

LIANNA (2)

LIANNA has moved out of the house she shared with her ex-husband Dick. She has her own apartment; it's very tiny and spare. She's gotten a job checking groceries. She hasn't been able to see her children often; Dick is making it difficult for her. She also hasn't seen a lot of her lover; Ruth has been out of town. LIANNA knows that Ruth is seeing her former lover and trying to decide to whom she will commit. She has been alone a lot and it's been hard for her, adjusting all by herself. She's known JERRY for many years; he's a faculty member like her ex-husband, teaching film studies. He's lovable and he cares for her but he's also a bit of a Casanova, and she knows that.

INTERIOR. LIANNA'S APARTMENT – NIGHT

LIANNA is sitting in her apartment, alone, reading a book. There is a knock at the door. She goes to answer it. It's JERRY.

JERRY: Hi, gorgeous.

LIANNA: Jerry! Come in!

J: Hi, how're you doing?

L: Fine.

J: Hey, you've done a real nice job in here.

L: Thanks. Take a seat.

J: Which one?

L: Would you like a beer or something?

J: Yeah, a beer'd be great. I'm not interrupting anything, am I?

L: Nah, I was just reading.

J: Reading...oh yeah, those funny little lines on paper, what they had before film? What're you reading?

L: The Well of Loneliness.

J: Sounds like a riot. How much do you pay for this?

L: Too much. Two seventy five without utilities. I was kinda pressed for time. (she hands him a beer)

J: Thank you. So. How's it been?

L: Not too bad. I've been, uh, a little lonely lately...

J: I felt it in my bones. That's why I came over.

L: You could make a living with bones like that.

J: Get much sun in here?

L: In the afternoon. It's nice. In the morning it comes in through my bedroom window.

J: Good, I like that.

L: What?

J: I said, I like that. It's a nice way to wake up.

L: Oh.

J: Have you been, uh, seeing anybody since – you and Dick had your falling out?

L: If you're asking, did I leave him for somebody – no. Not really. Should've done it a long time ago.

J: Good.

L: Jerry! Are you intimating what I think you are?

J: I don't intimate, Lianna, you know that. I'd love to sleep with you.

L: You don't waste any time, do you?

J: Well, I figure it's been a while since you and Dick split, and you said there wasn't another guy involved...You're a grown, healthy woman, and I figured I'd come over and –

L: – help me out? Like the Welcome Wagon?

J: Sorry if I came at you a little sudden, but...my technique must be getting ragged. I really like you, and I wanted to –

L: I'm not interested in you, Jerry. Not at all. Okay?

J: Sure. The Welcome Wagon knows when it's not welcome.

L: Of course you're welcome. I'm really glad to see you. I just – don't want to sleep with you. Okay?

J: Okay.

L: So how are your courses going? Have any of your students finished their films?

J: Oh, they're fine. Yeah. As a matter of fact, I – I should probably go help in the cutting room tonight. I've uh, got, uh –

L: I thought you were all set to spend the night.

J: Well, I've got this kid, she's a bit of a loose wind, she could use a hand, so –

L: Jerry, you don't have to –

J: I'm sorry, I – I made a mistake.

L: Good night, Jerry.  
He heads for the door.

J: I'll see you around, okay? Um, Dick gave me your number – I'll give you a call.

L: Good night.

J: Take care.  
He leaves.