From Strindberg’s Preface to *Miss Julie*

“I have suggested many possible motivations for Miss Julie’s unhappy fate. The passionate character of her mother, the upbringing misguidedly inflicted on her by her father; her own character; and the suggestive effect of her fiancé upon her weak and degenerate brain. Also, more immediately, the festive atmosphere of Midsummer Night; her father’s absence; her menstruation; her association with animals; the intoxicating effect of the dance; the midsummer twilight; the powerfully aphrodisiac influence of the flowers; and, finally, the chance that drove these two people together into a private room-plus of course the passion of the sexually inflamed man.”