

BLONDE

Ev! Ev! ~~(Screams)~~
Help! Come, quick!

(LEVINE Xs behind open door)

(At this moment, EVERETT PARKER appears
in the doorway, carrying luggage. HE
doesn't see LEVINE)

(Backs down to stool at Breakfast
Table. PARKER, in his late forties,
is tres distingue, gray temples, the
quintessence of cool -- and HE knows
it)

PARKER

What is it, pussycat? ... A mouse?

(Scared stiff, BLONDE points toward
LEVINE who is standing behind PARKER.
PARKER sees him, drops the bags)

PARKER (Continued)

(Bellowing)

Who the hell are you?

LEVINE

Take it easy, Mister.

(CORBAN rushes out of kitchen, elated,
followed by FATHER, X USL then USC,
who is trying to hold him back)

CORBAN

E.P.!!

(Xs to PARKER, embraces him)

LEVINE

I told you to stay in there!

CORBAN

E.P.! You're beautiful! You're the U.S. Cavalry! The United
States Marines! I love you.

(HE throws his arms around PARKER
and kisses his cheek)

LEVINE

(Separating them)

All right, boys ... break clean.

(Xs DSR)

Corban, who is this?

#5

characters

Parker
levine
Corban

CORBAN
Levine -- this is my boss. This is Everett Parker, Jr.
(To PARKER)
Meet Inspector Levine?

PARKER
(Uneasy)
Inspector? What is this -- a raid?

BLONDE
We didn't do anything -- we just got here.

LEVINE
You are Everett Parker, Jr.?

PARKER
Not necessarily. Is this a raid?

(KELLEHER Xs L of wicker chair)

(LEVINE shakes his head, assuring him,
PARKER reaches for wallet)

Then I'm Everett Parker, Jr. Do you want proof?
(Xs to BLONDE)

LEVINE
(Indicating outside)
No. It's out there -- a yellow Marlin. Mr. Parker, does this
man work for you?

PARKER
(Smiling)
Not really.

LEVINE
(Perks up)
He doesn't?

(CORBAN Xs to PARKER)

PARKER
No. I work for him. If you saw his expense account, you'd
know what I mean.
(HE laughs again)

LEVINE
I ask questions and I get wisecracks. This is a serious matter,
Mr. Parker.

CORBAN
(Excited. XS USC of Coffee Table)
Go ahead, Levine! Ask him! Ask him!

LEVINE

Corban, stop pushing me! Mr. Parker -- you were present at the Corbans' wedding?

(X to US of stool R of Coffee Table)

PARKER

(Nods affably)

Practically the father-of-the-bride.

LEVINE

Could you identify Elizabeth Corban?

PARKER

From any angle -- fore or aft. 36-24-36 give or take a centimeter.

LEVINE

But you only saw her that one time -- at the wedding -- right?

PARKER

Inspector, I only saw the Mona Lisa once. I don't forget perfection.

(To CORBAN)

Danny, touch base with me. What have you been up to?

CORBAN

(Xs to PARKER)

Nothing, E.P. Absolutely nothing! ... But you wouldn't believe the spot I'm in. You've arrived just in time to save my neck.

(Points to FATHER)

They're out to nail me.

PARKER

(A ray of light)

Oh-oh! I get the picture. Show them the wedding license.

LEVINE

I've seen the wedding license. It doesn't prove anything.

PARKER

(Astonished)

What!!

CORBAN

Come on, Levine. Let's wrap this up. Trot her out.

(LEVINE glares at CORBAN; goes to bedroom door)

LEVINE

Mrs. Corban -- will you please come out here.

PARKER

(Still shaking his head)

The wedding license doesn't mean anything?

(KELLEHER Xs DSL of Coffee Table)

PARKER
(Shocked and confused)
Has he gone crazy or something?

LEVINE
Maybe he has.

PARKER
I come up here for a pleasant weekend in the country with my --
(Looks at FATHER)
... with my wife, and --

CORBAN
He's lying! That's not his wife!

LEVINE
(Quietly, to FATHER)
Excuse me, Father.
(KELLEHER X USL of fireplace)
(Then HE explodes)
Goddamit, Corban! She isn't his wife ...
(Then pointing to ELIZABETH)
and she isn't your wife ... and maybe Mrs. Levine in Rockaway
isn't my wife!
(Afterthought)
(Xs DSC of Coffee Table)
I should be that lucky.

CORBAN
(Pleading)
Don't you see what's happened, Levine? When Parker said she
was my wife he thought he was covering up for me the way he
expects me to cover for him for her who he says is his wife
but she isn't ...

LEVINE
(Confused)
Stop, stop! Come to a period already!
(To BLONDE. Xs to stool L of
Coffee Table)
Mrs. Parker -- what have you to say?

~~BLONDE~~
I'm hungry.

LEVINE
Sure. Thank you for your cooperation. You can go.

(PARKER starts to leave with BLONDE.
HE stops short)