

**Nell and Theo Page 32**

THEODORA – Nell? Oh, there you are. We were worried about you.

ELEANOR – I had enough chatter.

THEODORA – You're getting quite brave. You know our rule – no one is to go off alone.

ELEANOR – I can find my way in here safely enough. Anyway, it's worth the risk to get away from Luke's silly talk for awhile.

THEODORA – Is it that bad? Good heavens, that makes me feel shallow. I find him rather amusing.

ELEANOR – You know what I mean. He's never...serious about anything.

THEODORA – Maybe he's compensating for a deep-seated insecurity. After all, he did say that he never had a mother, poor boy.

ELEANOR – That's no excuse for treating everything as a joke.

THEODORA – Including you, perhaps? Could be you wish Luke was a little more...shall we say...aggressively friendly? After all, he's not exactly ugly. Not that? Well then, maybe you object to Luke's attitude about this whole haunted house thing. He does treat it all pretty lightly, doesn't he? Maybe if **his** door got pounded on.

ELEANOR – You know how I feel about that.

THEODORA – Do I?

ELEANOR – I agree with Dr. Montague. These supernatural manifestations reflect certain qualities of Hill House – and would probably occur no matter who happened to be here. They have nothing to do with us in particular and I, for one, have decided not to let them bother me.

THEODORA – I think you want to mean that.