

## Act

I have thought I could act.  
But you saw through me, I learned  
otherwise. Indeed by the second act  
the theatre was virtually empty, the play  
kaputt. (Throat-slashing action here.) It was a three  
act play or you could call it a three-play  
act; we were both play-actors there. The cat plays  
with the mouse; the mouse is serious, though the cat  
is not. Do you play the cat? I saw *The  
Mousetrap* once, when it was running forever;  
that was a play, it was playful, this is not.  
It was an act. They called it the Act of Love.

JANET MCCANN