

~~GLORIA~~ ~~There's no money in it. I pay everything by cheque. There's a Parker pen, a lipstick and a few little personal things for the night, that's all. You can believe me.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~But of course I believe you.~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~Well, the, let it go.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~What? Oh of course. I'm still clutching it. You'd left it on the chair and I just came along and picked it up as I sat down. I mean, I didn't want to sit on top of it. Here I was clutching it- it's stupid, really. You don't really think I was going through your bag, do you?~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~No. Just kidding. Drink?~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Ok.~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~Scotch?~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Thanks.~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~Have you thought about it?~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~About what?~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~What I was just saying...about American women...giving the orders.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Oh yes, yes...I agree.~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~So you've changed your mind?~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Have I?~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~For things to go smoothly, the woman has to give the orders...and Bernard agrees.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Well, there we are then...everything's perfect.~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~And so, if I wanted to make myself at home in my bedroom, I would make myself at home.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~Yes, yes...right away...why not?~~

~~GLORIA~~ ~~And without waiting for Bernard to get back.~~

~~ROBERT~~ ~~No. Make yourself at home.~~

(She goes out, slamming the door. GLORIA returns almost at once- holding the Lufthansa handbag.)

What's this Lufthansa bag doing here?

ROBERT

That bag? It's mine! It's mine!

GLORIA

Oh?

ROBERT

I keep my little things for the night in it- my pyjamas- my toothbrush- spare pair of socks, toothpaste, shaving brush, you know...

GLORIA

Whose are these?

ROBERT

Those are mine.

GLORIA

Yours?

ROBERT

Yes, those are mine.

GLORIA

Oh, oh I see. You're a very interesting kinda guy. I can see you're all settled in my room, and Bernard did give it to you, so I'll let you stay there.

ROBERT

Oh, that's not necessary.

GLORIA

You know, I'll even give you a T.W.A bag to put your things in.

ROBERT

That's very kind of you Gloria, but mine will do me for a while yet.

GLORIA

There's no way you're having a bag from a German company! Look at ours, there's a little pocket inside with a zipper. It's really handy.

ROBERT

I see. I see.

GLORIA

What's yours like inside? (*she tries to open the bag that ROBERT is holding*)

ROBERT

Oh mine's got some pockets...this sort of pocket...that sort of pocket...and those sorts of pockets...it's full of pockets...stuffed with pockets...it's made of pockets! It's a pocket bag.

GLORIA

My dear Robert. It would make me very happy if you accept my bag as a gift.

ROBERT

Well, if it'll make you happy.

GLORIA

That's right. A man mustn't refuse a present from an American woman!

ROBERT Oh really? Why's that?

GLORIA It's very rare for an American woman to give presents! But you said, "No!" when I wanted to go into my own bedroom! So you're not a baby. It takes a man to say, "No!".

ROBERT Oh. I see. I understand. Yes, well...a man...yes, I think...

GLORIA You know, people wonder why America is such a great country.

ROBERT Yes, people do wonder.

GLORIA Well, it's quite simply because American men stay babies all their lives.

ROBERT As long as that?

GLORIA The Kinsey report proved it.

ROBERT Did it?

GLORIA In my country the woman is stronger than the man because he always says yes to her. And so by demanding more everyday, she can make the man work his way to total exhaustion.

ROBERT They don't mind?

GLORIA Oh, they mind. But one little mutiny and we're off to Reno. You can get a divorce in six weeks- for mental cruelty. And that means alimony.

ROBERT What happens if they don't pay it?

GLORIA Jail.

ROBERT Jail?

GLORIA So to avoid going to jail, they pay up and to pay up, they have to work. They have to produce. This ensures a stable economy. And that's why America is such a great country.

ROBERT Although he could produce, while in jail, baskets, espadrilles, little rubber like things..... Poor Bernard.

GLORIA Why?

ROBERT You're going to marry him.

GLORIA Never.

ROBERT Why not?

GLORIA He's a Frenchman. He's grown up. He might argue with me, and I couldn't take that. I shall just have to find an American, But I shall always love Bernard.

ROBERT So you'll marry an American but you won't necessarily love him?

GLORIA How could I? How can you love a man who spends his whole time working?

ROBERT It's not impossible.

GLORIA Oh! Say that again.

ROBERT What?

GLORIA 'It's not impossible.'

ROBERT Why?

GLORIA Your lips are just so cute when you say that.

ROBERT Really?

GLORIA Truly... Say it again.

ROBERT What was it again?

GLORIA It's not impossible.

ROBERT It's not impossible.

GLORIA Oh, your mouth really is a gorgeous shape. (*she comes closer*)

ROBERT Really?

GLORIA Yes...say it again!

ROBERT Again?

GLORIA Yes, please. For me.

ROBERT It's not impossible.

GLORIA There they go again. It's like a tiny flower opening.

ROBERT You're embarrassing me.

GLORIA No, no, honestly... Say have you ever kissed an American woman?

ROBERT No! No, in Aix the chance never really came up.

GLORIA That's a great shame. We Americans are like the French, really. Very rational about love.

ROBERT Really?

GLORIA Oh yes. (*She kisses him.*) Well?

ROBERT Well what?

GLORIA What do you think?

ROBERT Um, it's hard to say.

GLORIA Staggered by my astonishing technique?

ROBERT No. No. I wouldn't go that far. It's difficult to say when you're not expecting it.

GLORIA Oh right. So, you're expecting it now?

ROBERT Why? Are you going to do it again?

GLORIA I want you to tell me what you think of my technique.

ROBERT Oh, well. You know, I'm no expert.

GLORIA That's why it's interesting.

ROBERT But we're not going to kiss just like that, are we? For no reason?

GLORIA Are you crazy?

ROBERT Why?

GLORIA Well, I don't love you...

ROBERT I see.

GLORIA I just love your mouth.

ROBERT Oh, right.

GLORIA And there's nothing between the two of us, is there?

ROBERT Well, no. Nothing at all.

GLORIA No emotion.

ROBERT Not one!

GLORIA So we can kiss technically...to formulate an opinion...a technical opinion. Right are you ready?

ROBERT Yes...yes...Go for it!

GLORIA Right...(*she kisses him. Doorbell rings.*) Well?

~~ROBERT Oh, definitely better than the first time.~~

~~GLORIA You think?~~

~~ROBERT Yes...and I was expecting it too! I didn't even have the benefit of the element of surprise!~~