you will sort things out as well as possible.	0:37:17 – 0:37:37
5. [mother Hermine to daughter Victorine] ...but if fate should ever lead you to your father, tell him that I have forgiven him.	0:47:58 – 0:48:05
6. [messenger to Karl Victor] The Minister of Justice has authorized me to inform you that you have been promoted to president of the residency town, and that you are to take up your post within four days. Accordingly, you will avoid having to carry out the death sentence passed upon the infanticide, Victorine Lippert, whose petition for clemency has been turned down.	0:52:17 – 0:52:37
7. [To: Berger] I hereby inform you that your petition for clemency for the condemned infanticide, Victorine Lippert has been turned down. -O. Krause.	0:54:25 – 0:54:36
8. To his Excellency the Minister of Justice, I hereby tender my resignation. I am ailing, and under no circumstances am I able to undertake any task save that of my own recovery. -Your humble servant, Karl Victor von Sendigen	1:06:36 – 1:06:54
9. [To: Berger] I know that you cannot forgive me and I do not ask you to. Promise me but one thing: Do not give up hope that one day you will again consider me worthy of your respect. -Your friend, Karl Victor	1:10:18 – 1:10:34