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BIG DOG PUBLISHING

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*For Andy,
Who makes everything possible.*

LEGITIMATE HOOEY

COMEDY. When Todd and Jenny manage to escape their annoying roommate and get their own apartment, the couple is overjoyed. But they soon find their bliss is short-lived. This hilarious play examines the age-old questions couples must face every day: Is it better to tell love stories to each other, or just watch TV? Should men be forced to go to the mall? Should the fan be on even though it makes an annoying sound? Is love just a bunch of hooey?

Performance Time: Approximately 35 minutes.

CHARACTERS

(1m, 1 f)

TODD: Playwright; newlywed.

JENNY: Manager of a clothing store; newlywed.

SET

Present. Todd and Jenny's bedroom. The set should be abstract, with no walls, and should dissolve into darkness. If possible, for the designated night scenes, a cyclorama should be lit with blue. CS is a bed with a white bedspread and white sheets. There's a silver clothing store rack with clothes hanging on it. A television set sits on a table at the foot of the bed. An alarm clock, telephone, writing pad, pencil, empty vase, and lamp sit on a nightstand beside the bed. A big electric fan faces the bed.

PROPS

White bedspread and sheets	Table
Clothing rack with clothes	Nightstand
Lamp	Telephone
Notepad	Vase
Pencil	Shopping bag from clothing store
Large electric fan	Toothbrush
Alarm clock	Daisy
Bed	Ice pack
TV	

"You think our love is hooley?"

—Todd

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: Todd and Jenny enter, holding hands. They are very happy.)

JENNY: Can you believe it?

TODD: Finally!

JENNY: Our own apartment!

TODD: Isn't it the greatest feeling in the world?

JENNY: Yes!

TODD: And it only took us ten months.

JENNY: I can't believe we survived that long being roomies with Frampton.

TODD: So long as I live, I never want to hear that name again.

I'm just glad to finally have her out of our hair.

JENNY: Where we can be independent.

TODD: Where we can decorate our way.

JENNY: Where we can finally be alone.

TODD: I love you so much.

JENNY: And I love you. *(They kiss.)* Just think...we are going to have the greatest apartment in the world.

TODD: Uh-huh.

JENNY: We have our whole lives ahead of us, just waiting for us to dig our teeth into.

TODD: And it all begins here.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 2

(AT RISE: Todd sits on the bed in his pajamas.)

TODD: Can you come here, Jenny?

(Jenny enters.)

JENNY: What is it, sweetie?

TODD: Am I fat?

JENNY: What?

TODD: Am I fat?

JENNY: No.

TODD: Then why did you ask "what"?

JENNY: I didn't hear you.

TODD: You were stalling.

JENNY: I was not.

TODD: You needed time to think and say "no."

JENNY: I said "no" because I meant no.

TODD: No, you didn't.

JENNY: Yes, I did.

TODD: No, you didn't.

JENNY: Todd, you're being ridiculous.

TODD: I am not! All writers get fat! Especially playwrights
because we have all those actors to deal with!

JENNY: Will you stop worrying.

TODD: Don't change the subject.

JENNY: I'm not changing anything. I'm saying you aren't fat!

(Changing the subject.) Honey, my tooth hurts.

TODD: I'm sorry, sweetie. Can I get you anything?

JENNY: Naw, I'm going to brush my teeth. (Jenny exits.)

TODD: Jenny, can you come back for a minute?

JENNY: (Offstage.) What is it?

TODD: Do you think I'm too thin?

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 3

(AT RISE: Todd gets into bed. Jenny comes in and turns on the electric fan.)

TODD: Honey...

JENNY: What?

TODD: Can we sleep just one night without the fan on?

JENNY: Why?

TODD: I like to sleep in silence, but it makes that humming sound.

JENNY: I've had this fan for five years, and it's blown on me almost every night of those five years.

TODD: I know, but I've slept the last 22 years of my life in silence.

JENNY: This fan blew on me while I was in college. This fan blew on me while I was still in high school.

TODD: Yes, but it didn't blow on me, and I'd like to have at least one night of peace and quiet.

JENNY: I bought this fan when I had to spend the summer at my grandma's house.

TODD: I know, but I want it off! Just one night! Please?

JENNY: Why do you always want your way?

TODD: My way? I just want to sleep one night out of the year without that thing blaring in my face.

JENNY: It's not that loud.

TODD: Not that loud? I feel like I'm inside a VCR.

JENNY: You're being completely ridiculous.

TODD: I am not! I just want one peaceful night's sleep!

JENNY: I thought every night was peaceful, if you were with me. I thought you loved me!

TODD: I do love you, but I don't love that fan!

JENNY: I'm going to get myself a glass of water, and you better be calmed down by the time I get back.

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(Jenny exits.)

TODD: Fine. I'll be right here by the fan rewinding.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 4

(Cyclorama blue. Todd and Jenny are fast asleep under the covers. Jenny darts up.)

JENNY: Did I?

TODD: What?

JENNY: Oh my gosh! Oh my gosh!

TODD: What is it? Are you all right?

JENNY: I can't remember!

TODD: What? What?

JENNY: Did I or didn't I?

TODD: Go to bed, you're having a nightmare.

JENNY: I am not! I just don't remember.

TODD: Calm down. What don't you remember?

JENNY: Be quiet. I'm trying to think.

TODD: Can I get you anything?

JENNY: Oh my Gosh!

TODD: A glass of water?

JENNY: I have to go. *(Jenny gets out of bed and frantically puts some clothes on over her pajamas.)*

TODD: A piece of cheese?

JENNY: I'll be right back.

TODD: A Prozac?

JENNY: Where are the car keys?

TODD: I don't know. I'm not really awake.

JENNY: *(Louder.)* Where are the car keys?!

TODD: I said I don't know!

JENNY: I'll find them. You stay here.

TODD: Where are you going?

JENNY: Just sleep.

TODD: Should I call a doctor?

JENNY: Goodbye. *(She exits.)*

TODD: Should I call a therapist?

(She returns.)

JENNY: Honey?

TODD: Yes.

JENNY: Did I lock the door at work?

TODD: I don't know. I'm tired. You're tired. Just come to bed.

JENNY: I have to go check!

(Todd reluctantly gets up.)

TODD: Okay, just a minute.

JENNY: What are you doing?

TODD: Coming with you.

JENNY: You stay nice and warm in bed. I'll go by myself.

TODD: No, I'm coming with you. Just wait a minute. *(He stumbles around and tries to get dressed, still half asleep.)* Where are my pants?

(Jenny suddenly remembers and ignores Todd from this point on.)

JENNY: The car!

TODD: What are my pants doing in the car?

JENNY: No, the car keys! I locked them in the car.

TODD: *(Indicating a pair of pants.)* These will do. *(Todd begins to put on a tight pair of pants.)*

JENNY: That's right! I locked them in the car.

TODD: My hair is such a mess. *(Puts hat on.)*

JENNY: I remember now.

TODD: *(Indicating a pair of dirty socks.)* We really need to wash our socks. *(Puts socks on.)*

JENNY: I was standing at the car after we got back—

TODD: I guess we could buy some new ones.

JENNY: And I locked the keys in the car—

TODD: *(Putting his shoes on.)* Half our socks don't match anyway.

JENNY: And I remember being glad I didn't lock the keys in the store—

TODD: It would be nice to start with fresh socks.

JENNY: Because I *did* lock the store.

(Todd puts his jacket on.)

TODD: Tomorrow we can go and get more socks.

JENNY: Oh, good! That's such a relief. *(Jenny takes off her clothes and gets back into bed.)*

TODD: They can't be that expensive. *(Todd is now fully dressed and ready to leave.)*

JENNY: Todd, what on earth are you doing?

TODD: I'm going with you to the store.

JENNY: At this hour! What for?

TODD: You didn't lock the door.

JENNY: Yes I did. Now come to bed.

TODD: What?

JENNY: I know how cranky you get without your rest. Now come to bed.

TODD: You locked the store?

JENNY: Of course. Now cuddle up next to me.

TODD: Okay. *(He yawns as he takes off his clothes.)* I'm so tired.

JENNY: Then why on earth did you get up?

TODD: I wasn't going to let you go alone.

JENNY: You're too sweet to me.

TODD: *(Climbing into bed.)* I know. Good night, love.

JENNY: Good night, honey. *(Todd is very comfortable in bed and he lets out a sigh of comfort. After a few seconds, it looks like they are asleep. But, alas, Jenny darts up again.)* Or did I lock it?

(Todd moans. Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 5

(AT RISE: Todd is on the phone with Jenny.)

TODD: *(Into phone.)* No, I'm not doing very much... *(Pause.)*
No, you're not interrupting anything. I was trying to write
more of the play, but it just isn't going very well... *(Pause.)*
Don't be sorry, I'm glad you called... *(Pause.)* No, really!
How's work? Was she mad you got there late? *(Pause.)*
Good... *(Pause.)* We need to get a spare set of keys in case
we ever lock them in the car again. So how's your tooth?
(Pause.) I'm sorry... *(Pause.)* You have to get it out. It's only
going to get worse... *(Pause.)* Yeah, I'll be there at five...
(Pause.) Why? *(Pause.)* Tell her you are taking your break at
five and she can go when you get back... *(Pause.)* You know
she only goes to the bar... *(Pause.)* Is your manager there?
(Pause.) Oh, sorry. You get back to work. Call me back and
tell me if I can come at five... *(Pause.)* Don't let her get away
with that. She can't boss you around... *(Pause.)* Tell her you
are taking your break with me at five, and if she doesn't like
it, she can drop dead... *(Pause.)* I know I'm a sweetheart...
(Pause.) Okay, honey... *(Pause.)* Yeah, I'll see you at six...
Goodbye, love.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 6

(AT RISE: Jenny enters, carrying a shopping bag.)

JENNY: I can't believe I didn't buy that shirt.

(Todd enters, obviously worn out.)

TODD: I told you if you wanted it, you should have bought it.

JENNY: No. It's another twenty dollars I can spend on you.

(They kiss.)

TODD: You know I'm going to go out and buy you that shirt.

JENNY: Do, and die.

TODD: Honey, you know I love getting you gifts more than anything in the world.

JENNY: No, I love getting you gifts more than anything in the world. *(She pulls out the pants she bought.)* Oh, these pants are going to look great with our green sweater!

TODD: Well, believe what you want, but I'm buying you that shirt.

JENNY: Oh, sweetie. I love you.

TODD: Just not any time soon. God, the mall drives me crazy sometimes.

JENNY: I thought you loved the mall. You practically live there.

TODD: I know, but —

JENNY: When the Orange Julius guy got married, you were a groomsman.

TODD: I just don't like when we have to park nine miles away. I don't understand why we have to park a good foot race away from the entrance when there are a hundred empty handicap spots right by the door.

(Jenny exits into the bathroom to try on the pants.)

JENNY: (*Offstage.*) Relax, honey.

TODD: (*Mutters to himself.*) Wheelchair whiners...

JENNY: (*Offstage.*) You're terrible.

TODD: They don't even have to walk.

JENNY: (*Offstage.*) Calm down.

TODD: With their motorized scooters. (*He makes the sound of a motorized wheelchair.*) They park right by the door and ride around the mall.

JENNY: (*Offstage.*) Enough.

TODD: Their own portable amusement ride.

(*Jenny enters, wearing the pants.*)

JENNY: Okay, stop it! (*Modeling the pants.*) So, what do you think?

TODD: They're nice.

JENNY: Nice?

TODD: Yeah, nice.

JENNY: Nice?

TODD: What do you want me to say?

JENNY: I want you to tell me I'm the most attractive person in the world.

TODD: You're the most attractive person in the world.

JENNY: Liar.

TODD: I'm not lying. But you already know I think that.

JENNY: That doesn't mean I don't like hearing it now and then.

TODD: Now and then? I tell you 8,000 times a day how beautiful you are.

JENNY: No, you don't.

TODD: Yes, I do.

JENNY: You're such a liar.

TODD: I'm not lying! Why does everything get so complicated with you? I said your pants look nice! You don't need to get so nasty!

JENNY: I wish you would just die.

TODD: Well, at least then I could park closer to the mall.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 7

(AT RISE: Todd is asleep under the covers but cannot be seen. He stretches his legs and they pop out from under the blanket. He slowly sits up and yawns. He glances at the alarm clock. Then he does a double-take. He panics and flies out of bed, frantically trying to get himself together.)

TODD: Oh my Gosh! Five thirty! Crap! *(Todd bumps into Jenny as she enters.)* Oh nooooo!

JENNY: What's wrong?

TODD: You're here.

JENNY: I'm sorry.

TODD: No! I'm sorry. Here, you lay down.

(Todd puts Jenny on the bed.)

JENNY: What's the matter?

TODD: I fell asleep when I came in to make the bed.

JENNY: Calm down. I'm going to go to the bathroom.

TODD: No! Stay right here! I'm terrible! I should have been there to pick you up.

JENNY: I walked. That's okay. It was probably good for me.

TODD: No! You worked all day, and I just sat here and did nothing. The least I could have done is pick you up from work.

JENNY: I'm fine. Besides, it's a beautiful day.

TODD: Too beautiful! What if you got a sunburn? If you get cancer, it's all my fault!

JENNY: Relax. I kind of enjoyed the walk.

TODD: No, you didn't.

JENNY: Yes, I did.

TODD: Don't try to make me feel good. I'm the worst person in the world.

JENNY: Stop it.

TODD: I can never be forgiven.

JENNY: I forgive you.

TODD: No, you don't.

JENNY: Yes, I do. It's not a big deal. Now let me go to the bathroom.

TODD: Your tooth!

JENNY: What?

TODD: You had to walk home with your toothache!

JENNY: I'm fine. Really I am.

TODD: Do you still love me?

JENNY: What kind of question is that?

TODD: I just failed you. How can you love someone who fails you?

JENNY: You didn't fail me. Now let me go to the bathroom before I explode! *(Jenny exits.)*

TODD: Just great. Now you're gonna get kidney cancer or something.

JENNY: I'm not getting anything.

TODD: I'm so horrible.

JENNY: I forgive you.

TODD: I should be shot!

(Jenny enters.)

JENNY: I love you. I will always love you. Now if you're tired, just go back to sleep.

TODD: I don't deserve to sleep. I'm never going to sleep again.

JENNY: If you're tired, you're tired. You can't help that. And you work hard all day. Maybe not in a clothing store or something, but you write all day. That's work.

TODD: *(Pouting.)* I'm a housewife.

JENNY: You're not a housewife.

TODD: I cook and clean and tidy up after you.

JENNY: I thought you wanted to do those things. I never ask you to.

TODD: What else is there to do?

JENNY: You're a writer. Solitude is the hardest work there is.

TODD: I suppose.

JENNY: I never expect you to do things for me. Now just go to sleep.

(He lays back down.)

TODD: Okay, honey.

JENNY: I think I'm actually going to join you. It was a busy day.

(Jenny lays down next to Todd.)

TODD: I love you, honey.

JENNY: I love you. *(They kiss. They snuggle up next to each other and close their eyes. They make comfortable sounds. They lay silently for a few seconds until they appear to be asleep. With her eyes closed, Jenny doesn't budge.)* So what's for dinner?

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 8

(AT RISE: Jenny is on the phone. Todd frantically waves at her, in a tizzy.)

JENNY: *(Into phone.)* Okay, I'll see you tomorrow...goodbye.
(She hangs up the phone.)

TODD: Jenny! Why did you invite Frampton over here?

JENNY: Todd, she's my friend. She wants to see our new apartment.

TODD: No, she wants to inspect our new apartment.

JENNY: What are you talking about?

TODD: You know exactly what I am talking about! You said it yourself last night! She is a snoop and a snitch!

JENNY: Can I help that?

TODD: You can't stop her from spreading rumors about us, but you can stop giving her ammunition. If she can't come over, how can she prove she knows anything?

JENNY: Like that's going to stop her. She'll make it up.

TODD: There! You admit it! She's a liar!

JENNY: I never denied it. But if we're nice to her, she might not say bad things about us.

TODD: And I hate how you get when she's around. You act all weird. You pretend she's your best friend, but the second she leaves, you go stark-raving mad! When we all lived together, I was never sure which Jenny I'd come home to. For six months, you reminded me of Sybil. Face it. She gets under your skin. And mine, for that matter. Not to mention that she eats all our food.

JENNY: But we grew up together. And I'm the only friend she has.

TODD: Is it any wonder? She snoops on everyone else 'cause it's the only excitement in her life.

JENNY: I feel bad leaving her without any friends.

TODD: And you don't think I have those feelings, too? I hate watching her waste her days all alone, but she does it to herself. And then she blames us when she has nothing to do.

JENNY: I know.

TODD: And it's so hard to see her get fatter and fatter.

JENNY: I know.

TODD: Her hips hardly fit through the door.

JENNY: Todd —

TODD: She should live in the Philippines. She could carry buckets of water on her hips and still have her hands free to hold her cutlery.

JENNY: Todd, she's coming over tomorrow whether you like it or not. Now get over it.

TODD: And what kind of name is Frampton?

JENNY: Now there's something I've never understood.

TODD: I think all her problems are in the name: Frampton. That's the name you give a cow.

JENNY: I know.

TODD: Or a ferret.

JENNY: Yep.

TODD: Maybe even a hamster. But definitely not a person. Just think how much happier she'd be if only her name was Sandra.

JENNY: With the name of a cow or not, she's still coming over.

TODD: Fine, but don't say I didn't warn you. *(He puts on his jacket.)*

JENNY: Where are you going?

TODD: I'm stocking up on ice cream.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 9

(Cyclorama blue. Jenny and Todd are asleep in bed. Jenny darts up. She panics. Quietly, she gets out of bed and tries to put clothes on over her pajamas without waking Todd. She tiptoes around the room looking for her shoes. She finally finds them and sits on the bed to put them on, and then her jacket.)

TODD: Where are you going?

JENNY: Nowhere.

TODD: Did you forget if you locked the store again?

(She buries her face in her hands.)

JENNY: Yes.

TODD: Did you want me to go with you?

JENNY: Yes.

TODD: Okay.

JENNY: Only if you want to.

TODD: You're lucky that I love you.

JENNY: Thank you, sweetie.

TODD: Oh, it's okay. *(Jenny takes off her jacket.)* What are you doing?

JENNY: Getting back into bed. I do have an early morning, and I need my sleep. The keys are in the kitchen. *(Jenny climbs back into bed and makes herself comfortable.)*

TODD: You're just very lucky that I love you.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 10

(AT RISE: Jenny and Todd enter the bedroom, shaking their heads.)

TODD: I told you having Frampton over would make you upset.

JENNY: I know, I know. You're always right. But this time I'm not so much angry as I am really sad.

TODD: I wish Frampton would find someone to love her.

JENNY: Look who suddenly feels sorry for her.

TODD: I do have a heart, you know. I may make fun of her, but I still feel bad.

JENNY: I know exactly how you feel. But I think after ten years, you kind of get used to it.

TODD: I don't know if I could ever get used to it. The reason I have a hard time having her over isn't because she drives me crazy. Don't get me wrong, she drives me up the wall, but the hardest part is to see how lonely she is.

JENNY: I know.

TODD: She needs someone to hold her at night.

JENNY: If only she would get out more. I don't want to sound mean, but look at her. I'm afraid no one can fall in love with all that weight.

TODD: There's someone for everyone.

JENNY: I hope so.

TODD: She needs someone to look deeply into her eyes.

JENNY: It's probably just as hard for her to be with us as it is for us to be with her.

TODD: Of course it is. The sight of us together probably kills her inside. She needs someone to wipe her tears away.

JENNY: Someone to kiss the corners of her mouth.

(She kisses the corners of his mouth.)

TODD: Someone to wake up in the middle of the night with
just to say, "I love you."

JENNY: I can be so tired and my body can be so dead, but for
some reason, we both wake up at the same moment to
whisper those beautiful words. I love when that happens.

TODD: Me too.

(They kiss. Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 11

(AT RISE: Todd watches television. Jenny enters.)

JENNY: What's on TV?

TODD: The news.

JENNY: Anything exciting happening?

TODD: You know the little old ladies from the mission who hand out free food to the homeless?

JENNY: Oooh, I love them! They're so adorable, with their little Red Cross aprons and sensible white shoes. What about them?

TODD: Turns out they're prostitutes.

JENNY: No way!

TODD: They were caught handing out more than Doritos. So are you taking a shower or what?

JENNY: Just a second. I have to brush my teeth. *(Jenny exits.)*

TODD: Again? Good grief! You need to have them looked at before they really start hurting.

JENNY: Oh, I'll be okay.

TODD: Are you sure?

(Jenny enters, brushing her teeth.)

JENNY: I'm sure I'm sure.

TODD: Okay.

JENNY: So tell me about the play you're writing. *(Jenny exits.)*

TODD: Naw. It's nothing.

JENNY: Come on.

TODD: Naw.

JENNY: I wish you appreciated my opinion.

TODD: I appreciate it.

(Jenny enters without the toothbrush.)

JENNY: No, you don't.

TODD: Yes, I do.

JENNY: I try to help you, but you never listen to my opinion.

TODD: You help me. You're my inspiration. Every word that leaves your mouth means the world to me.

JENNY: Really?

TODD: Of course. It's just that I wait until I'm finished with something before I show it to you.

JENNY: Am I really your inspiration?

TODD: I didn't start writing again until I met you.

JENNY: Really? *(She kisses him.)* Maybe you can write a play about our love.

TODD: Words could never do it justice. Even so, it probably wouldn't matter to anyone.

JENNY: It would to me.

TODD: *(Softly.)* Then maybe I will.

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 12

(Cyclorama blue. Todd and Jenny are asleep in bed. Jenny darts up.)

JENNY: Honey! Did I lock the door at work?! *(Todd doesn't respond.)* Honey!

TODD: *(Disoriented.)* What? Mom?

JENNY: Todd, I know this sucks, but I don't think I locked the store.

(He moans loudly as he stretches.)

TODD: Again?

JENNY: I think so. *(Jenny gets out of bed and starts to get dressed.)*

TODD: It's four o'clock in the morning. If it was going to get robbed tonight, it would have already happened.

JENNY: Todd, I have to make sure.

TODD: You know, you're one heck of a manager. *(Todd slowly gets out of bed, very tired.)*

JENNY: You don't have to come with me.

TODD: Yes, I do.

JENNY: No, you don't.

TODD: I do unless I want to hear about it until next March.

JENNY: Just stay in bed.

TODD: No, I'm coming. Why do you keep doing this? It's like the millionth time you've forgotten.

JENNY: Well, if you'd just pay attention to me while I'm locking it, you'd remember.

TODD: This is my fault?

JENNY: You were probably checking out some other person while I was locking the door.

TODD: What?

JENNY: If you loved me, you would know if I locked it or not.

TODD: I really don't like you when you're sleepy.

JENNY: What's that supposed to mean?

TODD: You get so mean.

JENNY: I do not.

TODD: And you blame me for everything.

JENNY: I do not. But it's your fault if you don't love me when I'm tired.

TODD: I love you. I just don't like you when you're tired.

JENNY: What the difference?

TODD: I will always love you. But when you get like this, you're impossible to like. But, trust me, I will always love you.

(Todd grabs Jenny and kisses her.)

JENNY: Honey, I'm sorry. I just get uptight when it comes to my stupid job.

TODD: I know. I'm sorry, too.

JENNY: No, I'm sorry. I'm the meany.

TODD: Naw. I know how you get when you're tired.

JENNY: But I should never give you a reason to not like me. I just hate how the store comes between us.

TODD: I know.

(He kisses her.)

JENNY: It's always pulling us apart.

(He kisses her.)

TODD: I know.

JENNY: I won't let it happen again. *(He kisses her, but she pushes him away.)* But let's hurry before someone breaks into the store!

(Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 13

(AT RISE: Todd sits on the bed. Jenny enters with a daisy.)

JENNY: I got you a present, sweetie.

TODD: Oh, honey.

(Jenny hands Todd the daisy.)

JENNY: Here.

TODD: Thank you.

JENNY: Do you like it?

TODD: I love it. Thank you.

(He kisses her.)

JENNY: It's not much.

TODD: Yes, it is.

JENNY: I hope you like it.

TODD: I love it.

JENNY: Do you really?

TODD: Every time I look at it, I'll think of you.

JENNY: Really?

TODD: It's the sweetest thing in the whole wide world.

JENNY: Really?

TODD: Other than you.

JENNY: I love you.

TODD: And I love you.

(They kiss. Lights fade to black.)

SCENE 14

(AT RISE: Jenny and Todd are cuddled in bed. The television blazes at the foot of the bed. The daisy is in a vase.)

JENNY: Honey, can we talk?

TODD: *(Enraptured with the television.)* What?

JENNY: I want to talk to you.

(Todd turns to her.)

TODD: What is it?

JENNY: I want to tell love stories to each other.

TODD: Okaaay... *(He slowly turns back to the TV.)* ...or we could watch TV.

JENNY: *(Angry.)* What?!

TODD: *(Snaps his head back to her.)* No, let's tell love stories.

JENNY: No, no, no. Not now. Watch your precious little TV show.

TODD: I was joking.

JENNY: No you weren't!

TODD: I was too.

JENNY: I saw the way you said it! You meant it!

TODD: No, I want to tell love stories. It was a joke.

JENNY: Nope.

TODD: A bad joke, but a joke. *(Todd switches the television off.)*

JENNY: No, don't turn it off for me. *(Jenny switches the television back on.)* Heaven forbid you miss your show.

(Todd switches the television off.)

TODD: I don't want to watch TV. I can do that any old time.

(Yells.) I want to tell you love stories!

JENNY: Well, I don't want to hear them!

TODD: Please!

JENNY: No! (*Jenny switches the television on.*) I want to watch TV.

TODD: Errrrrr! You are impossible!

JENNY: I was going to be all adorable and sweet and cuddly with you, but you obviously don't want me to.

TODD: I do.

JENNY: That's fine. I don't need your love stories. I'll just watch your TV show.

TODD: Jenny, stop it!

JENNY: Oh, what a great show! I can see why you picked it over me.

TODD: I did not. I love you.

JENNY: Don't try to butter me up. Now stop talking to me and watch your show.

TODD: Fine! (*Todd pouts and watches the television.*)

JENNY: And just so you know, you gave me my toothache back!

TODD: How did I do that?

JENNY: All this arguing! The stress kills my tooth!

(*Todd switches the television off.*)

TODD: I'm sorry. Believe me.

JENNY: Sorry for being mean to me?

TODD: I wasn't being mean to you.

JENNY: Oww! It really hurts.

TODD: Yes, I'm sorry.

JENNY: Really sorry?

TODD: Really sorry.

JENNY: You really want to tell me love stories?

TODD: Of course I do.

JENNY: First, will you kiss my cheek?

TODD: Of course.

(*He kisses her cheek.*)

JENNY: It's really starting to hurt.

TODD: You should see a dentist.

JENNY: No, I'm sure it's all right.

TODD: I think we've had one Orange Julius too many. My teeth are probably all rotten, too.

JENNY: But that's how I know we're perfect for each other.

TODD: Kismet by cavities?

JENNY: No. You drink the Julius, and I get the foam. Yin and yang.

TODD: Made for each other.

JENNY: Exactly.

TODD: Should I tell you a love story now?

JENNY: I'm all ears.

TODD: Okay. It's about a boy and girl who are really in love. I mean really in love! The girl thinks the boy is the most wonderful person in the whole world and she wants whatever he wants. And this one day, he really wanted to watch TV..."

(Jenny hits Todd and switches the television on. Lights fade to black.)

[End of Freeview]