

ACT TWO
Scene One

The same evening, three hours later.

KELLY

I don't look at guys much, but I've been thinking – man, that Jason guy is hot. Cuter than the guys at school even though he's old. He seems cool. Why'd a guy like that be with that wife of his?! Kind of like Mom and Dad. I've barely seen them touch each other. When I was little, I always wanted them to kiss and hug. Not that they've ever fought much. Just nothing. He rules the TV, Mom makes him do the Disney thing and takes care of us, the formerly alive fur kids and the house. Sometimes Dad is grumpy, but mostly they don't talk much except about us, or when we have company. Or when Grandpa came up from downstairs.

(Flashback – Kelly is nine. Kate enters and goes to Kelly.)

Mommy, do you love Daddy?

KATE

Of course I do, Kelly pie.

KELLY

Why don't you ever kiss and hug like in the movies?

KATE

We don't have that kind of relationship. After all, Kelly pie, we don't live on a movie set.

KELLY

But you're married.

KATE

Yes, but some marriages are different. I still love your dad, though.

KELLY

Like I love Paul McCartney?

KATE

No. More like you love Kirby cake.

KELLY

But I don't love Kirby.

KATE

Yes, you do. You just don't show it. Like Daddy and I.

(Kate exits. Kelly yells after her.)

KELLY

No, I don't! I hate her guts!

(End of flashback.)

I was okay with that. They loved us for sure. They tolerated each other and liked each other for the most part. So what if they didn't hug or peck each other on the cheek? They hugged us. So case closed – until...

(Flashback – Kelly is ten. Kirby enters and goes to Kelly.)

Why does Kerwin try to get on Keely and move back and forth on her?

KIRBY

Because he's trying to have sex with her.

KELLY

Then why doesn't he try to kiss or hug her?

KIRBY

Because they're animals. And besides, kissing and hugging isn't having sex, you stupid twit. He's trying to screw her. His thing gets hard and he tries to stick it in her. Then stuff squirts out. That's how girl dogs get preppers.

KELLY

They do? How do you know?

KIRBY

Because that's what Amy Applebaum said. She's in fourth grade and saw the films. Only about people.

KELLY

What?!

KIRBY

That's how women get pregnant.

KELLY

That's not true! Mom and Dad never did that!

(Kirby laughs.)

KIRBY

Oh, yeah they did!

KELLY

They did that two times?!

KIRBY

They did it a lot more than that. Humans even do it for fun.

KELLY

For fun?! That could never be fun!

KIRBY

Well, it is. That's what Amy said.

KELLY

You're lying! Or she's lying! She's a trickster! Mom would never do that! Neither would Dad!

KIRBY

Whatever. Believe what you want. I'm going to bed.

(Kirby exits. End of flashback.)

KELLY

Much to my horror, the next day when we were at the library, I went into the science and health section and saw the pictures with my own very eyes. You think finding out that Santa isn't real is bad? For weeks afterwards, images of erections were burned into my eyes and brain. When Dad talked to me, my eyes could not help but gravitate to his penis. As much as I tried, I could not help myself. And I found myself desperately wishing he were a bit more modest.

(Flashback – Kelly is ten. Ken enters in Mickey Mouse boxers and T shirt.)

KEN

Ya ready for pizza and popcorn night, Kel?

KELLY

Um....I don't think I'm very hungry.

KEN

You? Not hungry for some stuffed crust pepperoni and black olive? You sick?

KELLY

No. I had a big lunch.

KEN

I'll give you five minutes or I'm telling Mom to check you for a fever.

KELLY

I'm not sick.

KEN

I can tell you like my new boxers Mom got for me.

KELLY

I guess.

KEN

Cool, huh?

(Kelly says nothing.)

Yeah, I know I'm a little tired of the Mickey crap, too. Wait 'til ya get a look at my new swim trunks tomorrow.

(Ken exits. End of flashback.)

KELLY

After a while, I stopped obsessing about penises and my mom's and dad's sex life. I was comforted by the fact that I'd never know anything else about their relationship. How could I have been so naïve?

(A key unlocks the front door. Kelly sits down. Ken and Jason enter the house, only slightly tipsy . Kate and Jenn enter drunk. Kate carries a wine bottle, she the drunkest of all.)

KATE

Hello, baby girl pie! What a night!

(She prances with the bottle. Kelly goes to sit in the chair in the corner.)

You don't have to move, Kelly pie! Join us!

(Kate motions her over.)

KELLY

"I don't want to spoil the party,
So I'll go.
I would hate my disappointment to show.

KELLY (con't.)

There's nothing for me here,
So I will disappear."

KATE

And have some bubbly!

KEN

Kate, we don't give the kids drinks, remember?

JENN

That's the spirit, Kate! This household needs to loosen up!

KEN

Loosen up your own household.

JENN

It can't get much looser, Kenny sweetie. I'm on to new frontiers.

(Ken, hot from his coat, rubs a beer bottle on his head to cool off.)

JENN

Honey boo, take off your coat and stay awhile! Cool off, baby!

(Ken gives her a look.)

JASON

Jenn, maybe we should let them celebrate on their own now.

JENN

Jason, I'm the parent in this relationship, so let Mommy decide when it's time to go home.

KELLY

"Well, you should see Polythene Pam.
She's so good-lookin,
But she looks like a man.
Well you should see her in drag
Dressed in her polythene bag,
Yes you should see Polythene Pam.

(Jenn points to Kelly.)

JENN

She thinks she's on 'Idol'. You go, Kelly Clarkson.

(Kirby enters.)

KATE

You home to stay, Kirby cake?

KIRBY

Mom, don't be stupid. It's early.

KATE

I was going to give you a sip of champagne because of our celebration.

KIRBY

Okay!

(She picks up a glass and holds it out. Kate pours it all over her hand.)

Mom! You're pouring it all over me!

KATE

Then hold your hand still!

KIRBY

It is!

(Kirby takes the bottle and pours a glass.)

KEN

Kirbs, that's a big glassful.

KIRBY

Oh, Daddy. You're funny.

(She almost downs the glass.)

Is Mom okay?

KATE

I'm fine!

KEN

She's fine. You're not driving, are you?

KIRBY

Nope. And Herman's dropping me off at Megan's for the night.

(She waves coyly at Jason. He looks awkward.)

JENN

I see you waving at my hubby. And you know what? I like other women flirting with my husband. That makes me HOT!

(pause.)

Almost as hot as Ken!

(She laughs loudly. Kate joins in.)

KIRBY

Jesus, Mom. I don't like you like this.

(She exits to bedroom. Everyone is quiet for a moment.)

KEN

Damn. It's 9:30pm. Time flies when you're having fun.

KATE

The night is young. You two stay for a few. And then I have a surprise for Ken!

KEN

Do you have another present for me?!

KATE

Maybe.

KEN

Hot damn! Where's it hiding?

(Ken starts looking in appropriate places where a bowling ball could be hidden.)

KATE

But first – another toast.

(She pours a round for everybody, then holds up her glass.)

JENN

One more to twenty fucking years!

Or not.

KATE

(Kirby enters dressed like a young girl. They all look at her.)

Don't ask.

KIRBY

(She exits. Ken downs his drink.)

Okay, Kate – where you hiding it?

KEN

Hiding what?

KATE

You know. My Dv8 Endless Nightmare!

KEN

I didn't get you that stupid ball.

KATE

You didn't?

KEN

No. Because, as usual, I'm sure I would have bought the wrong thing.

KATE

I sent you an email with the description.

KEN

What surprise would that have been?

KATE

And a bowling ball isn't romantic.

JENN

Fuck romantic. I wanted that ball.

KEN

What'd you get the little woman, Ken? A new toaster?

JENN

KEN

Already bought her one last Christmas with Pooh on it.

JENN

Poo? That's appetizing.

KEN

Winnie the Pooh, dip shit.

KATE

Ken, be nice. Jason might slug you.

KEN

That kid?

(Jason holds up his hands to surrender.)

KATE

He's a lot younger than you.

KEN

Don't matter.

(Ken's cell phone rings.)

KEN

Yeah, what ya need? How the hell did that happen? What an idiot. I get so tired of that fucking station. You're right, that will be double time for me. You bet your sweet ass I'll come in. See ya in thirty or so.

(He ends call and lets out a whoop.)

Oh baby, oh baby, oh baby! Daddy's gonna get that new bowling ball anyways.

(He does a dance with Kelly. She starts singing.)

KELLY

"Oh bla di, oh bla da
Life goes on, bra.
La la, how the life goes on."

KATE

What? Where are you going in thirty or so?

KEN

To station thirty nine. One of those idiots busted a pipe. Again.

KATE

You're leaving on our anniversary?

KEN

Hell, it's going on ten. Our anniversary is about over. Yeah, I'm going in. Can't pass up that money.

JENN

Not smart, Kenny.

KEN

Who asked you? We already had the fifteenth toast of the night. Why don't you go home?

(Jason picks up Jenn's purse to leave.)

JENN

That's rather rude.

KEN

You should know.

(Kate catches purse from Jason and places it on floor.)

KATE

Uh uh. They're not going anywhere. This is my anniversary, too, you know. And I'll be damned if I spend it alone.

(Ken gestures to Kelly and stands in front of a fan.)

KEN

You got the kid here.

KATE

I don't care. There was a time in our life a long time ago before kids.

KEN

Yeah. So?

KATE

We need to think about us again. The girls are almost grown. That's why I got us a surprise.