

TIMID TOM

by

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INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

A middle-aged couple.

JARED

You don't sit still. Ever.
Always on the go. You need to
have some down time in your life
or you're gonna burn yourself
right out.

JANICE

I love what I do, besides I have
to take care of you and the kids.

JARED

Yes, but we're fine. We have
enough money to live off of for
years to come.

JANICE

And what then?

JARED

What do you mean?

JANICE

When the money runs out...what
then?

JARED

It's not going to run out.

JANICE

You better think about that. We
have Kimberly and Kyra's
University years fast approaching.

JARED

You're not the only one making
money around here.

Janice darts a look at Jared like, "Are you serious?"

JANICE

I have to work this hard. One
never knows what's just around the
corner.

JARED

Nothing is around the corner but
more hard work. I'm not against
hard work Jan but you need to know
when to cool down.

(MORE)

JARED (CONT'D)

You are well into overdrive and it's not good for your health and I worry about you tremendously.

JANICE

Do you?

JARED

Of course I do. What's that supposed to mean?

JANICE

You're not having an affair?

JARED

Affair?

JANICE

You have plenty of time throughout your day to romp around. Kids are at school---

JARED

I'm working, killing myself all damn day. You're the one who travels.

JANICE (SARCASTICALLY)

Believe me, I don't have time, even if I desired it.

JARED

Do you desire it?

JANICE

...I do.

JARED

Since when?

JANICE

Oh, I don't know, must be the past few years.

JARED

Have you---

JANICE

Not once. I still love you Jared but our love life is nonexistent.

JARED

Well, that's, you, I've been---

JANICE

It sucks. I know I'm busy but sometimes I need a man who will take me down and make me...you are my husband you know.

JARED

Yes, well, I'm always considerate about your time. You're always so dominant, taking your work home, never making me feel like there is time for me to come near you, let alone say hello.

JANICE

Well there is time, damn it. Are you blind? Don't you want the real thing together? We have it maybe once a month. That's a sin. A woman of my design. My looks. Don't I still turn you on?

JARED

Of course you do.

JANICE

And what is it with that word you used, considerate. God, what a remarkably crap word. Considerate. (imitating) "I'm just trying to be considerate."....Where is the animal in you?!

JARED

What the hell has gotten into you?

JANICE

I don't want you to be considerate. Not when it comes to expressing your desires for me. You don't get to play it safe Jared. I want passion! Lust! Throw me against a wall. Anything but considerate.

JARED

Well, I, just---

JANICE

I know there's a lion in you somewhere. This whole timid tom life has got to go and go fast.

JARED

Or what?

JANICE

Or we go our separate ways.

JARED

Where the hell is all this coming from?

JANICE

We don't have time for romance. Sometimes a woman just wants to get her fix and move on with the rest of her day. Is that so hard to understand? You say you worry about my health? Start there!

JARED

But---

JANICE

I'm your wife, you are my husband...you can do as you wish, act on your needs and let's have a go at it.

JARED

Now? You mean right now?

JANICE

Oh God! If you have to ask me forget it. By now you should have flung me on the bed. Too much talk and consideration.

JARED

I've always felt that, you know, the way that we are together, we've grown into a comfortable pattern.

JANICE

Pattern? Did you say comfortable pattern?

Jared nods.

That makes me want to grow old and die! I'm still young you know. There are things I can do that I haven't shown you yet.

JARED

What things?

JANICE

Things.

JARED

Like what? And why haven't you shown me yet?

JANICE

Because if a woman shows all her tricks to soon, she's out the game. A smart woman reveals bits and pieces along the way to keep a man interested.

JARED

I'm definitely interested.

JANICE

Are you?

JARED

Yes, definitely.

JANICE

Do you understand what I'm saying?

JARED

Yes, completely.

JANICE

At some point in time, it doesn't have to be this week but SOON, I'd like you to have some fire come out of you.

JARED

Fire?

JANICE

That's right. Set the whole damn place aflame Jared. I didn't marry a dud, did I?

JARED

No, not--

JANICE

You need to keep that spunk in you kid. Go to the gym, take energy pills, whatever you need to do to get my juices flowing. Understand?

JARED

Wow. I didn't realize. I never thought...

(MORE)

JARED (CONT'D)

I always thought you, we, the way that we've been together, was a good way of being together. I never knew things were coming off as...flat?

JANICE

Flat is a good word to describe it.

JARED

Flat. I didn't know. So I guess now that I do know, I'll be sure to give our love life a kick.

JANICE

Not a kick but an avalanche.

JARED

That's a bit of pressure for a man, no?

JANICE

You can't be serious.

JARED

You made your point clear enough but you need to let me perform how I need to perform based on this talk without making me feel that I'm under some form of judgement.

JANICE

Throw caution to the wind and be free.

JARED

As long as you're not taking notes.

JANICE

No notes.

JARED

Because you know, it may take a few attempts to get the motion cranked up to speed is all I'm trying to say...sort of, yeah.

JANICE

Get cranking.