

Act 2 Sc 2 – Vi and Mary Ellen and Janine

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Act Two Scene 2

Time: That Friday.

Place: The same.

*(Lights up. Vi and Mary Ellen are sitting in the diner. The diner is closed.)*

M.Ellen: Well, I'll tell you, Vi, it's wearing me out. I don't know how much longer I can take it.

Vi: Every day at lunchtime?

M.Ellen: Every day this week. I get home at one o'clock and there he is waiting for me. With a big grin on his face.

Vi: Can't he just wait until nighttime when you two are in bed?

M.Ellen: Well, it's then too!

Vi: What?

M.Ellen: Yes! He's got this new found vigor. He can't seem to turn it off. I mean, if the boys weren't in the house after school there'd be no down time at all.

Vi: It's that bad?

M.Ellen: Oh Vi, I dropped a dish towel last night and I was afraid to bend over to pick it up.

Vi: It sounds like you've unleashed a monster.

M.Ellen: Oh my girl you have no idea.

*(Janine enters from the back.)*

Vi: Did you hear this, Janine?

Janine: Hear what?

Vi: Kyle has turned into a sex machine all of a sudden.

Janine: Really? Well, lucky you, Mary Ellen.

M.Ellen: Lucky? Whenever I'm alone these days I think "Oh, that's what being motionless feels like."

Janine: Well, you started it. You made him think you were being neglected.

M.Ellen: I was being neglected. I felt like a rusted out car sitting in someone's back yard. And now I'm being waxed and buffed to within an inch of my life.

Janine: Maybe you should be thankful. How long have you two been married?

M.Ellen: Twenty-one years.

Janine: Well, I can't speak from experience, but from what I hear, sometimes that flame dies out between two people after a while.

M.Ellen: Well, this one's not dying. And it's not just a flame anymore. It's an out of control wildfire that's destroying everything in its path.

Vi: Where's Rita? It's after five on a Friday. I have to go and meet Johnny.

Janine: Maybe she got busy at the bakery.

Vi: No, she's usually out of there by three at the latest.

M.Ellen: Has Sean been around this week, Janine?

Janine: I haven't seen him since Tuesday.

M.Ellen: When you turned down his Halifax proposal.

Janine: Right.

M.Ellen: Maybe you broke his spirit.

Janine: Oh, I doubt that. He's probably just got his hands full at the clinic.

M.Ellen: He is a handsome one.

Janine: Yes he is.

M.Ellen: Very handsome.

Janine: Yes, I know that, Mary Ellen.

M.Ellen: I'm just making an observation. I didn't mean anything by it.

Vi: What Mary Ellen's trying to say is, we've talked it over and we're giving you the okay to be receptive to the doctor's advances.

Janine: Oh, are you?

M.Ellen: Well, it's been three days since you gave Bradley the heave ho. Time to move on.

Janine: Is that a suitable time to get over a guy? Three days?

Vi: To get over that guy it is.

*(Rita enters.)*

Vi: There she is.

Rita: Hi.

Janine: You're a little later than usual, Rita. We were getting worried.

Rita: Oh, I fell asleep, that's all.

M.Ellen: Sleep. I wish I could do that. It's getting so I'm afraid to close my eyes at my house anymore.

Janine: Okay, now you're just bragging, Mary Ellen.

M.Ellen: Yeah, I am.

Rita: Bragging about what?

Janine: Apparently Kyle can't keep his hands off of her these days.

Rita: Oh, so you've awakened the sleeping giant.

M.Ellen: Well, I don't know if I'd say 'giant'. But then, I have nothing to compare it to. Kyle's the only man I've been with.

Vi: It's an expression, Mary Ellen. It's not about..never mind.

Rita: Well, enjoy it while you can, Mary Ellen. God, I haven't had a man since...Oh, no it was last night. That's right.