

CHARACTERS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

LEW                      Boyfriend  
  
LULU                     Girlfriend

CHARACTERS IN ORDER ON NON-APPEARANCE

LULU'S MOTHER  
LEW'S MOTHER  
MAN WALKING UP THE STAIRS  
WOMAN WALKING DOWN THE STAIRS  
TEENAGER URINATING ON THE STAIRS

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## SETTING:

Stairway of a housing project, inbetween the 12th and 13th floor there are graffiti on the walls, the ceiling and the stairs, the stairway is illuminated by 2 light-bulbs, one on the ceiling of the top-floor landing, the other one on the ceiling of the bottom floor landing.

LEW and LULU enter at the same time; LEW coming up from the 12th floor and LULU coming down from the 13th.

LEW is carrying a shopping bag, HE is dressed in his best outfit reserved for special occasions only, a lightbrown cashmere sports jacket, with white shirt, darkbrown necktie, gray pants, and black low quarter shoes.

LULU is also dressed in her best outfit, reserved for Xmas and Easter Sunday. LULU is wearing an attractive pink blouse, ankle-length black velvet skirt, imitation gold earrings, and white high heel shoes, her short black hair is parted in the middle. LULU also carries a shopping bag. SHE walks down the stairs until SHE is 2 steps away from LEW, THEY stare at EACH OTHER with their mouths open for a few seconds, THEY try to speak but only manage to say; uh-uh-uh and uh, THEY are very nervous, THEY haven't seen EACH OTHER for a very long time.

Hello Lew.

LULU

Hello Lulu.

LEW

h-h-h-h-hello Lew-Lulu

LEW & LULU

(THEY stare at EACH OTHER for 5 seconds)

h-h-h-h hello Lulu-Lew

LEW & LULU

(THEY stare at EACH OTHER for 5 seconds)

*San Francisco Drama  
Lulu  
Francisco (Paco) Prado*

LULU  
How have you been, Lew?

LEW  
Okay Lulu, and what about you?

LULU  
I have been okay too, Lew.

LEW  
Long time no see, Lulu.

LULU  
Long time no see you too, Lew.

LEW  
You have been on my mind since the last time we were together, Lulu.

LULU  
You have been on my mind since the last time we were together too, Lew.

LEW  
It has been exactly ten million five hundred and twenty three thousand seconds.

LULU  
I know.  
(Pause)  
what's new Lew?

LEW  
you Lulu.

LULU  
you too Lew.

LEW  
how have you been Lulu?

LULU  
okay Lew and what about you?

LEW  
I have been okay too Lulu.

LULU  
did you really miss me Lew.

LEW  
yes Lulu I really did miss you.

LULU  
I really did miss you too Lew.

LEW  
it's so nice to see you Lulu

LULU  
it's so nice to see you too Lew

LEW  
it's too good to be true Lulu

LULU  
it's too good to be true for me too Lew

LEW  
can I hold your hand to make sure its true Lulu

LULU  
yes Lew, but before you do  
we will have to put on our gloves first

LEW  
will do Lulu

(THEY BOTH go into their shopping  
bags & bring out a pair of gloves  
EACH, THEY put the gloves on, LEW  
& LULU hold hands)

LULU  
your hands are very warm Lew

LEW  
your hands are very warm too Lulu

LULU  
you are making my heart beat faster Lew

LEW  
you are making my heart beat faster too Lulu

LULU  
Do you know what day it is today, Lew?

LEW  
Yes Lulu, it's our 20th anniversary  
today makes 20 years that we have been  
meeting in the stairs

LULU  
Happy 20th anniversary, Lew.

LEW  
Happy 20th anniversary to you too, Lulu.

LULU  
I prayed night and day to be with you, Lew.

LEW  
Me too, Lulu.

LULU  
I lit up many candles  
to be with you, Lew.

LEW  
Me too, Lulu.

LULU  
I fasted to see you faster.

LEW  
Me too, Lulu.

LULU  
I slept with my pillow upside down.

LEW  
Me too, Lulu.

LULU  
I walked around with my mouth full of pennies  
for one whole week, to make my wish  
of seeing you come true, Lew.

LEW  
Me too, Lulu.

LULU  
I am very happy to see you, Lew.

LEW  
I am very happy to see you too, Lulu.

LULU  
I am very happy that you are very happy  
to see me too, Lew.

LEW  
I am very happy that you are very happy  
that I am very happy to see you too, Lulu.

LULU  
Do you really mean that Lew?

LEW  
I really do, Lulu  
I really do, Lulu  
I really do, Lulu  
I really do, Lulu  
I really do, Lulu

LULU

Ahhh, that sounds like music to my ears, Lew.

LEW

Do you want me to repeat it again, Lulu?

LULU

No, Lew, tell me something new.

LEW

The energy crisis has not affected your warmness

LULU

Oh Lew, that is new.

LEW

You make me feel like there is no inflation.

LULU

Oh Lew, that is really new.

LEW

You are my AC and DC current.

LULU

Oh Lew, you say the nicest things.

LEW

You are the nicest things, Lulu.

LULU

You are the nicest things too, Lew.

LEW

I put on your favorite underarm deodorant.

LULU

I brushed my teeth with your favorite toothpaste.

LEW

Your breath smells like a million dollars, Lulu.

LULU

Your underarms smell like a million dollars too, Lew.

LEW

All for you, Lulu.

LULU

All for you too, Lew.

LEW

I still have the can of foot powder  
you gave to me. I use it every day.

LULU

I still have the jar of mayonnaise  
you gave me on our last date.  
I eat it every day.

LEW  
I will give you another jar of mayonnaise  
when that one finishes.

LULU  
That is very kind of you, Lew.

LEW  
I see you are wearing my favorite skirt.

LULU  
I see you are wearing my favorite shirt.

LEW  
I see you are wearing my favorite earrings.

LULU  
I see you are wearing my favorite necktie.

LEW  
I see you are wearing my favorite high heel shoes.

LULU  
I see you are wearing my favorite sports jacket.

LEW  
I see you are wearing my favorite contact lenses.

LULU  
I see you are wearing my favorite hearing aid.

LEW  
It has been exactly ten million  
five hundred and twenty three thousand seconds.

LULU  
I know.

LEW  
I dreamed about this day every night, Lulu.

LULU  
I wanted to dream about this day every night  
too, Lew, but my mother keeps a tape recorder  
under the bed.

LEW  
I missed you very much, Lulu.

LULU  
I missed you very much too, Lew.

LEW  
Now we can stop missing each other.

LULU

Until my mother comes out of the toilet.

LEW

Will your mother be in the toilet a long time, Lulu?

LULU

Yes Lew, she has been constipated for a month. Will your mother be in the toilet a long time, Lew?

LEW

Yes Lulu, she has also been constipated for a month. I am glad your mother and my mother went to the toilet at the same time on our 20th anniversary.

LULU

Somebody up there likes us.

LEW

Somebody up there knows that we agreed to meet in the stairway every time our mothers went to the toilet at the same time because I live on the 11th floor and you live on the 13th floor of the same housing project and the tenants on the 13th floor discriminate against the tenants on the 11th floor, and my mother would disown me if she found out I was dating somebody from a family who discriminated against us.

LULU

You have to stop holding my hand now, Lew.

LEW

Why, Lulu?

LULU

You remember what happened the last time.

LEW

Yes, Lulu.

(Lets go of her hand)

LULU

Thank you for holding my hand, Lew.

LEW

Thank you for holding my hand too, Lulu.



LULU

Let's get down to some serious business, Lew  
We don't have too much time to waste.

LEW

Okay Lulu.

LULU

(Goes into her shopping bag &  
brings out a table cloth)  
Help me do this Lew.

LEW

Yes Lulu.

(THEY spread table cloth on the  
stairs)

LULU

Then we can sit down and talk, Lew.  
(sits down)

LEW

(LEW goes into his shopping bag &  
brings out a transistor radio)  
And listen to oldies but goodies too, Lulu.  
(turns on the radio)

LULU

Play it very low Lew, we do not want  
anybody to know we are here.

LEW

Yes Lulu.

(Tunes into an oldies but goodies  
station, the Chantels sing, "Who-  
ever You Are")

LULU

Lower it some more, Lew.

LEW

This is as low as it will go.  
If I lower it anymore it will get louder.

LULU

are you sure about that Lew?

LEW

yes Lulu I am positively sure about that

LULU

you know what will happen  
if we get caught on the stairs Lew

LEW  
yes Lulu, I know what will happen

LULU  
My mother will have a heart attack  
And the good lord will take her back  
And I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
The next time the circus comes to town

LEW  
nobody will hear it Lulu,  
I can hardly hear it myself

LULU  
I can hear it loud and clear turn it off

LEW  
don't make me turn the radio off Lulu  
not on our 20th anniversary  
its no fun celebrating without Oldies but Goodies

LULU  
think about my mother Lew

LEW  
she can't hear it Lulu  
she is in the toilet

LULU  
Can't we just talk Lew?

LEW  
please Lulu, not on our 20th anniversary

LULU  
then I guess I have to leave Lew

LEW  
okay Lulu, anything you say Lulu  
(turns off his transistor radio)  
what do you want to talk about Lulu?  
(sits down alongside LULU)

LULU  
anything you want to talk about Lew

LEW  
are you sure about that Lulu?

LULU  
yes Lew

LEW  
okay then, let's talk about the weather



NO LEW  
LULU

YES LULU  
LEW

NO LEW  
LULU

YES LULU  
LEW

NO LEW  
LULU

YES LULU  
LEW

NO NO NO NO NO LEW!  
LULU  
(rises, walks up 3 steps backwards)  
I cannot talk about the weather with you

LEW  
(rises)  
then let's talk about something else

LULU  
(walks back down 3 steps)  
okay Lew, what do you want to talk about?

LEW  
I don't know Lulu  
what do you want to talk about?

LULU  
(sits down)  
anything you want to talk about Lew

LEW  
(sits down)  
let's talk about doing something Lulu

LULU  
what do you want to talk about doing  
that we can not do Lew?

LEW  
I want to put my arms around you Lulu

LULU  
I am very sorry Lew  
but that you definitely cannot do

LEW  
why not Lulu?

LULU  
because my mother examines my clothes  
for male fingerprints, when I take them off  
to go to sleep at night, and should she find any  
you know what will happen Lew

LEW  
yes Lulu I know what will happen

LULU  
My mother will have a heart attack  
And the good lord will take her back  
And I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
The next time the circus comes to town

*Seminario de Drama*  
*Colección*  
*Francisco (Paco) Prado*

LEW  
but I am wearing gloves Lulu

LULU  
you have to touch your gloves to put them on

LEW  
it has been exactly ten million  
five hundred and twenty three thousand seconds

LULU  
I know Lew but there is nothing I can do

LEW  
(rises)  
Listen baby let's get something straight  
I haven't seen you for the longest,  
Today is our 20th anniversary  
And all you are going to let me do is talk to you?  
Man like that is not cool at all ... DIG IT?

LULU  
(rises)  
Lew, you know I do not like to be spoken to  
in that kind of language, either you apologize  
to me immediately, or I will leave immediately

LEW  
forgive me Lulu, it will not happen again

LULU  
cross your heart and hope to die?

LEW  
cross my heart and hope to die.

LULU

if you really love me Lew  
you will be content  
with just talking to me

LEW

I am content with just talking to you Lulu

LULU

I don't believe you Lew

LEW

please do Lulu  
please do Lulu  
please do Lulu  
please do Lulu  
please do Lulu

LULU

okay Lew I believe you  
(sits down)

LEW

do you accept my apologies Lulu?

LULU

yes Lew I accept your apologies

LEW

(LEW goes into his shopping bag  
& brings out a present & gives  
it to LULU)

Happy 20th Anniversary Lulu

LULU

o Lew ...

LEW

unwrap it Lulu, I brought you something  
you have always wanted

(LULU unwraps present excitedly)

LEW (Continued)

you are going to like it very much Lulu

LULU

(finishes unwrapping present)

T. V. DINNERS!

O LEW ... THANK YOU ... VERY MUCH  
(LULU blows LEW a kiss)

LEW

do you like your anniversary present Lulu?

LULU  
yes Lew, that was very nice of you  
(puts down her present & goes  
into her shopping bag & brings  
out a present for LEW)  
Happy 20th Anniversary Lew

LEW  
that's for me Lulu?

LULU  
yes Lew, unwrap it  
and see what I brought for you

LEW  
I can't wait to see what it is  
(starts unwrapping it excitedly)

LULU  
you are going to like it very much Lew

LEW  
(LEW is through unwrapping present  
in a matter of seconds)  
TUNAFISH SANDWICHES!  
O LULU ... THANK YOU ... VERY MUCH  
(LEW blows LULU a kiss)

LULU  
do you like your anniversary present Lew?

LEW  
(sits down)  
yes Lulu, that was very nice of you

LULU  
I have another surprise for you Lew

LEW  
you do Lulu?

LULU  
yes Lew, you can turn your transistor radio on

LEW  
(excited)  
O thank you tremendously Lulu

LULU  
but don't forget to keep it low Lew

LEW  
I will keep it as low as it will go  
(LEW turns on the transistor radio)

LULU  
your anniversary present made me do it

(The Chantels sing "The Closer You  
Are")

LEW  
(rises)  
Can I grind with you Lulu?

LULU  
yes, Lew, but first let's put our presents away  
to be on the safe side

LEW  
will do Lulu

(THEY put presents into their  
shopping bags, 3 packages of  
frozen t.v. dinners & 2 tunafish  
sandwiches)

LULU  
okay Lew I am ready to grind with you

(LULU walks up backwards 3 steps,  
LEW stays where HE is at, THEY  
start grinding without making con-  
tact, simulating THEY are embracing  
EACH OTHER)

LEW  
remember that song Lulu?

LULU  
yes Lew ... it was the song you were humming  
the first time we saw each other  
at the community dentist 20 years ago  
we were both getting a tooth pulled out

LEW  
those were the good old days  
it feels so nice to grind with you Lulu

LULU  
it feels so nice to grind with you too Lew

LEW  
I L-O-V-E you Lulu

LULU  
I L-O-V-E you too Lew

LEW  
I wish I lived on the 13th floor

LULU  
I wish I lived on the 15th floor

LEW  
I wish I lived on the 17th floor



LULU

I wish I lived on the 19th floor

LEW

I wish I lived on the 20th floor

LULU

I wish I lived on the 21st floor

LEW

Lulu can I kiss you without  
fingerprinting you?

LULU

no Lew, the last time I let you do that  
you lost your self control  
and left an obscene stain on my clothes

LEW

did your mother see the stain  
when she came out of the toilet?

LULU

no, I spilled a glass of water on my skirt  
so she will not notice anything

LEW

it will not happen again Lulu

LULU

I am sorry Lew I cannot take any chances

LEW

please Lulu let me kiss you  
it's our 20th anniversary  
let me have just one anniversary kiss

LULU

stop it already Lew!  
there will be enough time for that  
when we get married  
after my mother goes to heaven  
twenty five years from now

(the song ends

THEY stop grinding)

LULU (Continued)

it was nice grinding with you Lew

LEW

it was nice grinding with you too Lulu

LULU  
 get ready Lew I am going to blow you a kiss  
 (LULU blows LEW a kiss, LEW  
 blows LULU a kiss.)

The Paragons sing "Let's Fall In Love")

LEW  
 remember that song Lulu?

LULU  
 yes Lew ... it was the song I was humming  
 the second time we saw each other at the optician  
 ... I remember how we were about to say hello  
 to each other when all of the sudden the eye doctor  
 calls my name to get my eyes examined ...

LEW  
 (interrupting)  
 Lulu I hear somebody coming!

LULU  
 (nervous)  
 oh Lew what do we do?

LEW  
 don't move or say another word  
 (LEW turns off the radio, HE runs  
 up to the top of the stairs &  
 loosens the lightbulb on the ceiling  
 until it is out, HE runs down to the  
 bottom of the stairs & does the same  
 thing very quickly, the stairway is  
 completely dark, footsteps are heard,  
 LEW & LULU hold their breath for a  
 few moments, the footsteps fade out,  
 LEW turns the Lightbulb back on at  
 the bottom of the stairs, then runs up  
 to the top of the stairs & turns the  
 lightbulb back on)

LULU  
 (still nervous)  
 that was close Lew

LEW  
 (returning to LULU)  
 everything is alright now Lulu

LULU  
 no it's not Lew, somebody else might come

LEW  
 don't worry Lulu, if anybody comes again  
 I will turn the lights off again

LULU

we might not be so lucky the next time around  
 ... I am getting out of here Lew before the worst  
 happens, something tells me we are going to  
 get caught if I don't leave right now

LEW

please don't go Lulu  
 we haven't done that thing yet

LULU

well let's hurry up and do it  
 so I can hurry up and get out of here,  
 my mother is not going to stay  
 in the toilet all day you know

LEW

(turns the transistor radio back  
 on, HE goes into his shopping bag  
 & brings out 2 cans of spray paint,  
 hands one to LULU)

are you ready Lulu?

(Frankie Lymon & The Teenagers sing  
 "Why Do Fools Fall In Love")

LULU

there is no more space left on the walls  
 for us to spray paint our names

LEW

I'll fix that Lulu  
 (goes into his shopping bag &  
 brings out a box of powdered soap,  
 a canteen full of water & a sponge)  
 I will make space for us Lulu

LULU

that will take too long Lew

LEW

no it won't Lulu

LULU

Lew if we don't leave right now  
 we are going to get caught ... I know we are,  
 and then the word will spread around the projects  
 and my mother will find out about it  
 and she will have a heart attack  
 and the good lord will take her back  
 and I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
 the next time the circus comes to town

LEW

I'll be through in a few seconds Lulu  
 (opens canteen, wets the sponge,  
 HE then pours powdered soap on it  
 & starts wiping off the graffiti  
 on the wall to make room for "LEW  
 LOVES LULU FOREVER")

LULU

please hurry Lew  
 (SHE looks up & down the stairs  
 nervously)

LEW

I wish the day will come when the tenants  
 on the 13th floor stop discriminating against  
 the tenants on the 11th floor

LULU

I wish that day will come too Lew, but until  
 it does, we have to be very careful

LEW

the tenants on the 13th floor are no better  
 than the tenants on the 11th floor

LULU

I know that too Lew but what can I do?

LEW

try to make them understand how wrong they are

LULU

that I cannot do Lew  
 because if I start protesting  
 my mother will get suspicious

LEW

history is on our side Lulu

LULU

will you do less talking and more wiping  
 my mother should be coming out of the toilet  
 very soon

LEW

Lulu if we do not talk about it, we will never  
 come across a solution to the problem

LULU

the solution to the problem will come  
 twenty five years from now when my Mother goes  
 to heaven ... then and only then will we be able  
 to be together on earth, and if you cannot wait  
 that long then marry somebody from your own floor  
 I do not want you to bring up that conversation again

(The Penguins Sing "Earth Angel")

LEW  
 forgive me Lulu, I will not bring up  
 that conversation ever again as long as I live

LULU  
 you better not Lew,  
 if you want me  
 to keep going steady with you

LEW  
 (excitedly)  
 Lulu I am through  
 (stops wiping)

LULU  
 very good Lew, Let's hurry up, there is  
 no time to waste

LEW  
 (HE goes into shopping bag & brings  
 out a dry rag, HE dries wet space  
 HE was wiping)  
 we are ready to do our thing Lulu!

LULU  
 O Lew I am so excited!

LEW  
 (picks up his can of spray paint)  
 This is the moment I've waited for  
 (HE spray paints a capital "L"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "E"  
 HE spray paints a capital "W")

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LULU  
 O Lew this is very romantic  
 (SHE spray paints a Capital "L"  
 HE spray paints a Capital "O"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "V"  
 HE spray paints a capital "E"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "S")

LEW  
 O Lulu this is too much  
 (SHE spray paints a capital "L"  
 HE spray paints a capital "U"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "L"  
 HE spray paints a capital "U")

LULU  
 O Lulu this is out of sight  
 (SHE spray paints a capital "F"  
 HE spray paints a capital "O"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "R"  
 HE spray paints a capital "E"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "V"  
 HE spray paints a capital "E"  
 SHE spray paints a capital "R")

LULU  
O Lew we look so good together on the walls

LEW  
we sure do Lulu  
let's drink to our work of art Lulu

LULU  
that sounds like a swell idea Lew,  
hand me the canteen

(The Ronnettes Sing "Be My Baby")

LEW  
I wasn't talking about water Lulu

LULU  
what were you talking about Lew?

LEW  
something more interesting Lulu

LULU  
like what Lew?

LEW  
(goes into his shopping bag & brings  
out a bottle of Sangria)  
like this Lulu, I brought it to celebrate  
our 20th anniversary

LULU  
I am very sorry Lew  
I cannot drink hard liquor with you  
my mother will smell it on my breath  
when she comes out of the toilet

LEW  
this is not hard liquor Lulu

LULU  
did you buy that bottle in the liquor store?

LEW  
yes Lulu, but this is not hard liquor,  
it tastes just like fruit punch

LULU  
I don't care what it tastes like  
if you brought it in a liquor store  
it's hard liquor and I cannot have any

LEW  
but it's our 20th anniversary

LULU  
that is no excuse to get intoxicated

LEW  
this will not get you intoxicated

LULU  
my mother told me that anything that comes  
from a liquor store will get you intoxicated

LEW  
that is not true Lulu

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LULU  
Lew you put that bottle back  
into the shopping bag immediately  
and those cans of spray paint too  
before somebody comes and catches us  
and thinks we are having an orgy here  
and spreads the word around the projects  
and my mother finds out about it  
and she will have a heart attack  
and the good lord will take her back  
and I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
the next time the circus comes to town

*Colección*

*Francisco (Paco) Prado*

LEW  
(dejected)  
ah man I can never have any fun with you Lulu

LULU  
Lew is you want to drink that bad  
drink with a girl from your own floor

LEW  
okay Lulu anything you say Lulu  
(puts bottle & graffiti tools  
inside shopping bag)

LULU  
I really have to go now Lew  
my mother should be using the toiletpaper  
any minute now

LEW  
Lulu, will you share my anniversary present with me?

LULU  
why yes Lew, I am crazy about tunafish

LEW  
(goes into his shopping bag &  
brings out the 2 tunafish sand-  
wiches LULU gave to him for an  
anniversary present)  
here Lulu

LULU

thank you very much Lew  
 that is very nice of you  
 (starts eating the sandwich real  
 quickly.

The Five Satins Sing "In The Still  
 Of The Night")

LEW

LULU DO YOU HEAR THAT?

LULU

(stops eating)  
 what's wrong Lew, is there somebody coming?

LEW

no Lulu, they are playing the song that brought  
 us together at the Nose and Throat Clinic,  
 Remember? fate had given us laryngitis together

LULU

I remember with fond memories  
 you finally got the courage to rap to me  
 you told me everything about you

LEW

and you told me everything about you

LULU

but since we had laryngitis  
 when the conversation ended  
 we knew nothing about each other

LEW

we did not see each other again  
 for the next three million  
 six hundred and fifty thousand seconds

LULU

when our mothers finally went  
 to the toilet at the same time

LEW

Lulu we have to grind to this record  
 there are no two ways about it

LULU

okay Lew, but after this record  
 I really have to get going

LEW

let's grind closer this time Lulu



LULU

okay Lew, but not too close

(LEW & LULU put down their sandwiches on the table cloth & start grinding 2 steps away from EACH OTHER this time)

LULU (Continued)

O Lew it feels so good to grind with you

LEW

it feels good to grind with you too Lulu

(grinding away simulating HE has LULU in his arms)

Lulu remember the time your mother and my mother had diarrhea simultaneously? we grinded everyday that week

LULU

yes Lew I remember when we get married 25 years from now after my mother is safe in Heaven we can grind with our arms around each other

LEW

O Lulu everytime you mention the sacred word marriage I have sweet visions of you and I walking down the aisle you in a white wedding dress and me in a black tuxedo it is raining all the flowers the world has to offer true lovers butterflies escort the guests to a cathedral in the sky we say I do before we reach the altar the priest closes the bible and pronounces us husband and wife when we kiss each other's lips all the guests learn how to fly the sky recruits new clouds ...

LULU

(stops grinding, SHE is super uptight)  
stop it already Lew  
you are getting an erection!  
if somebody comes down  
or goes up the stairs  
and sees you in that condition  
they will think we were having intercourse

LULU (Continued)

and spread the word around the projects  
and my Mother will have a heart attack  
and the good lord will take her back  
and I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
the next time the circus comes to town

LEW

forgive me for getting an erection Lulu

LULU

just for that I am leaving right this minute

LEW

let's finish eating my anniversary present  
and then leave, please Lulu

(picks up his sandwich & hands  
LULU hers)

LULU

I lost my appetite

LEW

(takes a bite of his anniversary  
present)

WOW LULU! you make the best tunafish sandwich  
in the whole wide world

LULU

(feels complimented)

you really like it Lew?

LEW

I do Lulu, you will make the perfect wife

(The Dells Sing "Oh What A Night")

LULU

thank you very much Lew  
(sits down)

LEW

(takes another bite of his sand-  
wich)

this is really delicious

LULU

I guess I can finish my sandwich  
before my mother comes out of the toilet

LEW

I wish someday your mother and my mother  
will go to the toilet and stay there forever  
so you and I can always be together

LULU

(rises)

Lew how dare you say that about my mother?

LEW

forgive me Lulu, I will not say that again

LULU

you better never ever say anything like that to me again, if you want us to keep going steady

LEW

I promise you I won't Lulu

LULU

that remark made me lose my appetite

LEW

there is nothing that anybody can say or do to make me lose my appetite when I am eating one of your delicious nutritious mouth-watering incomparable tunafish sandwiches

LULU

(feels complimented)

O Lew you say the nicest things

LEW

will you finish sharing my anniversary present with me Lulu?

LULU

yes Lew

(continues eating her sandwich quickly)

LEW

don't eat so fast Lulu

LULU

I have to hurry, my mother should be coming out of the toilet any minute now

LEW

you will get stomach cramps if you eat too fast

LULU

I'd rather get stomach cramps than you have my mother get a heart attack  
(continues eating quickly.)

Little Anthony and the Imperials  
Sing "Just Two People in the World")

LEW  
LULU, THEY ARE PLAYING IT!

LULU  
(Almost drops her sandwich)  
Don't do that again, Lew.  
You almost made me choke on your  
anniversary present.

LEW  
Forgive me Lulu for losing control, but ...

LULU  
(Interrupts as SHE becomes aware  
of the song being played)  
LEW, THEY ARE PLAYING IT!

LEW  
The first song we grinded to.

LULU  
The first date we had on the stairs.

LEW  
20 years ago.

LULU  
Today.

LEW  
This calls for an emergency grind.

LULU  
Okay Lew, but I will have to eat while I grind.

LEW  
Can we grind much closer  
for this very special occasion, Lulu?

LULU  
Okay Lew, but be careful not to make contact.

(LEW puts his sandwich down on  
the tablecloth, LULU keeps hers,  
THEY grind one step away from  
EACH OTHER this time, LEW & LULU  
sing along with Little Anthony and  
the Imperials)

LEW & LULU  
Boy meets girl  
And love begins  
Oh what a feeling  
You get from within

LEW

For I should know  
 'Cause I been in love  
 I'm the boy  
 You're the girl  
 From the stars up above.

(LULU takes a bite from her sandwich)

LEW &amp; LULU

Just two kinds of people  
 In the world  
 Why can't we fall in love?

LULU

Fall in love-ove

LEW &amp; LULU

Just two kinds of people  
 In the world  
 made of a boy and girl

LULU

Boy and ... LEW I HEAR FOOTSTEPS!!

(LEW goes through the same changes HE went through the first time THEY heard footsteps ... the stairway is completely dark, there is total silence, LEW & LULU hold their breath, the footsteps fade out in a matter of seconds, LEW turns the lightbulb on at the bottom of the stairs, then runs up to the top of the stairs & turns the lightbulb there back on)

LULU (Continued)

(very nervous)

See you later Alligator

LEW

(rejoins LULU, notices her sandwich is gone)

did you drop your sandwich in the dark?

LULU

no, I ate it in the dark

LEW

(looks around for his, finds it flattened out by footprints)

MY ANNIVERSARY PRESENT HAS BEEN STEPPED ON!

LULU

I have to leave Lew, my mother should be coming out of the toilet any minute now

LEW

WHERE'S MY TRANSISTOR RADIO???

(looks around for it, does not find it)

MY TRANSISTOR RADIO HAS BEEN STOLEN!!

LULU

I really have to leave now Lew if my mother doesn't find me home when she comes out of the toilet she will have a heart attack and the good lord will ...

LEW

My anniversary present gets stepped on My transistor radio gets stolen and all you can think about is your mother coming out of the toilet?

LULU

No Lew, there is something else ... don't forget to wipe our names off the walls nobody must know we are going steady

LEW

Lulu how can you be so cold?

LULU

get off the table cloth so I can fold it and put it in the shopping bag

LEW

(gets off the table cloth)

may I help you fold the table cloth Lulu?

LULU

yes you may Lew

(THEY fold table cloth together, LULU puts table cloth into her shopping bag, SHE starts to walk up the stairs)

LEW

Lulu please wait until after I wipe our names off the walls, you know how sentimental we both get when I wipe our names off the wall, please don't let me get sentimental all by myself, please don't!

LULU

I don't have time

LEW

there's still time Lulu, your mother has to wash her hands before coming out of the toilet, right?

LULU

okay, but make it quick, my mother doesn't take all day to wash her hands

LEW

(takes out the sponge and powdered soap & canteen out of his shopping bag, HE opens canteen, wets sponge, pours powdered soap on it, & starts wiping off "LEW LOVES LULU FOREVER" from the wall)

I hope it will not be another ten million five hundred and twenty three thousand seconds before I see you again

LULU

we will meet again when my mother and your mother go to the toilet at the same time like they did today

LEW

I will say a special prayer tonight so that they can go to the toilet tomorrow at the same exact time again

LULU

if it's God's will that my mother and your mother go to the toilet at the same time tomorrow, then Let It Be, if it is not, then it will not be, and there is nothing that you and I can do about it

LEW

Lulu I cannot wait another ten million five hundred and twenty three thousand seconds to see you again

LULU

if I can do it, you can do it too Lew

LEW

Lulu I don't care if my mother finds out that I am madly in L-O-V-E with you and you shouldn't care if your mother finds out

LULU

it's easy for you to say that, living on the 11th floor, your mother wouldn't mind at ALL if you married somebody from a higher floor

LEW

(still wiping)

yes she will! my mother wants me to marry somebody  
from my own floor, not somebody from a higher floor,

LULU

would your mother be happy  
if you married somebody from a lower floor?

LEW

no, she wouldn't

LULU

so there you have it,  
there is no sense in arguing the point  
any further

LEW

but if I was madly in L-O-V-E  
with somebody from a lower floor  
I will marry them at the risk  
of being disowned by my mother

LULU

well I wouldn't because I love my mother  
very much

LEW

Lulu I love you more than I love my mother

LULU

I love my mother more than I love anybody  
or anything in this whole wide world

LEW

(still wiping)

listen Lulu just because you live on the 13th floor  
and I live on the 11th floor doesn't make you  
any better than me! The bible says that everybody  
is created equal regardless of what floor they  
live on

LULU

I never said I was better than you  
all I am saying is that my mother will never  
allow me to marry somebody from a lower floor,  
she doesn't even want me to marry somebody  
from my own floor, she prefers that I marry  
somebody from the 19th floor or 20th floor  
and if possible the 21st floor

LEW

(finishes wiping off "LEW LOVES LULU  
FOREVER")

it was good while it lasted



LULU

the day will come when we will be able to leave  
"LEW LOVES LULU FOREVER" on the wall forever

LEW

we might be too old to lift up  
the can of spray paint by then

LULU

that is a ridiculous thing to say Lew

LEW

Lulu I am 35 years old  
and you are 35 years old  
we are old enough to make  
our own decisions, it's time  
to come out of the stairway  
and let everybody know  
we love each other madly

LULU

Lew my mother did not come to this world  
for me to give her a heart attack

LEW

and you did not come to this world  
to be walked around on a leash by your mother

LULU

how can you talk like that to me Lew

LEW

because it's true Lulu  
your mother goes with you everywhere you go  
when you are awake and asleep,  
your mother goes with you downstairs  
your mother goes with you upstairs  
your mother goes with you to work  
your mother goes with you to the supermarket  
your mother goes with you to the beauty parlor  
your mother goes with you to the movies  
your mother goes with you to sunday school  
your mother goes with you to open the mailbox  
your mother goes with you to look out the window  
your mother goes ...

LULU

Lew, your mother follows you around everywhere too  
she never takes her eyes off of you  
and you know that is true

LEW

it's true Lulu, my mother is overprotective with me  
but not as overly overprotective as your mother  
is with you Lulu and you know that is true

LULU

Lew I do not want to talk about it anymore,  
I have to leave now, this time there are  
no two ways about it  
(starts walking upstairs, carrying  
shopping bag)

LEW

LULU WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GROW UP?

LULU

(stops walking upstairs)  
I am grown up.

LEW

if you was grown up  
you will not have to wait until your mother  
goes to the toilet to see me

LULU

(Faces LEW)  
Lew, I am the only living relative my mother has  
And she is the only living relative I have,  
I will never do anything to hurt her feelings

LEW

don't you care anything about my feelings

LULU

if you really love me  
you will wait until my mother goes to heaven  
to be together with me here on earth

LEW

I am tired of waiting  
for your mother to go to heaven  
so we can be together on earth  
I am tired of waiting  
for my mother and your mother  
to go to the toilet simultaneously  
so we can meet in the stairway  
I am tired of counting  
up to ten million five hundred  
and twenty three thousand  
I am tired of drinking water  
on our indispensable dates  
We are old enough to drink Sangria  
I am tired of holding my breath  
everytime somebody goes up  
or comes down the stairs  
I am tired of making love to you  
in the bedroom of my mind  
it's depressing and unsanitary

LEW (Continued)

I am tired of sleeping by myself  
 with only my pillow to embrace  
 it's detrimental to my heart  
 I am tired of being unable  
 to participate in your dreams  
 because your mother keeps  
 a tape recorder under your bed  
 I am tired of waiting  
 I am tired of waiting  
 the winter of our existence  
 is right around the corner  
 25 years from now your breasts will fall  
 and I will be completely bald  
 the future will not exist for us.  
 and loving you without making love to you  
 is the epitome of total madness  
 if we really love each other  
 we will be together regardless  
 of what happens to our mothers  
 we will live happily everafter  
 we will never be too sad  
 to laugh at the clowns  
 when the circus comes to town

LULU

(nervous)

Lew I hear somebody urinating on the stairs  
 (rejoins LEW)

LEW

it sounds like it's coming  
 from one of the higher floors

LULU

no it doesn't, it sounds like it's coming  
 from one of the lower floors

LEW

shhhhh ... they might hear us

(there are a few moments of  
 silence)

LEW (Continued)

I think they finished

LULU

I have to get out of here immediately

LEW

wait a few more minutes  
 to make sure the coast is clear  
 you know how some people  
 like to stare at their urine

LULU

that doesn't matter to me  
because it was somebody on a lower floor  
and I am going to a higher floor  
(starts up the stairs, carrying  
shopping bag)

LEW

LULU WAIT! I have a solution to the problem

LULU

(stops, faces LEW)  
what problem?

LEW

the problem of us not seeing  
each other more often

LULU

(interested)  
what is it?

LEW

the solution to the problem is Ex Lax

LULU

EX LAX??

LEW

yes Ex Lax, it's the only way  
we can get our mothers to go  
to the toilet at the same time

LULU

Lew have you gone crazy?  
That is a SIN! and you know it

LEW

no it's not a sin, there is no commandment in the bible  
that says "Thou Shalt Not Give Thy Father  
And Mother A Laxative"

LULU

Lew if you ever suggest that idea again  
I will terminate our relationship

LEW

I'm willing to give my mother a laxative  
to see you more often, why can't you do the same?

LULU

if you want to give your mother a laxative  
then you go right ahead and do it  
I love my mother too much to ever do anything  
that horrible to her

LEW

the only way your mother and my mother  
will take a shit at the same time  
will be if we give them a laxative

LULU

MY MOTHER DOESN'T TAKE A SHIT!  
MY MOTHER MOVES HER BOWELS!  
my mother is right about you people  
from the lower floors

LEW

no she isn't!

LULU

yes she is! I am sure that if you lived on a higher floor  
the indecent thought of spiking your mother's coffee with Ex Lax  
will never enter your mind, you are a victim of circumstances

LEW

I am a victim of the love I feel for you

LULU

o Lew you always say the nicest things

LEW

Lulu you are the nicest things

LULU

you are the nicest things too Lew

LEW

Lulu let's elope

LULU

no Lew, that I can never do with you

LEW

please stay with me a few more minutes Lulu  
please please PLEASE PLEASE please!!

LULU

Lew the last time my mother came out  
of the toilet and did not find me home  
she punished me. she made me go to  
the toilet with her everytime she had  
to move her bowels for the next 3 months,  
I do not want to go through that ordeal again

LEW

Lulu will you at least stay to listen  
to a poem I wrote for our 20th anniversary  
I was saving it for last

LULU  
okay Lew, but make it a quickie

LEW

(reads)  
"Some people read  
The New York Times  
Some people read  
The Daily News  
I do not read  
neither one of the two  
because I am too busy  
Thinking about you"

LULU

O Lew that was beautiful  
(blows him another kiss)  
see you soon I hope  
(starts walking upstairs)

LEW

goodbye forever Lulu  
I am going to commit suicide

LULU

(stops walking, faces LEW)  
that is not going to solve anything

LEW

it will put a stop to my suffering

LULU

Lew you are not going to commit suicide  
you are just saying that to make me  
feel sorry for you  
(starts walking upstairs)

LEW

I swear by my mother I am serious  
about committing suicide

LULU

(stops, walks down a few steps, back-  
wards, faces LEW, there is a frightened  
expression on her face)  
O my God you are serious!  
nobody swears by their mother  
about doing something like that  
if they were not serious

LEW

for every dream that doesn't come true  
a dreamer is reporting missing

*Drama*

*colección*

*Francisco (Paco) Prado*

LEW (Continued)

the whole wide world becomes unreal  
 calendars lose their memory  
 the incorrect time becomes correct  
 you turn your back on the hours of daylight  
 you learn how to tremble in the dark  
 you talk to yourself without saying a word  
 you and your shadow become total strangers  
 you crack your skull walking through walls  
 you become catatonic looking at yourself  
 melting slowly inside a glass mirror  
 and the ground you stand on turns into smoke  
 as you float upsidedown inside your head  
 sinking into the definition of loneliness

LULU

O Lew that sounded so poetic

LEW

will you change your mind about eloping?

LULU

no Lew, I can't elope with you

LEW

then I guess this is the end of the road  
 for me, there is no use continuing

LULU

Lew if 25 years is too long for you to wait for me  
 then that means that you do not love me  
 and have never loved me at all, you were just  
 trying to get into my drawers  
 because I live on a higher floor than you do  
 how are you going to commit suicide Lew?

LEW

I am going to hold my breath  
 until it's all over  
 farewell forever Lulu my love  
 maybe in the hereafter  
 everybody lives on the same floor  
 (LEW starts holding his breath)

LULU

(nervous & frightened)

No Lew, don't do it!  
 Nobody is worth killing yourself for  
 regardless on what floor they live on

(LEW keeps holding his breath)

LULU (Continued)

Lew I love you very much  
 please don't commit suicide

(LEW keeps holding his breath)

LULU (Continued)

Lew I will never love anybody else but you

(LEW keeps holding his breath)

LULU (Continued)

Lew without you I will be lost

(LEW keeps holding his breath, his cheeks begin to puff up)

LULU (Continued)

LEW YOU ARE TURNING BLUE!

(HE looks like HE's about to faint)

LULU (Continued)

(panics)

STOP IT LEW

STOP IT LEW

STOP IT LEW

I LOVE YOU

I LOVE YOU

I LOVE YOU

PLEASE LEW!

(she punches LEW hard in the stomach, LEW lets out a triple mouthful of air)

LEW

(angry)

why did you have to punch me for?  
why didn't you let me commit suicide?

LULU

because I want to marry you Lew

LEW

(surprised and excited)

you do Lulu? you really do?

LULU

yes Lew I really do want to marry you

LEW

you are not pulling my leg Lulu?

LULU

no Lew, I am not pulling your leg

LEW

O Lulu I can't believe this is true



it is true Lew  
 LULU  
 LEW  
 can you repeat it one more time  
 so I can be sure I am not hearing things  
 LULU  
 I want to marry you Lew  
 LEW  
 (Jumps up And down excitedly)  
 YIPPPPPPEEEEE!!!!  
 LULU  
 Shhh -- do you want to marry me too Lew?  
 LEW  
 I do Lulu  
 I do Lulu  
 I do Lulu  
 I do Lulu  
 I do do do Lulu  
 LULU  
 I want a big wedding Lew  
 LEW  
 we will have the biggest wedding  
 these housing projects have ever seen  
 LULU  
 where are we going for our honeymoon Lew?  
 LEW  
 to Niagara Falls of course  
 LULU  
 O Lew I am so happy I could cry  
 LEW  
 me too Lulu  
 me too Lulu  
 me too Lulu  
 me too Lulu  
 me too too too Lulu  
 LULU  
 I L-O-V-E You Lew  
 LEW  
 I L-O-V-E You too Lulu  
 LULU  
 you will make the perfect husband

*Seminario de Drama*

*Celebración*

*Francisco (Paco) Prado*

LEW

and you will make the perfect wife  
 (holds LULU's hand)  
 when do you want to get married Lulu  
 In the Summer?  
 In the Winter?  
 In the Autumn?  
 Or in the Spring?

LULU

I want to be a June Bride

LEW

How soon in June do you want to get married?

LULU

25 years from now, after my Mother goes  
 to heaven

LEW

(lets go of her hand)  
 You Tricked Me Lulu!

LULU

No I didn't Lew

LEW

yes you did Lulu,  
 I thought you wanted to marry me this year  
 not 25 years from now

LULU

Lew you know I cannot marry you this year  
 it has to be 25 years from now  
 after my Mother goes to heaven  
 because if I marry you before that  
 My mother will have a heart attack  
 and the good lord will take her back  
 and I will be too sad to laugh at the clowns  
 The next time the circus comes to town

LEW

(disappointed)  
 the next time the circus comes to town  
 the next time the circus comes to town  
 all you ever worry about is being too sad  
 to laugh at the clowns ... F-U-C-K the circus  
 I hope it never comes around again

LULU

(shocked)  
 LEW YOU BLEW IT! WE ARE THROUGH!

LEW

please forgive me Lulu  
I did not know what I was saying  
my mind went completely blank

LULU

the first thing I said to you  
when we first started going steady  
was that if you used profane language  
in front of me it will be quits

LEW

I didn't use profane Language Lulu  
I spelled it

LULU

it makes no difference

LEW

please don't leave me Lulu!  
I promise to wait until your mother  
goes to heaven 25 years from now  
to be together with you on earth

LULU

(turns around faces LEW)  
you promise never to use profane language  
in front of me or away from me again

LEW

I promise Lulu

LULU

(starts walking towards LEW slowly)  
you promise to never again suggest  
that I give my mother a laxative to see you  
more often?

LEW

I promise

LULU

you. promise to never again complain  
about meeting me inbetween the 13th and  
the 12th floor anymore?

LEW

I promise

LULU

(getting closer to LEW)  
you promise to never bring hard liquor  
on any more of our dates?

I promise  
LEW

LULU  
(getting closer & closer to LEW)  
you promise not to get tired  
of counting up to ten million five hundred  
and twenty three thousand seconds?

I promise  
LEW

LULU  
(a few steps away from LEW)  
you promise to buy a new transistor radio

I promise  
LEW

LULU  
you promise to never again  
attempt to commit suicide?

I promise  
LEW

LULU  
you promise to stop complaining about the way  
we have to grind for the time being

I promise  
LEW

LULU  
(her face gets closer to LEW's face)  
you promise to wait patiently  
until my mother and your mother  
go to the toilet simultaneously  
to move their bowels, for us to meet?

I promise  
LEW

(LULU brings her lips close to LEW's  
lips, THEY are about to kiss EACH  
OTHER.

At that same exact moment the sound  
of a toilet being flushed is heard  
... LULU abruptly moves away from  
LEW ... )

LULU  
Lew I just heard a toilet being flushed,  
I have to get out of here at once

LEW  
 don't go Lulu, that could've been  
 the toilet from my bathroom

LULU  
 no, it was the toilet from my bathroom  
 I recognize the sound it makes when it's flushed  
 (blows LEW a kiss)  
 til our mothers go to the toilet again  
 on the same day at the same time  
 (starts walking upstairs backwards)  
 TOODLE-OO, LEW

LEW  
 (blows LULU is kiss, tries to speak  
 but just says:)  
 TU-TU-LU LULU

(LULU turns around & rushes up the  
 stairs with her shopping bag, SHE  
 is out of sight in a matter of  
 seconds. LEW stares into space  
 dejectedly for a few painful seconds  
 ... HE goes into his shopping bag &  
 brings out the Sangria, HE takes a  
 long drink, then picks up his shopping  
 bag & starts walking down the stairs,  
 when HE gets to the bottom, HE opens  
 the door and disappears into the  
 hallway)

THE END

*Seminario de Teología  
 Colección  
 Francisco (Paco) Pr...*

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