

Flaubert: *He sat staring at his breakfast and asked, "What do you know about this business?"*

Janowitz: *His companion seemed at first to have nothing to say. Carefully, he said under his breath, "These appearances, which bewilder you, are merely electrical phenomena not uncommon."*

Molière: *The first man gazed at the darkness in his friend's face and said, "Why do you look so woebegone all of a sudden?"*

Grisham: *"Something blew out the light," she whispered, shuddering a little.*

Bulwer-Lytton: *"It is you and your accomplice who have to dread punishment, not I," he said with unexpected strength.*

L'Amour: *The woman, surprised at the anger and the fury of his tone, said, "There have come to my ears several incidents which are hard to reconcile with the settled order of Nature."*

Cheever: *He scanned fearfully around the room, as in the house of horrors, and cried, "That it should come to this!"*

Nabokov: *Swallowing her pride, she said, "I took it ill that he should be brought here to pester me with his company."*

Asimov: *The man had not wished to speak of the damned visitors directly. Cautiously, he asked, "How are they feeling about the calamity?"*

Dreiser: *She addressed the lord of the manor, "We've had our little ruction, and the best thing we can do is to let it go at that."*

Kingsolver: *The man wore a grin as inscrutable as a cat's. He gingerly replied, "There was nothing evil in it, nothing shameful."*

Hammett: *The blood drained from her face. Slyly he remarked, "Well, you are in a desolate condition, it is true."*

Ellison: *As she gazed at the fallen leaves, she called out, "God keep us, but already my bones feel damp within me."*

Inge: *Finally thinking of the treasure, he said, "In the end you will find clues to it all."*