



Sample Pages



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Jonny, Teddy and Roy all 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, *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, *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.*

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

SFX: doorbell rings.

JONNY [cont'd]

[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, without realizing the effect it can have on people.

JONNY [cont'd]

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

ADRIANA

[Standing at the doorway.] 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 to your flat. And what was the third thing? Oh ... I walked in with the pizza delivery boy. [A beat.] His name was Samesh.

JONNY

And I'm 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 told you.

ADRIANA

About your latent homosexuality? Yes, he did. Although I would have guessed it in a small amount of time.

JONNY

Really? Do I seem gay?

ADRIANA

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

JONNY

"Theo"? No one's ever called him "Theo."

ADRIANA

Well, now they do.

JONNY

Where'd that come from?

ADRIANA

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

JONNY

This was not Teddy's idea, I take it.

ADRIANA

I really don't remember.

JONNY

Uh-huh. 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 [*imitates her pronunciation*], it should be good enough for our Teddy. I mean, our Theo.

ADRIANA

Besides, "Teddy" is for small children and Broadway chorus dancers, not mature, respected musicians. "Theo" sounds much more grown-up and wise.

JONNY

Oh, and is Theo "wise" these days?

ADRIANA

In his own way, yes.

JONNY

Really.

ADRIANA

He reads books.

JONNY

Admirable.

ADRIANA

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 Broadway chorus dancer?

ADRIANA

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

JONNY

It's 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 did the room myself. Decorated it.

ADRIANA

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 that?

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 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.

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."

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

JONNY

He called you "Theo," huh?

TEDDY

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

You're right. "Several." Ha! That's funny, man. Good sense of humor. And each in her own way adding to what has become Theodore Roosevelt Petkovich. Even Kaitlin. You remember her, doncha?

JONNY

Oh, yes.

ARIANA

She was a stewardess.

JONNY

Right! 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, married him 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 with me wherever I go.

JONNY

Yeah? She give you a pint of blood?

TEDDY

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

JONNY

Sounds idyllic.

TEDDY

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. Bornstein? 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 hanging whatchamahickeys. 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 a gay 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 together after the concert.

TEDDY

Oh, 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. *Tall* fucker! So where is he, this boo of yours?

JONNY

He'll be here later. I wanted to wait for the right time, you know what I mean?

TEDDY

Jonny, it's cool. 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, you know what I mean? As long as you don't crash into my truck or bust up my furniture, I'm cool with it.

JONNY

Teddy, I would never do either of those things.

TEDDY

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

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!