

Pizza Man

J; Alice, could you get the phone? Alice, the phone! Could you get the damn phone!! Why didn't you answer the phone? Alice?

Hello? Oh God. Hello, Mother? How are you? No, I'm fine, Mom. I was in the bedroom changing. No, I'm not going out tonight. Is that why you called? I know it's Friday night, Mother. And it's a 'convenient' night to go out. But I just want to spend a nice quiet evening at home. I realize life is short. But Mom I'm only staying home this one Friday night! Mother, I can't deal with this right now. I have to go. Sarah Bernhardt just came home. Please. Nothing dramatic.

A; I don't want to live

J; Should I sit down for this.

A; A woman puts her whole heart and soul into a relationship. And what does it get her?

J; I hate to ask.

A; A pocketful of heartaches!

J; A pocketful of heartaches.

A; I did everything for that man. I gave him my life for thirteen months. I went to stupid hockey games with him. I went to cheap and sordid motels. I lost weight for him! And how does he repay me?

J; I give up.

A; He went back to his wife!

J; Oh brother.

A; Is there anything to eat?

J; Hold it. Wait a minute. Did you have dinner?

A; Twice.

J; I'm not going to let you do this to yourself. You've lost 25 pounds in

four months and I'm not going to watch you gain it back in one night.

A; But I'm depressed!

J; You always eat when you get depressed and then you get depressed because you ate. And then you eat again. Within a month you'll be back in queen size pantyhose.

A; At least I'm not an alcoholic.

J; Don't attack me because you're upset.

A; That isn't apple juice, is it?

J; It's a before dinner drink.

A; You smell like you've had at least four dinners.

J; We were supposed to eat an hour ago. I'm not going to eat alone.

A; Why not? You drink alone.

J; Look, don't start. It was very pleasant before you came home.

A; Fine! Maybe I'll leave!

J; Fine. Leave!

A; Fine. I will!

J; Fine. Go!

A; OK FINE!!

(She goes, Julie goes after her, opens the door, she's standing there)

J/A; I'm sorry.

A; I'm so depressed. He went back to his wife! Do you believe that? He's been telling me for over a year how much he loves me and then he goes back to his wife! I hope he has a stroke, the sonofabitch. Jerry went back to his wife!

J; I heard.

A; Who'd you hear it from? Did he call? Did he call me?

J; You. You just told me.

A; I don't know what I'm saying I'm so depressed. I have to eat. I can't cope with this.

(she goes to the kitchen)

J; (to the heavens) Not tonight. Please. I won't make it through the night.

A; THERE'S NOTHING TO EAT IN HERE!! What happened to all the food? You were supposed to go to the store today.

J; I was?

A; I gave you my twenty dollars this morning. You said you wanted to do the shopping because I always buy diet food.

J; I did?

A; You said that if you ever saw another rye crisp again you'd beat it to a pulp.

J; I forgot.

A; You forgot to go shopping?

J; I guess.

A; Terrific. I *need* food! I can't suffer on an empty stomach!

J; Have a beer.

A; Beer?

J; Or wine. There's some Spanada in the refrigerator.

A; (goes to the kitchen, comes back with all the booze) Are we having a party tonight?

J; I'm not.

A; Why do we have all this? Where's my twenty dollars?

J; Did you give me twenty dollars?

A; Did you spend my twenty dollars on this?

J; I think so.

A; What's that mean?

J; Yes! Yes I did!

A; Are you drunk?

J; I'm getting there

A; Wonderful. My whole world explodes in my face and the one night I need someone to lean on to tell my troubles to and you decide to fall apart!

J; God help me if I ever have a problem and need your help.

A; You are the most together person I know. You never have problems. It's disgusting.

J: Just because I don't run around telling the world I've got problems doesn't mean I don't have problems. I have problems.

A: Do we have a little problem tonight?

J: Don't talk to me like that.

A: Like what?

J: Like I'm on Romper Room and I just wet my pants.

A: I'm sorry. Excuse me. I just want you to know if you have a problem I'm here to listen.

J: I do have a problem.

A: Oh, thank you. I need that tonight. I need to feel needed. I really need it...

J: Can I get on with my problem?

A: Sure. You wanna lie down on the couch? Let me get some paper. I'll take notes

J: Forget it.

A: I want to listen.

J: Just forget it!

A: I'll listen.

J: FOR-GET-IT!

A: Please Julie!

J; I LOST MY JOB!!! They laid me off.

A; Oh Julie. You were doing so well. You were there almost five months.

J; Six.

A; What happened?

J; I don't know I'm not sure Last week my boss called me into his office I thought he was gonna dictate a letter He said sit down I said thank you He said you're a good secretary I said thank you He said you're very pretty I said thank you He said you wanna go out for a drink later? I said no thank you. And today I got a pink slip with my check.

A; He wouldn't

J; He did

A; He can't

J; He did Business is bad He's laying people off I wouldn't lay him
So he's laying me off It all sounds so poetic.

A; You want to know what would have happened if you had that drink
with him? One drink would've led to six drinks would've led to ten
And before you know it...(snaps fingers) just like that it'd be a year
later and he would've gone back to his wife! Just like Jerry. Don't we
at least have some celery Something to chew on?

J: Two minutes! Two minutes on my problem. I may not be able to pay
the rent!

A: I thought we had peanut butter. I could have sworn there was peanut
butter.

J: I'm tired of jobs that don't lead anywhere. I once lasted a year at the
Hungarian pen factory.

A; You worked at a Hungarian pen factory?

J; I was a receptionist. We sold pens over the phone

A; To Hungarians?

J; No, not Hungarians. To anybody

A; Were they Hungarian pens?

J; They were made in Japan.

A; You sold Japanese pens in a Hungarian pen factory?

J; God, I hated that job

A; I'm not sure I understand this job

J; The salesmen were all pigs. My boss was a pig. He used to come over and sit on top of my desk. Just sit there and peer down my blouse. Two feet away from the coffee machine and he'd ask me to get up and fix him coffee. I'd say to him

A; Why was it called Hungarian if they sold Japanese?

J; It was owned by Hungarians

A; Got it. Go ahead

J; So I'd tell him, 'Mummy, cant you get your own'

A; Hold it. I'm sorry 'Mummy'

J; His name was Mummy

A; This man Your boss Was named Mummy?

J; Right.

A; And he was Hungarian

J; French Moroccan

A; Julie, are you making this up?

J; How could I make up something like this!!!? This is my life, Alice!
This has been my life for the last 10 years!

A; My God, Julie no wonder you're drinking.

J; Why are you here, Alice? Why are you in my life? You never listen to me You ask me for advice but you never listen. It's like talking to a goddamn wall I'm trying to communicate with a goddamn raving idiot! You're an IDIOT, Alice! An I D I O T. IDIOT!!

A; I know what you're doing And I appreciate it.

J; Pardon?

A; You're yelling at me because you care.

J; I do?

A; You're wonderful, Julie. Really wonderful.

J; I am?

A; We're not just roommates.

J; We're not?

A; You know what we are?

J; What?

A; We're sisters.

J; Oh God

A; Buddies!

J; Buddies?

A; I never had a buddy

J; Really?

A; Never had a buddy Never

J; Gee

A; I'd do anything for you.

J; You would?

A; Anything. Would you do anything for me?

J; Well

A; I'd do anything for you

J; Yes

A; Anything?

J; Sure

A; Julie, please. Let me have a piece of your bread.

J; I can't do that.

A; Please tell me where you hide your bread.

J; I promised you when you moved in I'd never tell you where I hide my fattening foods

A; One piece One little piece

J; You know you won't stop after one piece

A; I will I promise

J; You won't

A; I will

J; You won't

A; Tell me where you hide your goddam bread

J; The bedroom Top drawer of the dresser

A; It's gone! It's all gone!

J; I finished it this morning

A; I HATE YOU