**Dog Eat Dog**  
By Mary Gallagher  
Edith  
*Character description: she is a very strong person emotionally. She has a strong will also*

 I understand. If it comes right down to it, I’m going to save myself, and Fred. And that time is coming fast. Fred’s creditors took everything but the bathroom fixtures. We’ve got a twelve-room house without a stick of furniture. We live in two rooms and we sleep in sleeping bags. And winters coming, and there’s not a hope in hell of buying fuel! I’m scared. But more than that, I’m mad! And by God, I am going to make it through this goddamn mess! And I can do it, too! I wasn’t always loaded. I was broke, for years. I’m good at being broke. And I’ll save Fred, too, if he just stays out from underfoot. But I can’t save anybody else, and I’m not fool enough to try! (Pause. Marina, discourage, prepares to go as Fred enters with fishing gear)   I am a realist! The whole premise of this neighborhood is that we all have money, so we’ll never have to ask each other for a goddamn thing! Now suddenly everyone needs everything, and the doors are closed! And they’ll stay that way! Just don’t break you hearts over it, that’s all!