

TEA NEXT TUESDAY

Short Script

by

Chuck Conaway

(949) 300-9753
fadenc@gmail.com

FADE IN:

EXT. ISOLATED MOUNTAIN HOUSE - DAY

Off a narrow winding dirt road. Three-foot stonewall is in front. New sports car parked nearby.

INT. MOUNTAIN HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

FRANK, 40s, pale, grey hair, is asleep in bed. Door opens. RITA, 30s, rather attractive, blue jeans, blouse and sandals, enters. LARRY, 40ish, slim, pleasant face, follows her in. Holy Bible is on the nightstand.

RITA

Just took his pill. Doctor wants him to get plenty of rest.

Feels Frank's forehead.

RITA (CONT'D)

He's warm. Doesn't need this.

Pulls a wool blanket off the bed.

LARRY

Tell him there's no hurry to get back to work.

Rita nods, smiles.

LIVING ROOM

Rita has the wool blanket. Larry hands her an envelope.

LARRY

Frank's paycheck.

RITA

Thanks, Larry. Much appreciated.

LARRY

Anytime, Rita. I hope he gets better soon.

RITA

Doctor told me he might be well enough to return to work in about six weeks.

(gestures)

Fingers crossed.

LARRY

My brother had the same surgery
last summer. He recovered in less
than two months.

Rita is energized.

RITA

That's encouraging.
(afterthought)
How bout some coffee?

LARRY

That'd be lovely.

EXT. MOUNTAIN HOUSE - LATER - DAY

CAMERA is positioned across the dirt road, trained at the
front yard. ENGINE heard (O.S.). A pickup rambles INTO VIEW
from a tree line--

RITA (O.S.)

It's Diane, my closest neighbor.
She's always in a rush.

Rita and Larry stand directly behind the stonewall, their
upper bodies visible. The pickup stops nearby. The driver is
DIANE, 50s, perky, plump, smiles broadly.

RITA (CONT'D)

Hey, Girl!

DIANE

Hi Rita. I'm late for my Doctor's
appointment. Gonna do some shopping
after that. Do you or Frank need
anything?

RITA

No thanks, were fine - Oh, I'm
sorry. Meet Larry Evans, Frank's
boss. Frank... Diane.

LARRY

Pleased to meet you, Diane.

DIANE

Same back.

RITA

When I said Diane's my neighbor,
that's true. Even though she lives
two miles up the road.

DIANE
She's right. City folks we ain't.

LARRY
Frank told me he loves living up here. I suppose that's one of the reasons why.

RITA
Yep. Nosey neighbors don't exist in these here parts.

DIANE
We enjoy fishing, hunting, and hiking. Skiing to, whenever the snow's deep enough.

RITA
That pretty much sums up our life style up here, Larry.

DIANE
By the way, Rita. Revered Harmon called. Told me choir practice has been moved to next Tuesday.

RITA
Can't make it, friend. But after practice why don't you drop by and I'll brew us a pot of tea.

DIANE
Great idea. I'll bake a batch of those lemon cookies that you like. We can get fat together.

RITA
Deal. I'll see you.

Diane starts to pull away, stops.

DIANE
Yeah. Tea Next Tuesday!

She drives off. Rita waves.

REAR SHOT - RITA & LARRY

Standing on the wool blanket, naked from the waist down.

FADE OUT.