

LIVING TOGETHER 2 Annie + Norman

Norman comes in with a saucepan

Norman Er—oh.

Annie On the wall. Over the draining-board, there's a hook.

Norman A hook. Right. Everyone gone to bed?

Annie Yes.

Norman It's too bad, you know, I'm slaving away out there. Ruth gone to bed?

Annie Yes. She said you're welcome to join her.

Norman Oh.

Annie Which I think is very reasonable of her, really. I'm not sure I'd be as generous.

Norman You've really gone off me, haven't you?

Annie Just a bit, Norman, yes.

Norman What can I do?

Annie I think we don't talk about it. I think we just keep out of each other's way. You'll be going home tomorrow morning then we can forget all about it.

Norman I was going to take you away, you know.

Annie I don't want to talk about it, Norman.

Norman I would have done. I was ready. I had it all planned. It was you.

You said . . .

Annie (*going to pick up her shoes*) Good night, Norman. (*She goes to the door*)

Norman Annie. Just a second, please . . .

Annie (*turning*) Good night.

Norman I didn't mean to mess it up for you and Tom, I really didn't.

Annie That's all right. You didn't.

Norman But he's gone off.

Annie I did that myself.

Norman Then why are you blaming me for it?

Annie Because as I say, Norman, I feel like I've been taking part in one of Reg's games. Only in this case, you and Ruth are making up all the rules as you go along.

Norman What's Ruth got to do with it? She would never have known.

Annie Until you phoned her.

Norman I only phoned her when you changed your mind. I got drunk. I was unhappy. Oh, Annie, I wanted this week-end for you. I wanted it to be . . .

Annie An act of charity.

Norman What?

Annie Nor do I like you discussing me in the kitchen with Sarah. Making out you'd taken pity on me, for God's sake.

Norman Who told you that?

Annie Sarah told me. If you want a secret kept don't tell Sarah in future.

Norman I only said that to calm her down. You know what Sarah's like. Gets all het up . . .

Annie I'm going to have an early night, Norman, I'm off.

Norman I was really looking forward to our week-end, you know.

Annie So was I.

Norman Sorry.

Annie Not all your fault.

Norman Another time, eh?

Annie Not on your life.

Norman (*sitting on the settee arm*) Oh. If I booked early enough, I could perhaps get us into Hastings next year.

Annie Oh, Norman.

Norman I mean, not that there's anything wrong with East Grinstead but . . .

Annie Good night.

Norman Annie. (*He falls back on the settee, looking up at her*)

Annie (*coming back into the room*) What?

Norman Can I kiss you good night?

Annie No.

Norman Can I kiss you good-bye then? Please.

Annie Norman. You are definitely evil.

Norman I love you.

Annie No.

Norman Kiss?

Annie Not until you take that back.

Norman What?

Annie That you love me. It's not true. Don't say it.

Norman All right. I don't love you. Can I have a kiss, please?

Annie Okay. Come on.

Norman hesitates

Come and get it if you want it.

Norman Don't say it like that.

Annie Well, how am I supposed to say it?

Norman Well. Nicely. Like you did at Christmas.

Annie All right. Kiss me, Norman.

Norman No.

Annie What?

Norman Come over here, first. On our rug.

Annie Now don't you start that.

Norman No, no. Just a kiss. Promise.

Annie I don't trust you.

Norman Look, I'm holding a saucepan.

Annie What's that got to do with it?

Norman I've only got one hand.

Annie I seem to remember you can do a lot with one hand.

Norman Promise.

Annie Just one kiss.

Norman Yes.

Annie (*moving to him*) Good night and good-bye, Norman.

They kiss. A little longer than Annie had planned. Norman's saucepan flails in the air