



Sample Pages



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Jonny, Teddy and Roy grew up together in the '50's and '60's. They meet at Jonny's apartment before going to their 50th high school reunion, just as they did 40 years earlier for their 10th. But their lives have changed, and they've grown apart over the decades. Can the love they've had for each other survive? Can they forget the slights, large and small, that they've inflicted on each other? And can they forgive one another for their failures — and their successes?

WHERE: Jonny's apartment, New York City

WHEN: September, 2016

Dramatis Personae

JONNY, 67, an acting teacher and former actor, a bit saturnine, average looks, gay, Jewish, can be childish and vindictive.

TIM, 45, very good-looking, fit and nicely dressed, tall and blond, a former model, positive-thinker, sharp sense of humor but always with a smile, a counterbalance to Jonny's edge.

ADRIANA, a stunning blonde from The Czech Republic with a thick dialect. She's 45–50 and still a knockout, with a voluptuous body, wearing a spectacular dress. She's highly opinionated, and often speaks the truth without realizing the effect it can have on people.

TEDDY, about the same age as Jonny, dark hair, not bad looking, sparse on top, put on a few pounds since high school but still in pretty good shape. He is a sensitive guy, easily upset and good-hearted. He's not the brightest person in the world, but he has his own brand of wisdom.

ROY, about the same age as Jonny and Teddy, a bit bigger and taller than they are. Dark hair, dark eyes. Expensively dressed and tanned. A biting, almost nasty, sense of humor. He's more than a little pleased with himself.

(Sample Pages start with p. 15 of script.)

JONNY continues to make last-minute adjustments to the room, singing "The Patty Duke Show" theme song.

*Here's Cathy who's lived most everywhere,
From Zanzibar to Berkeley Square.
But Patty's only seen the sights a girl can see from Brooklyn Heights.
What a crazy pair!*

SFX: doorbell rings.

*But they're cousins ...
[To himself.] Who the hell could that be? [Loudly.] I'll be right there! [To himself.]
Thanks for not buzzing yourself up first, asshole!*

HE opens the door. There stands ADRIANA, a stunning blonde from The Czech Republic with a thick dialect. She's 45-50 with a voluptuous body, wearing a spectacular dress. She often speaks the truth, or her version of the truth.

Oh, hi. You must be Athena. Where's Teddy? How'd you get in the building?

ADRIANA

[In the hallway.] Hello, Jonny. I'm Adriana. He's looking for a place to park and he didn't want me to have to walk too far in my heels so he let me off in front of your building and I figured as long as I was standing in front of your building I might as well go up into your building and up to your flat. And what was the third thing? Oh, yes ... I walked in with the pizza delivery boy. [A beat.] His name was Samesh.

JONNY

And I'm so glad you did. Please, come in, Ariella.

ADRIANA

It's Adriana, Jonny. *[Instructive.]* Can you say it after me, please? Ah.

JONNY

Ah.

ADRIANA

Dree.

JONNY

Dree.

ADRIANA

Ahn.

JONNY

Ahn.

ADRIANA

Uh.

JONNY

Uh. "Adriana." By George, I think I've got it!

ADRIANA

George. This is your boyfriend?

JONNY

No, Tim: *this* is my boyfriend. I guess Teddy must have told you.

ADRIANA

About your latent homosexuality? No, he said nothing. I just assumed.

JONNY

Really? Do I seem gay?

ADRIANA

Yes. And he prefers to be called "Theo" now, not "Teddy."

JONNY

"Theo"? Since when? No one's called him "Theo." Ever.

ADRIANA

Well, now they do.

JONNY

Where'd he get Theo from?

ADRIANA

Theo Van Gogh [*pronounced the Dutch way: van yox*]. He was Vincent's younger brother.

JONNY

Yes, I know. This was not Teddy's idea, was it.

ADRIANA

I really don't remember.

JONNY

Mmm. And he likes it?

ADRIANA

Yes, yes he does. He likes it very much.

JONNY

I see. Well, if it was good enough for Van Gogh's [*imitates her pronunciation*] younger brother, it should be good enough for our Teddy. I mean, our Theo.

ADRIANA

Besides, "Teddy" is for small children and chorus boys, not mature, respected musicians. "Theo" brings to mind a sense of experience and wisdom.

JONNY

Oh, and is Theo "wise" these days?

ADRIANA

Yes. In his own way.

JONNY

Really.

ADRIANA

He reads books.

JONNY

Admirable. Hopefully he's gotten past Nancy and Sluggo by now.

ADRIANA

And he's always striving to become a better person.

JONNY

Better than whom?

ADRIANA

Pardon?

JONNY

Never mind. Is "Jonny" O.K.?

ADRIANA

O.K. for what?

JONNY

Is it all right if you call me "Jonny"?

ADRIANA

Yes, I think it's fine for you.

JONNY

Oh? Am I a small child? Or a chorus boy.

ADRIANA

Neither, but you are a theatrical participant. It's all the same and one.

JONNY

It's all what?

ADRIANA

It's all parcel and part.

JONNY

Well ... why don't you come in and have a seat?

ADRIANA

No reason. [*SHE walks into the living room.*] This is a charming room. So big. And such high ceilings.

JONNY

Thank you. I did it myself.

ADRIANA

You raised up the ceilings yourself? How?

JONNY

No. I mean I decorated it.

ADRIANA

Ah, yes. It looks like it. So where is this boyfriend of yours, this George?

JONNY

Tim. He's out doing a few errands. He'll be back in a bit.

ADRIANA

He'll be joining us for the reunion, yes?

JONNY

He'll be joining us for the reunion, no.

ADRIANA

Why is this? [*HER phone makes a sound. SHE checks her texts.*] Oh! Theo is in the lobby getting into your elevator just as we speak!

JONNY

And I couldn't be happier. I'll just go open the door for him. Let him in. He might get lost in that long hallway. [*HE goes to the front door, opens it and stands there silently, waiting for TEDDY. A few uncomfortable beats.*] Ah! I can hear the elevator getting closer and closer! [*A beat.*] He's coming ... he's coming ... he's almost here ... *annnd* ... here he is! Here's the man: Teddy ... uh, Theo!

TEDDY appears at the door. He's the same age as Jonny, dark hair, attractive, sparse on top, not skinny like he was in high school, but still in decent shape. He is a sensitive guy, easily upset and good-hearted. He's not the brightest person in the world, but he has his own brand of wisdom.

TEDDY

Hey, Jonny, you handsome devil! How ya doin' man?

JONNY

I'm great. How are you?

TEDDY

I am unbelievable, man. Couldn't be better. Just paradiddling my way through life, ya know? Hey, how 'bout a great big brohug? *[THEY hug.]*

JONNY

Welcome to New York. You look great, punk.

TEDDY

Yeah, I know. It's all due to my lady here. That's Adriana¹, Jonny. Is she beautiful ... or what?

JONNY

Definitely beautiful. You're a lucky guy.

TEDDY

Jonny, I am. I am lucky in so many ways. God looked down at me when I was born and He said, "Theo, you are going to have a blessed life."

JONNY

He called you "Theo," huh?

TEDDY

"You are going to do what you love doing. You are going to live in a city that

¹ TEDDY pronounces her name AY-dree-ANN-uh.

will surround you with music, and you are going to have a beauty-ful lady to do it with.”

JONNY

Several ... “beauty-ful” ladies to do it with.

TEDDY

Several? That’s funny, man. Good sense of humor! And each in her own way adding to what has become Theodore Roosevelt Nowak. Even Kaitlin. You remember her, doncha?

JONNY

Oh, yes.

ARIANA

She was a stewardess.

TEDDY

Right!

JONNY

Whatever happened to her anyway? We met her that one time before our 10th reunion and then “poof”!

TEDDY

Oh, she wound up sleeping with some guy she met on one of her flights, got pregnant, had twins, got married and dumped me.

JONNY

Not in that order, I hope.

TEDDY

I don’t think so.

JONNY

Jesus, Teddy!

TEDDY

Yeah, I know — she was awesome, man. I mean, not the sleeping around stuff. That pretty much sucked eggs. But she was a great lady. I still carry part of her around with me wherever I go.

JONNY

Yeah? She give you a kidney?

TEDDY

Dig this: they live in Kawaii now. He has this big, fancy helicopter tour business, and she answers the phones and paints turtles.

JONNY

Sounds idyllic.

TEDDY

No, it's pretty nice. I think maybe she also writes poetry.

JONNY

Oh, trust me, Teddy: she writes poetry. [*A beat.*] Close call, mister!

TEDDY

Yeah, no shit! [*THEY laugh.*] And what about Mr. Birnbaum? How's your love life? You seein' anyone these days?

JONNY

Teddy! You know all about that, remember? We came to Nashville? Saw your band play?

TEDDY

Oh, shit, right! That theatre with all the whatchamahickeys hanging from the ceiling. Yeah. You upchucked all over that nice usher. What's your lady's name again?

JONNY

Teddy, I came with a guy. I was there with a man, remember?

TEDDY

Oh, fuck, yeah. You told me — you're one of the gays now. I remember. You said you'd rather switch than fight. That was funny. I met him, right? Tall fucker?

JONNY

Yes. We all went out for barbeque after the concert.

TEDDY

Right. I remember it now. Very clearly. What was his name again?

JONNY

Tim.

TEDDY

Yeah. Tom ... something.

JONNY

Tim. Timothy Keegan.

TEDDY

Keegan, right. Nice guy. So where is this boo of yours?

JONNY

He'll be here. He had to do a few errands.

TEDDY

Oh, a few errands, huh? C'mon, Jonny! Everything is cool. I'm a live-and-let-live kinda guy, you know that. Your homo-ness got nothin' to do with me. Not that I always felt that way. But, ya live a few years, ya learn a few things. You know, like never cook bacon with your shirt off. Everybody has to live their lives the way Jesus planned it. Like, who the hell am I to tell you or anyone else who to love, know what I mean? As long as you don't crash into my truck or bust up all my furniture with a sledgehammer I'm cool with it.

JONNY

Teddy, I would never do either of those things.

TEDDY

I know you wouldn't. C'mere, you handsome devil. Gimme another brohug. [THEY hug. TEDDY hangs on for a few beats.] See? It don't even bother me touchin' you for a bunch of seconds.

ADRIANA

Jonny, I have heard so much about you. It's nice to see you two boys together after all this time. Hugging and making love ...

TEDDY

Well, hey! This is a hell of a guy here! [HE hugs JONNY again.]

JONNY

Again? [HE endures a long hug.] Thanks, Teddy. So, what do *you* do, Annabella?

ADRIANA

Adriana. Right now, I'm an associate in a dental office. I answer emails, make appointments, greet patients, and once in a while I assist the dentist by holding his air hose. It's very rewarding work. I meet so many interesting people.

TEDDY

Is she great ... or what?

JONNY

You definitely have a type, don't you, Teddy?

TEDDY

Yeah, I know! And she's it!