MARRIED...WITH CHILDREN

"Pilot"

Executive Producers
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and
Michael G. Moya

Supervising Producers
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Richard Gurman

Producer
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Linda Day

Written by
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and
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AN EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTION

SHOW: #0101
TAPE: 12/12/86
AIR: TBA
"MARRIED...WITH CHILDREN"

#0101

CAST

AL BUNDY ....................... ED O'NEILL
PEGGY BUNDY ..................... KATEY SAGAL
STEVE RHoades ................... DAVID GARRISON
MARCY RHoades .................. AMANDA BEARSE
KELLY BUNDY .................... TINA CASPARY
BUD BUNDY ..................... HUNTER CARSON
LUKE VENTURA .................... RITCH SHYDNER
NANCY ........................... DIANA BELLAMY
ARNOLD ......................... VICTOR DI MATIA
LISA ............................... SUE ANN GILFILLAN
PANNY ............................ LINDA DONÁ
BUCK BUNDY, THE DOG ............. MICHAEL, THE DOG
TV ANNOUNCER ...................  

SETS

ACT ONE

INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - MORNING (1)

INT. GARY'S SHOES & ACCESSORIES FOR TODAY'S WOMAN - DAY (14)

INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - EVENING (22)

ACT TWO

INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - A SHORT TIME LATER (29)
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ACT ONE

SCENE ONE

INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN

(KELLY IS SITTING ON THE COUCH. WE SEE THE PLANT MOVING. A BEAT, THEN WE SEE BUD'S HAND REACH UP, GRAB HIS SISTER'S HAIR AND PULL HER HEAD BACK)

KELLY

Let go of my hair, you little psychopath.

(HE SLITS HER THROAT WITH HIS RUBBER KNIFE)

BUD

Die Commie Bimbo.

PEGGY

Bud. I thought we talked about this before.

BUD

What's that, Mom?

PEGGY

Y'know, sneaking up behind your sister, pulling her hair, pretending to kill her. Y'know. Remember the effect it had on Grandma?

(BUD NODS)

Nobody likes it, nobody thinks it's funny. So cut it out, okay?

BUD

Sure, Mom.
PEGGY

Now, go to school.

(THEY GO FOR THEIR JACKETS)

KELLY

(TO BUD)

I hate you.

BUD

Good.

(THEY EXIT)

(A BEAT, THEN AL COMES DOWN THE STAIRS)

AL

Hey, Hon. Anything going on?

PEGGY

Nope.

(HE CROSSES TO HER AND GIVES HER A PECK ON THE CHEEK. BEAT. THEN)

AL

Sweetie. Is this your little cactus?

PEGGY

Uh huh.

AL

Any particular reason you put it where the alarm clock used to be?
PEGGY

(SWEETLY)

I thought it would dress up
the room a little bit. Oh,
gee. Y'know. I meant to tell
you to be careful before you
slammed your hand down on the
alarm this morning.

AL

(LAUGHS FALSELY)

Welllll, you didn't.

PEGGY

I'm sorry.

AL

Ah, it's okay. I stopped the
bleeding with your slip. Where
are the kids?

PEGGY

They left. Oh, by the way, Bud
had Show and Tell at school today.
The subject is "What Does Daddy Do?
So when you come home tonight, if
there's a can of beer missing, and
you can't find the remote control,
that's where they are.

AL

Well, I hope he brings that stuff
back tonight. The Bulls are playing
on tv.
PEGGY

(SARCASTIC)

Oh, my God. You're kidding.

AL

Well, it's not as exciting as your "Cookin' with Clyde the Cajun," show. But at least it gives me a reason to come home.

PEGGY

Al, do you have to leave the refrigerator door open? I'm getting a draft.

AL

I'm sorry. Maybe I should look for some food in the dishwasher.

(BEAT)

We have no juice.

PEGGY

Oh. I didn't buy any. I didn't have time.

AL

Well, that happens. I understand.

(HE SITS)

You don't have a job or anything, do you?
PEGGY
Well, I do sandpaper the stains out of your shirts, and battle your socks and underwear into the washing machine. But I guess that is more of an adventure than a job.

AL

(BEAT)

What's that got to do with juice?

PEGGY
Al, you know there's a store on your way home from work.

AL
I'm sorry. Why didn't I think of that? Sure, I don't mind doing the shopping, too. Anything else I can do to make your life a little easier?

PEGGY

(THOUGHTFULLY)

You could shave your back.

AL
Hey. That hair is there for a reason. It keeps you off me at night.

PEGGY
Al. Let's not start. We were having such a nice morning.
AL

Yeah, sorry. You're right.
It's just that I got a hard
day of work ahead of me and
I got nothing to eat to get
me going.

PEGGY

I'm sorry, honey. I know
it's my fault.

(CROSSING TO LIVING ROOM)

But tonight I promise there
will be food in the house.

AL

(AS HE STARTS TO CROSS TO LIVING ROOM)

And juice.

PEGGY

Right.

(SHE NOTICES THE UNTouched ENGLISH
MUFFIN ON THE COFFEE TABLE. SHE
PICKS IT UP)

Oh. Those kids. I hate
wasting food.

(SHE HEADS FOR THE KITCHEN. AL
SMILES, THINKING THE MUFFIN'S FOR
HIM, BUT PEG GIVES IT TO BUCK)

Have a nice day, honey.
(AL LOOKS AT BUCK UNDER THE TABLE.
THEN GETS UP)

AL

(MUMBLING)

There better be juice when
I get home.

(HE STARTS TO EXIT)

DISSOLVE TO:
ACT ONE

SCENE TWO

INT. GARY'S SHOES & ACCESSORIES FOR TODAY'S WOMAN - DAY

(ONE OF TODAY'S WOMEN, NANCY, IS TRYING ON SOME SHOES. SHE IS MIDDLE-AGED AND HEAVY-SET. THERE ARE MOUNDS OF OPEN SHOE BOXES AND A HARRIED AL IN FRONT OF HER. HER SON, ARNOLD, ABOUT SIX-YEARS-OLD, RUNS THROUGH THE STORE STEPPING IN SOME SHOE BOXES. HE GOES OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE OF HIS MOTHER AND SITS ON FLOOR. TAWNY, A PRETTY GIRL, STANDS AT A SHOE DISPLAY NEARBY. A COUPLE OF WOMEN CUSTOMERS ARE WAITING.

(AL IS MEASURING NANCY'S FOOT)

NANCY

I don't care what your little ruler says. I've been a seven since I graduated from high school.

(AL SHOWS HER THE SHOES)

AL

Well, these are sevens. The box says nine because, well, uh...look, lady. You're a nine. I can accept it. Why can't you?

NANCY

You're very fresh.
Al

No ma'am. That's impossible. Because for the last hour, I've been trying to squeeze your foot into a shoe when I really should have been easing them into the box. So, no, I'd say anything but fresh.

(Arnold starts hammering an expensive shoe on the floor. Indicates Arnold)

By the way. You want to tell John Henry over there to give the hundred dollar pumps a rest?

(Grabs the shoes from Arnold)

Nancy

Your ad says courteous service.

Al

That's not my ad, Ma'am. That's the former owner's. He was killed tragically on this very spot when a size nine exploded in his face.

Nancy

(to Arnold)

Come on, Arnold. We're leaving.

Arnold

(to Al, yelling)

I want a ball son.
AL

(LOOKS AT NANCY)

You've already got one.

(ASS NANCY AND ARNOLD EXIT. THEN LUKE VENTURA,
A GOOD LOOKING MAN IN HIS MID-THIRTIES, ENTERS.
HE CROSSES TO AL

LUKE

Hey, Al. You mind if I go
to lunch?

AL

You just came back from lunch.

LUKE

Yeah, technically. But biologically,
I was in bed with some broad.

AL

Luke, how can you be happy sleeping
with every woman you meet?

LUKE

I don't know. But I am.

AL

I'll tell you, as your friend, I
can't wait till you get married.
Yeah. A wife and kids who adore
you. A wife. Kids. The list
goes on and on. It's just seeing
their faces light up in the morning
when they see you. They can't do enough
for you. It's Heaven on Earth.
(LUKE NOTICES TAWNY, A BEAUTIFUL BLONDE CUSTOMER)

LUKE

No, Al. That is.

(HE CROSSES TO TAWNY, INTRODUCING HIMSELF)

Luke Ventura. At your feet.

(HE ESCORTS HER TO A NEARBY CHAIR.

AL SIGHS, AND GOES TO LISA)

LISA

(COLDLY)

Do you work here, or are you just loitering?

AL

May I help you?

LISA

I'd like to see some shoes please.

AL

Uh, let me guess.

(LOOKS AT HER FEET)

Uh, size seven?

LISA

Yes. How did you know?

(AL TRIES TO FORCE A SMILE)

AL

All women are sevens.

(HE WALKS OVER TO LUKE AND TAWNY)

LUKE

(TO TAWNY)

I know you've been told this before, but you have the instep of a movie star.
TAWNY

Really?

LUKE

Hey, Al. Meet Tawny. Al's married.

(LUKE AND TAWNY LAUGH. AL GOES TO STOREROOM AREA, STARTS LOOKING AT BOXES. LUKE FOLLOWS. DURING THE FOLLOWING, TAWNY LOOKS AT HER FEET AS IF SEEING THEM FOR THE FIRST TIME)

Listen, Al. I forgot to tell you. I got an extra ticket for the Bulls-Laker game tonight. Court level. Wanna go?

AL

Hell, yeah.

LUKE

You sure your wife'll let you go?

AL

Let me tell you something. No woman tells Al Bundy what to do.

LISA

Hey, you. Get my shoes.

AL

Yes, ma'am.

DISSOLVE TO:
ACT ONE

SCENE THREE

INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - EVENING

(PEGGY IS LYING ON THE COUCH, HER FEET UP, SMOKING A CIGARETTE AND EATING CANDY.)

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL EMPTY CANDY WRAPPERS ON THE TABLE. THE TV IS ON. PEGGY PUTS OUT A CIGARETTE AND TAKES A BITE OF CANDY)

SFX: TV ON

(WE HEAR A DAYTIME WOMAN TALK SHOW HOST)

HOST (O.S.)

We're here today with our staff anthropologist, Dr. Jim, who discovered a tribe of women in the Amazon who, like the Praying Mantis, devour their mates after mating season. Ladies?

SFX: AUDIENCE APPLAUDING

SFX: CAR PULLS UP

(PEGGY STARTS TO CLEAN)

NOTE: TURN OFF TV ANYWHERE DURING LAST HOST SPEECH
SFX: TV OFF
(SHE PUSHES THE CANDY BOX UNDER THE SOFA, AND TURNS ON THE VACUUM CLEANER)

SFX: VACUUM ON
(PEGGY VACUUMS THE CIGARETTE OUT OF THE ASH TRAY AND THE CANDY WRAPPERS OFF THE TABLE. A BEAT, THEN AL ENTERS, CARRYING HIS COAT OVER HIS SHOULDER, HE THROWS IT ON THE TABLE)

PEGGY
Hi, honey.

AL
Hi. Workin' hard?

(CROSSES TO THE TV)

PEGGY
Oh, yeah. Well, yes. But you know, I like to keep the house clean.

(SHE TURNS OFF THE VACUUM)

SFX: VACUUM OFF

PEGGY (CONT'D)
Hard day?

AL
Yeah. You?
PEGGY

Oh,
Yeah.

(SHE SITS ON COUCH, AS AL PUTS HIS HAND ON
THE TOP OF TV SET. IT'S WARM. HE NODS)

AL

Must've been. Even the TV's
sweating.

(THEN, TESTING HER)

Hey, Get me some juice, okay?

PEGGY

Oh. That's what I forgot to do.

(AL STEAMS FOR A SECOND, THEN CALMS DOWN)

AL

Ah, it's okay. Juice isn't
important. Listen, honey.

I know you've been busy around
the house all day so you don't
have to bother making me dinner
tonight. I got a little surprise
for you. I'm going to the ballgame
tonight.

(HE GIVES HER A LITTLE PECK ON THE CHEEK
AND STARTS FOR DOOR)

PEGGY

Uh, Al...

AL

Hmmm?
PEGGY
You're not going to the game tonight.

AL
Sure I am. See, let me explain something to you. I work all day. And when someone works all day, they need to have some fun at night. I don't actually expect you to understand any of this, but trust me, I'm your husband and I know best.

(HE GIVES HER A QUICK PECK ON THE CHEEK AND STARTS FOR THE DOOR AGAIN)

PEGGY
Isn't staying home with me fun?

(A BEAT, THEN HE TURNS BACK AND GIVES HER ANOTHER QUICK PECK ON THE CHEEK)

AL
Don't wait up.

(HE TURNS TO GO)

PEGGY
(STOPPING HIM)

AL.
(SHE GIVES HIM A KISS ON THE CHEEK)

You're not going to the game.
AL

Oh, I see. You misunderstood me. You must have thought I said, "Honey, is it okay with you if I go to the game." Y'know, like a question. There is no question about this.

PEGGY

No, there isn't. You cannot go to the game.

AL

Why not?

PEGGY

'Cause I invited company over.

AL

Company? Who the hell would want to come over here?

PEGGY

You know that honeymoon couple who moved in next door?

AL

No.

PEGGY

Well, I invited them over. I thought I told you.
AL

You didn't.

(PEGGY REACTS)

Look. I worked hard all day. 
The last thing I want to do is 
spend the whole evening with 
people I don't know.

PEGGY

Now, look. They are new in the
neighborhood. They've lived here
two months and they have no friends.
We have lived here fifteen years, and
we have no friends. Al, I want to
have some friends.

AL

Wait a second. Wait, wait. Are
you implying that it's my fault
you have no friends?

PEGGY

(SARCASTIC)

Oh, no. It's me who sits in front
of the TV, burping, with my hand
thrust down my pants.

AL

You keep it cold in this house, Peg.
PEGGY

Al, every night, when the kids go out, it's just you and me. Can't you see how boring that is for me, honey?

(AL REACTS)

Look, all I am asking is for us to have people over one night. And for you to be nice.

AL

Oh, I'm gonna be real nice. How's this for nice? I'm not even gonna be here. I'm going to the game.

(HE STARTS FOR DOOR AGAIN)

PEGGY

All right, Al. Fine. But before you go, I'd just like to say three things.

(AL STOPS, AS PEG SITS ON COUCH)

The bank book is in both our names.
The credit cards are in both our names.
And the stores are still open.

(AL TURNS BACK. PEG GIVES HIM A LOOK. AL SIGHS, CROSSES, AND SITS DOWN ON COUCH)

AL

(BEAT, ANGRY)

Why didn't you get me juice?

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO
SCENE ONE
FADE IN:
INT. BUNDY LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - A SHORT TIME LATER
(AL AND PEGGY ARE SITTING ON THE COUCH.
AL IS UNHAPPY. PEG IS KICKING HER LEG,
LOOKING AT HER NAILS, AL STOPS HER LEG)

AL

The kids gone?

PEGGY

Yes, but they'll be back.

AL

Oh,

I can't believe you invited these
people over tonight. I hate company.

PEGGY

Would you for once think about me?
I'm at home alone all day. You're
out the around people all the time.
I need some fun too.
AL

Too?
(SARCASTIC)

Oh, on the surface, selling women's shoes is fun, but once you cut through all the hype, the myths, the glamour, it's really very much like any minimum-wage-paying slow death.

(THE FRONT DOOR OPENS AND BUD ENTERS.
HE CROSSES TO CHAIR NEAR AL)

BUD

Hi, Mom. Dad, can I have five dollars?

AL

What for?

BUD

I could lie to you and tell you I needed it for books and things, but I'm not that kind of kid. I want it to have a good time.

AL

Y'know, Bud, when I was a kid I had to earn my money. Did you ever once think about trying to earn your money?
BUD
Okay, Dad.

(KNEELS AT EDGE OF COUCH)
You want to know who Kelly was with this afternoon?

AL
Who?

(BUD STICKS OUT HIS HAND. AL REACHES INTO HIS POCKET, PULLS OUT A FEW BILLS AND HANDS BUD A "FIVE")

BUD
You know the kid they call Cobra? The kid with the sore on his mouth?

(AL REACTS, THEN GIVES BUD ANOTHER FIVE)

AL
Good job, son.

BUD
Thanks, Dad.

(BUD HEADS OUT)

AL
Where are you going?

BUD
Joey's dad is waiting for me outside. We're going to the basketball game tonight. Mom said it was okay. 'Bye.

(BUD EXITS. AL LOOKS AT PEGGY)
PEGGY

The Lakers are in town. He really wanted to go.

(AL FUMES. A BEAT, THEN KELLY ENTERS THROUGH THE GARAGE DOOR, CROSSING TO BACK OF COUCH LEANING BETWEEN PEGGY AND AL)

KELLY

Hi, Mom. Dad, can I have ten dollars?

AL

(CASUAL)

Who were you with today?

KELLY

Nobody.

AL

Does "nobody" have a name? Y'know, Tom, Dick, ... Cobra with a sore on his mouth?

KELLY

(GOES TO CHAIR)

Oh, Daddy. It's not that kind of sore. He just fell asleep with a cigar in his mouth.

(SHE STICKS OUT HER HAND FOR MONEY)

AL

What?
PEGGY
You gave some to Bud, you have to
give to Kelly. Remember, Al. No
favoritism.

AL.
Peg. She's going out with a guy
named after a reptile.

KELLY
Me and Cobra are going to the
drive-in.

AL
Cobra? What happened to Angel
Eyes with the pierced ear?

KELLY
He's boring. Cobra doesn't need
an earring to prove he's a man.
He has a driver's license.

(SHE GOES TO THE CLOSET FOR HER COAT)

AL

(BEAT)
Peg?

PEGGY

(TO AL)

His real name is Stanley. They only
call him "Cobra" because he has one
painted on his van.

AL
And you find this acceptable?
PEGGY

I've met him and he's a very nice boy.

(HE SIGHS AND GIVES KELLY MONEY. WE HEAR A CAR PULL UP, TIRES SCREECHING)

KELLY

(KELLY EXITS)

Y'know, we must've done something right.
We raised two great kids.

SFX: VAN PEELING OUT

AL
I'm sorry, honey. I didn't hear you. I was just thinking of killing myself.

PEGGY
Not tonight, we have company coming.

(HE GIVES HER A LOOK, THEN RISES AND GOES TO TV TO GET REMOTE CONTROL)

AL
Look. It's time for the pre-game show.
PEGGY
(GETTING UP AND FOLLOWING HIM)

No you don't. Every time we have company, you turn on the TV and immediately separate yourself.

Not tonight. You can always watch a basketball game.

AL

Oh.

(SARCASTIC)

But I couldn't always meet our next door neighbors.

(MUMBLES)

Now I see.

SFX: DOORBELL

PEGGY

That must be Steve and Marcy, from next door.

AL

Steve and Marcy? I'm going to miss a game for people named Steve and Marcy? What's their last name? Gormé?

PEGGY

And that's another thing, Al. When they're in here, I don't want you making snide comments. That's why we have no friends.
STEVE
I'm Steve.

MARCY
You have a beautiful home.

AL
So do you. Come on in.

(THEY ENTER)

STEVE

(TO PEG)

Howdy, neighbor.

AL
Yeah, yeah. yeah.

(SOTTO, TO PEGGY)

I hate these people.

PEGGY
Why don't we sit down?

(THEY SIT)

Y'know, Gee, I'm kind of embarrassed. We don't have anything to serve you.

AL
Yeah. Listen, if you're hungry, there's a store a few blocks away.

If you go, get me some juice, okay?

(STEVE AND MARCY LOOK AT EACH OTHER

UNEASILY)
#0101

PEGGY

Al's only kidding. He's just a little upset because I didn't have time to do the shopping.

(PEG GIVES AL A LOOK)

MARMY

You know, Steve and I decided to share the household chores.

AL

Gee, that's great.

PEGGY

You see, Al? Steve helps around the house.

AL

Say, Way to go, Steve. Listen, who do you like to win the NBA Championship this year?

STEVE

Well, Al, to tell you the truth, since we got married, I don't watch much sports. Marcy doesn't like it and we decided that we'll only do things we both like.
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MARCY

I feel that sports glorify violence and competition and I don't think it's psychologically healthy. When we have a child, we don't want it to grow up with that, "winning is the only thing" attitude. A child is better off not being exposed to sports.

---

(UNDER HIS BREATH) AL

Gonna neuter him, too?

STEVE

Do you two have any kids?

AL

Two.

MARCY

Where are they?

AL

(OFF HAND)

I don't know. So Steve, looks like life is really shaping up for you.

(CROSSING TO COUCH)

How long you two crazy kids been married?

STEVE

Two months, Al.
AL

Hey, well, Marcy, what can I say?

(INDIKATES STEVE)

Looks like. You've got a heck of a piece of clay here to work with.

(MARCY AND STEVE LOOK AT EACH OTHER UNCERTAINLY)

PEGGY

Heck! We've been married

fifteen years.

(THE RHOADES MAKE APPRECIATIVE SOUNDS)

MARCY

What's your secret?

PEGGY

Well, it's no secret, really.
You just have to be considerate.
Accept each other for what you are.
Don't point out the fact that the hair he's losing on his head is now growing out of his nose.

(BEAT)

And years.

(THE GIRLS AND STEVE LAUGHS. AL STARES

HATEFULLY AT ALL OF THEM)
(CHUCKLES)

Yeah. And accepting the fact that nowadays it's harder to figure out where her chest ends and her stomach begins.

(HE GIVES A LITTLE LAUGH, AS PEGG GIVES HIM A JAB)

PEGGY

I'll get us some coffee, Marc.

MARCY

I'll help.

STEVE

Me, too.

(THE GIRLS EXIT TO THE KITCHEN. STEVE STARTS TO GET UP. AL PUSHERS HIM DOWN)

AL

Y'know another thing that, uh, makes women such a blessing to us? It's like when you're sitting somewhere and they come over and they say to ya.

(MIMICS A WOMAN)

"What are you thinking?"

(NORMAL VOICE)

And you start thinkin', "Y'know, if I wanted you to know, I'd be talkin'..."

(SNORTS A LITTLE LAUGH)

(ANGLE ON PEGGY AND MARCY IN KITCHEN. PEGGY IS POURING SPOONFUL OF INSTANT COFFEE INTO A CUP)

MARCY

Isn't that an awful lot of coffee you're putting in there?

PEGGY

(OFF HAND, AS SHE CONTINUES POURING COFFEE INTO CUP)

Yes. That's for them. Ours will be good. See, if they enjoy eating and drinking at home too much, they never take you out anywhere. With men, if you ask them for something, you are never gonna get it. But if you do some damage to their internal organs, you've got a shot. And, if it doesn't work, what have lost?

(GIVES HER A CUP)

Could you fill this with tap water, please?

(MARC GOES TO THE SINK)
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MARCY

Well, I have to be honest. So far, Steve has been the ideal husband.

(PEG REACHES UNDER THE COUNTER, BRINGS UP AN ELECTRIC PERCALATOR, AND POURS MARCY AND HERSELF A GOOD CUP OF COFFEE)

PEGGY

Oh, really? I bet the first couple of weeks you were married, you two went to bed at the same time.

MARCY

Oh, yes.

PEGGY

Have you noticed, how in the last month or so, he seems to be going to bed a little later and later?

MARCY

(AMAZED)

Why, yes.

(GOES TO HER)

How did you know?

PEGGY

You're letting him slip away, Marcy, you've got a good thing going.

(LIKE A TEACHER, EMPHASIZING)

Don't start letting him have a good time alone.
#0101

M ARCY

But we still have a good time
together.

PEGGY

(SMUGLY)

Then why is he staying up?
(M ARCY THINKS A BEAT, THEN FILLS HER
HUSBAND'S CUP WITH TAP WATER. ANGLE ON
AL AND STEVE IN LIVING ROOM)

AL

And I'm telling you, your son is
gonna be a sissy Marry if you let
that woman take away your sports.

STEVE

(WISTFULLY)

I used to love sports.

AL

Of course you did. You're a man.

But Steve, you can love it again.
(HANDS STEVE THE REMOTE CONTROL, THEN,
LIKE A PREACHER)

Start with me, right now, Steve.

Turn on that TV. I can't do it for
you. Turn it on, settle back, relax
and watch sports.
(STEVE'S HAND SHAKES A LITTLE. HE GLANCES
TOWARDS KITCHEN, THEN BACK TO TV, READY TO
TURN IT ON. ANGLE ON PEGGY AND MARCY IN
KITCHEN AS THEY FINISH MAKING COFFEE)
MARCY
You know, lately, he's been getting up earlier than me, too.

PEGGY
That's not good. Do you have P.M.S.?

MARCY
No.

PEGGY
Get it.

(MARCY TAKES THIS IN. THEY CARRY THE COFFEE INTO THE LIVING ROOM, AND SEE AL AND STEVE WATCHING THE BASKETBALL GAME)

SFX: BASKETBALL GAME

MARCY
Steve!

STEVE
Shh. Hey!

(INdicates TV, as he takes his coffee cup)

MARCY
I thought we agreed no sports.

(PEG gives Al his coffee, then goes to chair and sits)

STEVE
(TO Al)

Nice shot.

(He takes a sip of coffee and reacts. Al sips his coffee appreciatively)
MARCY

(SITTING)
I demand to know what you do late
at night after I've gone to bed. Are
you having fun alone, Steve?

STEVE
No. I just like to stay up and
think.

MARCY

(STARTS KICKING HER LEG)
What are you thinking?

STEVE
If I wanted you to know... I'd...

(HE GIVES AL A LOOK. AL LOOKS ON
APPROVINGLY)
Oh. Just about how much I love
you. I'm going to the game
next week with Al.

(AL TAKES ANOTHER SIP)

MARCY
My mother is coming over next week.

STEVE
Oh, Yeah? She gonna teach you how to
bury me, like she buried her three
husbands?

(AL GIVES HIM AN IMPRESSED LOOK)
MARCY

(AGHAST)
Steve! Are you implying that their suicides had something to do with mother?

(HE STARES AT HER)
Oh. Well, if that's your attitude, then maybe I should just pack my bags and move in with her.

STEVE
Great. Then I could go to bed at a normal hour.

(MARCY LOOKS OVER AT PEGGY, WHO GIVES HER AN ENCOURAGING LOOK)

MARCY

(GETTING UP)
All right. Steve Rhoades, let's go. We're going home. It's time to redefine our relationship.

STEVE

(HE GETS UP)
Okay, Al. Fine. I'll be seeing you at the game next week, Al.

MARCY
Peggy, I think we'll be spending a lot of time together.
#0101

MARCY

(SHE GRABS STEVE AS THEY CROSS TO DOOR)

Come on, Steve. We've got to talk.

STEVE

Make it quick. I'm gonna watch

boxing.

MARCY

You'll watch nothing!

(MARCY AND STEVE ARGUE OUT THE DOOR.

PEGGY GETS UP, CROSSES TO COUCH, AND

SITS NEXT TO AL)

AL

It's gonna be rough for them.

Well.

PEGGY

Yeah, it was rough for us, and

we made it. Hey, y'know what? Bud got an

A in school today.

AL

No kiddin'.

PEGGY

Yeah.

AL

(HE SIPS THE COFFEE)

Hey, Let's go out Saturday night. Y'know,

to eat. Just me and you.

PEGGY

Sure, if you want to.
AL

Yeah. We haven't been to the
Captain's Table in a long time.

PEGGY

We always like it there.
They have a nice menu.

AL

Yeah. You want to go upstairs?

PEGGY

I thought you wanted to watch the
game?

AL

Nah. Who cares?

(HE TURNS OFF THE SET)

SFX: TV OFF

(THEY GET UP AND HEAD UPSTAIRS, AL HAS
HIS ARM AROUND PEG'S SHOULDERS, HERS
AROUND HIS WAIST)

AL (CONT'D)

You know, I like the coffee there too.

(HE PATS HER BEHIND, AS WE)

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO