"Daytime Drama"

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I'm sure you do, David. So make sure you leave that door wide open.

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(DARLENE AND DAVID EXIT TO LIVING ROOM. JACKIE RUNS IN FROM THE UTILITY ROOM BRANDISHING A NEWSPAPER. SHE'S OUT OF BREATH)

JACKIE

Roseanne! Guess who's coming to Lanford!

ROSEANNE

Damn it, I told Robin Leach to always call first!

JACKIE

Listen! (READING) Appearing in person at Lanford Mall Books -- Dirk Hunter!

ROSEANNE

Dirk Hunter? Why the hell's he coming to a dump like Lanford?

People break their necks to get out of this town.

JACKIE

He's doing a 15-city promotional tour for his new calendar. Wanna go?

ROSEANNE

Hell, yeah.

DAN

Who's Dirk Hunter?

ROSEANNE

My most absolute favorite soap star in the universe, is all.

DAN

Don't know him.

ROSEANNE

Oh, come on Dan. You must have heard me scream out his name at least <u>once</u> during sex.

(ROSEANNE GRABS THE NEWSPAPER FROM JACKIE'S HANDS)

ROSEANNE (CONT'D)

Jackie, he's coming here

tomorrow! You know I got a shift

at the Lunch Box. How'm I

supposed to go?

DAN

I can fill in for you, Rosey.

Mark's got things under control

at the garage.

ROSEANNE

Yeah? And who's gonna watch

D.J.? Becky's gotta work.

DAN

Well, there's David. And

Darlene's home on Spring Break.

Oh, right. And risk police involvement.

JACKIE

Roseanne, D.J.'ll be fine here for a few hours by himself.

ROSEANNE

With a telephone? No way,

Jackie. Remember when he made a
hundred bucks worth of calls to

976-Santa? Me and Dan had to
convince the phone company we
were atheists.

DAN

Relax, Rosey. Deej can hang with me at the diner.

ROSEANNE

Really, honey? You'll let me play hooky from work so's I can meet the first man in town with blow-dried hair?

DAN

Sure. We could use a new wall calendar for the kitchen, anyway.

JACKIE

Say Dan, it's good to hear you're that open-minded.

DAN

About a dozen sheets of paper with numbers and boxes on them?

JACKIE

That, and twelve naked shots of Dirk lubed-up in baby-oil.

ROSEANNE

For real?!

JACKIE

Got one in my car.

ROSEANNE

Let me see it!

(ROSEANNE AND JACKIE RACE OUT THROUGH THE UTILITY ROOM. DAN REALIZES WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO LOOK AT)

DAN

(CONCERNED) Hey! Wait just a

minute here...!

(DAN JUMPS UP AND CHASES AFTER THEM)

DISSOLVE TO:

OPENING TITLES

ACT ONE

Scene 1

INT. ROSEANNE & DAN'S BEDROOM - LATER
(Roseanne, Dan, D.J.)

(ROSEANNE'S RUMMAGING THROUGH THE CLOSET PULLING OUT CLOTHES. DAN ENTERS)

DAN

What're you lookin' for, honey?

ROSEANNE

Something nice to wear for tomorrow, but I guess this stuff'll have to do.

DAN

(TEASING) Trying to make a good impression for Dirk whatever-his-name-is?

ROSEANNE

Of course not! (IN MIRROR) Hey, you think I should get my bangs trimmed?

DAN

What's all the fuss for, Rosey?

ROSEANNE

Come on, Dan. Dirk Hunter's the number one soap star in the country.

DAN

So . . .?

So! I can't show up looking like common mall trash. I save that look for special family outings.

DAN

Geez, Roseanne, he's just an actor.

ROSEANNE

No, Dan. Laurence Olivier was "just an actor." Dirk Hunter is a God. Look.

(ROSEANNE HANDS DAN THE NEWSPAPER)

DAN

(UNIMPRESSED) Hmmm... Bulging biceps and a ripped stomach.

What's he got that I don't?

ROSEANNE

Oh, Dan. This is no different than you goin' to auto shows and checkin' out Miss Demolition Derby fondlin' all those throttles and O-rings.

DAN

Yes it is.

ROSEANNE

How?

DAN

(THINKING) Well I don't shave my legs for one thing.

(D.J. ENTERS)

D.J.

Mom, I'm hungry!

DAN

Me too, babe. Think you can tear yourself away from all this primping to get dinner started?

ROSEANNE

Oh, and like you can't pick up the phone and dial Pizza Hut?

DAN

(DRAMATICALLY) Son, there will be no dinner tonight. Thanks to some pretty-boy soap star, your mother is avoiding her responsibilities.

ROSEANNE

I resent that, Dan! You know I've been avoiding my responsibilities for years.

DAN

Fine. D.J. and I'll just rummage through the couch for old beer nuts.

D.J.

Me and Darlene already did that.

She got the last one.

ROSEANNE

(SIGHS) Tell you what, Dan.

I'll start dinner, right after I finish up in the utility room.

DAN

Roseanne, skip the laundry. We're hungry now.

ROSEANNE

Who said anything about washing clothes? I wanna see if my good blouse is in the hamper.

(ROSEANNE EXITS)

D.J.

That's it! I'm calling Child Protective Services.

(D.J. EXITS. DAN TAKES ANOTHER LOOK AT DIRK'S PHOTO, THEN COMPARES HIMSELF IN THE MIRROR. HE SUCKS IN HIS STOMACH, THEN DEFLATES IN DISPAIR, REALIZING HE'S NO MATCH)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE

Scene 2

INT. LIVING ROOM - NEXT DAY
(Roseanne, Dan, Darlene, Jackie, D.J., David)

(DARLENE'S SITTING ON THE COUCH. HER EYES ARE CLOSED. DAVID'S STANDING NEXT TO HER HOLDING A LARGE SKETCH BOOK)

(HE OPENS THE BOOK TO REVEAL GALAXY GIRL, A WILD, LEGGY, CURVY CARTOON SUPER-HEROINE WITH A HUGE, ALMOST OBSCENE CHEST... AND DARLENE'S FACE)

DAVID

Okay, you can look now.

(DARLENE OPENS HER EYES AND SEES THE CARTOON. SHE'S MOMENTARILY STUNNED)

DAVID (CONT D)

So... What do you think of

Galaxy Girl?

DARLENE

This is your idea of a sick joke,

right?

DAVID

What's the matter Darlene? I

modeled her after you!

DARLENE

With a size 82 Triple-D cup?

DAVID

Well, I guess I exaggerated a

little.

DARLENE

If you don't like the way I look
David, just say it. I don't need
subliminal drawings to get the hint.

DAVID

Darlene, what's your problem?

DARLENE

A boyfriend who hates my body.

DAVID

That's not true! It's just a cartoon. It's supposed to be larger-than-life!

DARLENE

Tell you what then As soon as you pack your things and get out, you can find a girlfriend with a larger-than-life chest.

(DARLENE STORMS OUT THROUGH THE UTILITY ROOM. DAVID CHASES AFTER HER)

DAVID

Darlene, wait!

(DAN ENTERS FROM UPSTAIRS AS ROSEANNE AND JACKIE EMERGE FROM THE BEDROOM. THEY'RE ALL DOLLED-UP AND READY TO GO. JACKIE'S GOT THE BABY STRAPPED TO HER BACK)

ROSEANNE

What'a ya think, Dan? Am I gonna be the belle-of-the-mall, or what?

DAN

Roseanne honey, I have some good news and some bad news.

ROSEANNE

Well I know we're broke, so what's the good news?

DAN

I can't help out at the diner today.

ROSEANNE

Why not?

DAN

I have an interview lined up for a part-time dry-walling job.

ROSEANNE

Aw Dan, don't do this to me now!

DAN

Sorry, Rosey. I just got the call. Besides, we could use the extra money.

JACKIE

Roseanne, weekends have been kinda slow at the diner. I'm sure Nancy and Leon can manage alone.

Yeah, I suppose. Alright, Dan, you're off the hook.

DAN

Well, almost...

ROSEANNE

What'a ya mean? I thought we were done with the bad news!

DAN

Since I won't be around, I can't watch D.J.. Guess you'll have to stay home with him.

ROSEANNE

Like hell I will, Dan! I've got plans!

DAN

So do I Roseanne, and work's way more important.

ROSEANNE

Great! My one chance to meet a real-live soap opera hunk and you have to go ruin it with something annoying like a job interview.

JACKIE

Roseanne, we'll just bring D.J. with us! Mother-and-son day!

ROSEANNE

You don't mind?

JACKIE

'Course not. D.J. can carry the smelling salts.

(ROSEANNE GOES OVER TO THE STAIRCASE)

ROSEANNE

(YELLING) D.J., get down here!

(D.J. COMES RUNNING DOWN THE STAIRS)

ROSEANNE (CONT'D)

Get your coat on. We're goin' to the mall.

D.J.

No way! I hate soap operas!

ROSEANNE

You say that now, but just wait till your life is as meaningless as mine.

D.J.

Mom, I wanna stay home!

ROSEANNE

And I want a kid who does windows, but we're stuck with each other.

DAN

Come on, Roseanne. Don't make D.J. stand in some line all day.

ROSEANNE

You're just determined to ruin my day, aren't you, Dan?

JACKIE

It'll be fun, D.J.! We'll take you to lunch at Chuck-E-Cheese!

ROSEANNE

And this time we won't even make you pay.

D.J.

Are you tryin' to bribe me?

ROSEANNE

Well, yeah. It always worked on your sisters.

D.J.

(CONSIDERING THIS) Alright.

(ROSEANNE SHAKES HER HEAD. ALL TOO EASY. SHE LOOKS AT DAN)

ROSEANNE

I hope that dry-wallin' job's got medical benefits, cause I'm gettin' my tubes tied.

JACKIE

Let's get a move on, Roseanne.
We've got a date with beefcake.

ROSEANNE

Got your calendar?

(JACKIE HOLDS IT UP AND FLIPS IT OPEN FOR A QUICK PEEK)

JACKIE

My God, Roseanne. We should name a Loose-Meat sandwich after him!

Yeah, "The Dirk Hunter." Big

hunks of meat on firm, hard buns.

(ROSEANNE AND JACKIE CRACK UP LAUGHING AS THEY EXIT WITH D.J.. DAN IS NOT AMUSED)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE

Scene 3

INT. LANFORD MALL BOOKS - DAY
(Roseanne, Jackie, Dan, Dirk Hunter, Bookstore Extras)

(DIRK HUNTER IS SITTING AT A TABLE SIGNING A CALENDAR. HE'S ONE OF THOSE YOUNG SOAP STUDS. ALL SEX, HAIR AND MUSCLES)

(LEAVE HIM TO FIND A LINE OF WOMEN, OLD AND YOUNG, WAITING IN ANTICIPATION. WE FIND ROSEANNE AND JACKIE)

JACKIE

Would you look at that body,

Roseanne? He's perfect!

ROSEANNE

You gonna relax Jackie, or do I have to shoot you with a tranquilizer gun?

JACKIE

Like it's my fault I'm hormonally charged? I haven't done it in months!

ROSEANNE

Well have some self-respect.

Dirk's got tramps throwing

themselves at him all day.

JACKIE

Two more won't kill him.

ROSEANNE

Speak for yourself. (FLASHES WEDDING RING) I'm taken, and you're on deck.

JACKIE

Well I'm not married... yet.

ROSEANNE

Oh, right. Like a papoose on your back is a big turn on to a stud like Dirk.

JACKIE

Married or not Roseanne, we're still entitled to our fantasies.

ROSEANNE

Hey, I limit my infidelities to drooling. You should start, too.

(AN OLD WOMAN IN FRONT OF ROSEANNE ABRUPTLY TURNS AROUND AND GIVES HER A DIRTY LOOK)

OLD WOMAN

Phew! Did you just cut one?

ROSEANNE

Oh, I'm sorry! I just can't seem to contain my natural gases in the presence of USDA beefcake.

(THE OLD WOMAN IS SCANDALIZED AND TURNS BACK THE OTHER WAY)

JACKIE

(RE: BABY) Uh-oh. Smells like someone needs a fresh diaper.

ROSEANNE

Yeah, and when you finish with her, change your son.

(JACKIE STEPS OUT OF LINE AND SUDDENLY FREEZES. SHE SPOTS DAN HIDING BEHIND A RACK, FLIPPING THROUGH A BOOK AND PEEKING AT ROSEANNE)

JACKIE

Hey, Roseanne. What's Dan doing

here?

ROSEANNE

What...?

JACKIE

Over there! In Self-Help!

(ROSEANNE SEES DAN. AN ANGRY LOOK CROSSES HER FACE)

ROSEANNE

After I get through with him, he's

gonna wish he was in First-Aid.

(ROSEANNE STEPS OFF LINE AND PULLS JACKIE WITH HER)

JACKIE

What are you doing, Roseanne? We

just lost our place in line!

ROSEANNE

Oh, quit whining, Jackie! We'll

just cut back-in like we did when

we first got here!

(ROSEANNE STORMS OVER TO DAN. SHE'S MAJORLY PISSED)

ROSEANNE

Dan Conner!

(DAN LOOKS UP FROM A BOOK, FAKING SURPRISE)

DAN

Roseanne!

What the hell are you doing here?

DAN

I was... uh... book shopping!

ROSEANNE

(RE: BOOK) "Getting To Know Your

Uterus"...?

DAN

Oops! Wrong section! Guess the clerk misunderstood when I asked for something on "interior design."

ROSEANNE

You said you had a job interview!

DAN

I did. I do. I mean the interview is here, Rosey. At the mall!

ROSEANNE

Job my butt, Dan! You we're spyin' on me, weren't you?

DAN

Me? Spying? Don't be ridiculous, honey!

ROSEANNE

Don't lie to me, Dan!

DAN

Rosey, calm down!

JACKIE

Yeah, Roseanne. You want Dirk to hear?

ROSEANNE

The guy works on a soap opera,

Jackie. He's used to deceit and

family in-fighting.

DAN

Roseanne, let's talk about this in private, okay?

ROSEANNE

Damn right we will, Dan. After I meet Dirk. Now why don't you just take D.J. and go home!

DAN

(BETRAYED) If that's what you want, then fine. Let's go, D.J. (LOOKING AROUND) Roseanne, where's D.J.?

ROSEANNE

(LOOKING) D.J....? Jackie, what happened to D.J.?

JACKIE

He was here a second ago. I'll go check the juvenile section.

Looks like Dan's already in it. (JACKIE HEADS OFF)

DAN

Jackie doesn't seem to have any trouble keeping an eye on her kid!

ROSEANNE

Well how about next time I just give D.J. a piggy-back ride through the mall, too!

DAN

You don't even know how long your son's been missing!

ROSEANNE

He ain't "missing", Dan!

Anyways, why didn't you follow
him when he wandered away?

DAN

Don't blame it on me. You're the one obsessed with this Dirk Hunter guy.

ROSEANNE

I'm obsessed? You're the one who made up some lame story about a job just so you could follow me.

That's obsessed!

(JACKIE RETURNS)

JACKIE

Guys, he's not in the store.

DAN

This is just great, Roseanne!

ROSEANNE

(CONCERNED) Well, he's got to be somewhere nearby!

DAN

Then you'd better go find him.
Unless some dumb actor is more
important that your own kid.

ROSEANNE

(GLARING) How dare you!

JACKIE

Don't panic guys, we'll find him!
Roseanne, you hit the toy store,
Dan, take the arcade. I'll check
the movie theaters.

ROSEANNE

(TO DAN) While you're here, buy a copy of "Women Who Beat the Crap Out of Their Husbands."
You're gonna need it.

(ROSEANNE RUSHES OUT OF THE STORE WITH JACKIE)
DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE

Scene 4

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
(Roseanne, Dan, Darlene, D.J.)

(DARLENE'S ON THE COUCH WATCHING TV)

TV ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

On the next Geraldo -- "Why Big

Hooters Make Men Happy".

(DARLENE ANGRILY CLICKS OFF THE SET AND HEADS FOR THE STAIRS. ROSEANNE, DAN AND D.J. ENTER THROUGH FRONT DOOR)

DARLENE

What happened to you guys? It's almost eight o'clock!

ROSEANNE

You're brother just made us live out "Home Alone III -- Lost in the Mall."

DARLENE

He was lost and you actually stuck around to find him? Can't anyone in this family do anything right?

(DARLENE EXITS UPSTAIRS)

D.J.

Mom, are you gonna ground me?

ROSEANNE

No, D.J., living here is punishment enough.

(D.J. EXITS UPSTAIRS)

(TO DAN) But <u>you're</u> a different story.

DAN

Drop it, Roseanne.

ROSEANNE

No, Dan! You wanna know every move I make, then I'll just tell you! Look Dan, I'm takin' off my coat! Look Dan, I'm hangin' it up! Look Dan, I'm walkin' across the room!

DAN

Knock it off, Roseanne!

ROSEANNE

Why? I'm savin' you the trouble of havin' to spy on me!

DAN

This conversation is over!

ROSEANNE

This ain't a conversation! It's a long speech where I get to chew you out!

DAN

I'm going to bed!

Well I hope the couch is comfortable, cause that's where you're sleepin' from now on!

DAN

You know, this whole thing is your fault!

ROSEANNE

Hey! None of this would've happened if you hadn'ta lied to me in the first place!

DAN

I didn't put our son's life in danger!

ROSEANNE

No, you just put our marriage there.

DAN

It's a good thing I showed up,
Roseanne. God knows what could
have happened to D.J. if I
didn't!

ROSEANNE

Oh, so now I'm some kind of irresponsible mother, right?

DAN

This afternoon? Yeah!

I'll have you know I raised three of the best dysfunctional kids alive today!

DAN

The job ain't over yet, lady!

ROSEANNE

Well if I'm doin' so bad here,
then maybe I should just get the
hell out of your way!

DAN

Whatever makes you happy, babe.

(ROSEANNE STARES AT DAN. SHE'S REALLY PISSED OFF. SHE STORMS TOWARDS THE UTILITY ROOM)

ROSEANNE

Look Dan, I'm goin' to get my suitcase!

DAN

Oooh, now I'm really scared.

ROSEANNE

(GRAVELY) You should be.

(ROSEANNE EXITS TO KITCHEN. DAN KICKS THE COUCH)

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

Scene 1

INT. LIVING ROOM - NEXT DAY
(Roseanne, Dan, Darlene, Jackie, D.J.)

(ROSEANNE EMERGES FROM BEDROOM DRAGGING HER SUITCASE. JACKIE'S SITTING ON THE COUCH BREAST-FEEDING THE BABY)

JACKIE

Roseanne, unpack that suitcase!

You're making me nervous!

ROSEANNE

Take notes, Bride-to-Be. It's called "teaching him a lesson".

JACKIE

Don't you think you're being a little extreme?

ROSEANNE

Walk a mile in my mules, then we'll talk.

JACKIE

Would you just chill out?

ROSEANNE

I've gotta get out of this house and clear my mind.

JACKIE

By going to Mom's? Don't you remember how miserable I was there? The woman implemented a curfew, Roseanne!

Jackie, I'm not gonna sit around and listen to Dan's crap no more!

JACKIE

Promise me you guys won't split up!

I'll have no place to go when Fred

and I have a fight.

ROSEANNE

Oh, it's not like I'm divorcin'
him or nothing. You know how
miserable I'd be going through a
custody battle and winning?

JACKIE

Then try and look at it from Dan's point of view, Roseanne.

ROSEANNE

Traitor! Why you siding with him for, anyway?

JACKIE

You want my honest opinion?

ROSEANNE

No, but since the mace is in my purse, I can't stop you.

JACKIE

Roseanne, almost everything Dan loves is gone!

Huh?

JACKIE

Think about it! He's lost Becky to Mark, Darlene to David, D.J. to Nintendo. You're all he's got left. Don't you think that's got the man a little depressed?

ROSEANNE

Therapy did this to you, Jackie.

I liked it better when you were a basket case.

JACKIE

Dan saw you paying attention to some guy half his age and two-thirds his weight and thought he was losing you, too.

ROSEANNE

Well he's sure got a funny way of tryin' to keep me around.

JACKIE

The guy's feeling majorly insecure, sis. Cut him some slack.

ROSEANNE

(SIGHS) I hate it when you're maybe-almost-sometimes-sort-of right.

(DAN ENTERS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR CARRYING A SMALL, PORTABLE TV SET. HE GLARES AT ROSEANNE, THEN SILENTLY HEADS FOR THE KITCHEN)

JACKIE

Hey, Dan. (NOTICING) Isn't that the set from the Lunch Box?

DAN

Yup.

ROSEANNE

(SUSPICIOUSLY) So, what's wrong with it?

DAN

Nothing. Keeping it at the diner is a safety hazard.

ROSEANNE

Why?

DAN

Someone could be grinding a loose-meat sandwich while watching, let's say, Dirk Hunter, get excited, and wham, there goes a finger.

ROSEANNE

Oh I get it, Dan. Like denying me soap opera privileges is real mature.

DAN

No less mature than abandoning your son at the mall.

That's it. I'm outta here!

(ROSEANNE GRABS THE SUITCASE. DAN SEES IT FOR THE FIRST TIME. HE'S CONCERNED)

DAN

Where you going, Roseanne?

ROSEANNE

Well let's see, I've already gone the soap-stud route. Maybe it's time I found me a nice profootball player to hit on.

(ROSEANNE EXITS, SLAMMING THE FRONT DOOR BEHIND HER)

DAN

On a scale of one to ten,

Jackie...?

JACKIE

Well Dan, Roseanne hasn't packed a suitcase since she went to the hospital to have D.J.. Unless she's pregnant again, I'd say this is about a thirty.

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO

Scene 2

INT. CITY GARAGE - LATER THAT DAY
(Dan, Darlene, David)

(DAN IS REPAIRING A TRUCK. DARLENE ENTERS)

DARLENE

Hey...

DAN

Hey...

DARLENE

Pretty weird, Mom leaving and all.

DAN

I guess.

DARLENE

Everyone always though it would be me and D.J. who d finally drive her away.

DAN

I didn't make your mother leave,
Darlene. Apparently she's
confused about what's important
to her.

DARLENE

Hey, I heard Oprah's doing a show on 12-step groups that wean housewives off daytime TV one episode at a time.

DAN

You're not batting a thousand in the relationship area either.

DARLENE

I don't want to talk about it.

DAN

Don't you think you're being a little tough on David?

DARLENE

Why? You saw his sketch! Some boob-freak with my face. David obviously thinks I don't cut it in the mammary department.

DAN

David's a teenage boy ruled by his hormones. He's got those "things" on his mind.

DARLENE

Well unfortunately I don't have those "things" on my chest.

DAN

Darlene, the cartoon David drew is just a harmless fantasy!

DARLENE

That points out my inadequacies.

DAN

You know how ridiculous you sound, Darlene? You're jealous of a

fictitious character!

DARLENE

Just like you, huh Dad?

(TOUCHÉ. A BEAT AS THEY BOTH REFLECT ON THIS. THERE'S A KNOCK ON THE DOOR. DAVID ENTERS CARRYING HIS SKETCH BOOK)

DAVID

Uh, I just came to say good-bye,

Mr. Conner.

DAN

Where you headed, David?

DAVID

Back to my mother's in Michigan.

DAN

Sorry to see you go.

(DAN SHAKES DAVID'S HAND, THEN GOES BACK TO WORKING ON THE TRUCK. DAVID AND DARLENE LOOK AT EACH OTHER)

DAVID

Darlene, I know you hate me right now, but I want to apologize for insulting you with that stupid sketch.

(DARLENE IS SILENT)

DAVID (CONT'D)

I know it's probably too late to make a difference, but for what it's worth...

(DAVID OPENS HIS SKETCH BOOK TO REVEAL A NEW GALAXY GIRL CARTOON. THIS ONE HAS DARLENE'S FACE, AND HER REALISTIC PROPORTIONS)

DAVID (CONT'D)

Here...

(HE HANDS HER THE BOOK)

DAVID (CONT'D)

This time Galaxy Girl really is you. She's got your sense of

humor, your cool personality, and

your great body.

(DAVID HEADS FOR THE DOOR)

DARLENE

Hey weirdo...

(DAVID TURNS BACK)

DARLENE (CONT'D)

Where's her heart of gold?

DAVID

It's there. Underneath the space-age polymer suit.

DARLENE

Oh, good. I didn't want to ruin this movie-of-the-week moment forgiving you by mistake.

DAVID

Does this mean I can stay?

DARLENE

Well, it was my dream to use
the extra space to start a quaint
bed & breakfast, but the summer
season's still months off.

(DAVID WALKS OVER TO DARLENE. THEY KISS. DAN SEES THIS AND SUDDENLY REGRETS HIS FIGHT WITH ROSEANNE. HE WIPES HIS HANDS WITH A TOWEL AND EXITS)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO

Scene 3

INT. BEV'S LIVING ROOM - DAY
(Roseanne, Dan, Bev)

(ROSEANNE AND BEV EXIT BEDROOM. BEV HANDS ROSEANNE SOME CLEAN BED SHEETS)

BEV

This is not the Taj Mahal,
Roseanne. Things are going to be
very cramped with you here.

ROSEANNE

So, don't you like, have a friend you can crash with?

BEV

We'll just have to make the best of it, dear. All I ask is that you respect my home as you would your own.

ROSEANNE

In that case, get ready for your property value to take a nose-dive.

BEV

Roseanne, I don't like to pry into other people's lives...

ROSEANNE

Why? You got a new hobby?

BEV

I just think you're handling the situation with Dan all wrong.

ROSEANNE

Hey, what I did took guts! You think it was easy for me to walk out of there on Stove-Top night?

BEV

Leaving is not the answer,
Roseanne. If a woman really
wants to punish her husband, she
stays home and withholds her
wifely duties.

ROSEANNE

What are you talking about? I haven't picked his dirty underwear off the floor in weeks!

BEV

Your "other" wifely duties, dear.

ROSEANNE

Cut off sex? Hey, I want to punish him, not me!

BEV

Very well, then. You'll just have to find some other way to deal with him.

What's left, Mom? I can only have PMS once a month.

BEV

Oh, I don't know... How about being a grown-up person and talking it out?

ROSEANNE

(GRUDGINGLY) Well, I guess I've always been open to experimentation.

BEV

Good. You can start as soon as he gets here.

ROSEANNE

Dan's coming here?

BEV

He called while you were unpacking.

ROSEANNE

What am I supposed to say? It's him who's wrong!

BEV

Think of something quick, dear.

Two old maids living together is

no fun, and I won't have my life

turned into some nightmare

episode of "The Golden Girls."

(THERE'S A KNOCK. BEV STARES AT ROSEANNE, WHO FINALLY GOES OVER AND OPENS DOOR TO REVEAL DAN)

DAN

Roseanne, I want to talk.

ROSEANNE

Make it quick. I gotta get to work.

(DAN ENTERS. BEV DOESN'T LEAVE. THEY STARE AT HER)

ROSEANNE

Mom, go to your room!

BEV

Well! I've never felt this unwelcome in my <u>own</u> home before!

ROSEANNE

Oh, yes you have. You just got a real short memory.

BEV ·

(INSULTED) You two really <u>do</u> deserve each other.

(BEV EXITS INTO BEDROOM. DAN TAKES A CAUTIOUS BREATH, THEN PROCEEDS)

DAN

I know I was a big jerk,
Roseanne. Spying on you was real
stupid.

ROSEANNE

Have I ever once said anything about that stash of Playboys you got hidden in the garage, Dan?

DAN

(EMBARRASSED) No...

ROSEANNE

Or about you goin' to bachelor parties at naked-lady bars?

DAN

No...

ROSEANNE

Then how come I can't get some stupid autograph? Meeting Dirk Hunter was gonna be the one bright spot of my entire crappy month!

DAN

I know. I ruined it.

ROSEANNE

When we got married, it was for better or worse. Lately I've been askin' myself, "When do we get to do the 'better' part?"

Huh, Dan?

DAN

We can start right now.

(CAUTIOUSLY) That's if you don't

want a divorce or anything crazy

like that.

BEV (0.S.)

(YELLING) Trust me, Dan. If she was gonna leave you, she would have done it years ago when I told her to.

ROSEANNE

(TO BEV) Hey! Do I have to come in there and turn down your Miracle Ear myself?

DAN

Roseanne, do you remember what I said to you just before we renewed our wedding vows in Vegas?

ROSEANNE

"Look, there goes Elvis...!"?

DAN

No. (BEAT) That I was the luckiest man in town that night cause I was marrying you again.

ROSEANNE

(NOT BUDGING) Yeah...?

DAN

Well, I'm still the luckiest man, only we're in a different town now.

So? That's it? I'm just supposed to say everything's alright?

DAN

You've always been the most important thing in my life, Roseanne. Seein' you pay all that attention to Dirk Hunter made me real jealous.

ROSEANNE

Well Dan, if you really want things right between us, then you just gotta trust me.

DAN

I do, Roseanne. It was stupid pride.

ROSEANNE

You actually thought a <u>soap star</u> could lure me back to his hotel bed?

DAN

You're a desirable woman, Rosey.

ROSEANNE

You obviously don't know me Dan, cause I'd never mess around with anyone <u>less</u> than an Academy Award winner.

DAN

Whatta ya say? Give me another chance, babe. Come home.

ROSEANNE

Okay... but only 'cause she'd make me crazier than you ever could.

(DAN SMILES APPRECIATIVELY)

DAN

(CALLING OUT) Good news, Bev!
You're back down to one spinster
daughter!

BEV (O.S.)

Champagne's in the fridge!

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO

Scene 4

INT. LUNCH BOX - NIGHT
(Roseanne, Dan, Jackie, Nancy, Dirk Hunter)

(ROSEANNE'S AT THE COUNTER FILLING UP SALT SHAKERS. JACKIE'S CLOSING OUT THE CASH REGISTER. NANCY'S CLEANING TABLES)

JACKIE

Now that you and Dan have made up, it's gonna be pretty quiet around the old homestead again.

ROSEANNE

I know. I'm thinking of having Darlene move back home and slam some doors for us.

NANCY

Enjoy it, Roseanne. Making up is the best part of fighting.

ROSEANNE

No, Nance. The best part is the probation period right <u>after</u> you make up.

(DAN EMERGES FROM THE BACK ROOM CARRYING SOME TOOLS)

DAN

TV's all hooked up again, Rosey.

And thanks to a little creative

wire splicing, we're now getting

sixty two cable channels!

ROSEANNE

Thanks, honey!

(DAN EXITS TO THE BACK ROOM. ROSEANNE SMIRKS KNOWINGLY AT THE GIRLS. NANCY AND JACKIE REMOVE THEIR APRONS AND HEAD FOR THE DOOR)

JACKIE

God, she's good!

NANCY

Roseanne, you gotta teach me how

to train my women like that.

(THEY EXIT. ROSEANNE GOES TO THE DOOR AND FLIPS THE "CLOSED" SIGN AROUND. AS SHE HEADS BACK TO THE COUNTER, DIRK HUNTER ENTERS)

ROSEANNE

Sorry, we're closed--

(ROSEANNE TURNS AROUND AND STOPS IN HER TRACKS. DAN COMES OUT OF THE BACK ROOM)

DIRK

Hi, folks.

DAN

Hey, I know you...

ROSEANNE

Now Dan, don't do nothin' that's gonna get you arrested again.

DIRK

I was on my way to the airport and saw the lights on. You still open?

(ROSEANNE PULLS DAN ASIDE)

ROSEANNE

It's your call, Dan. Do we

(MORE)

ROSEANNE (CONT'D)

extend our warm Lanford
hospitality, or drive the homewrecker over the county line?

DAN

You're doing this just for me, right, Rosey?

ROSEANNE

Yeah, well sort of. I don't want you to think he means nothin' to me.

DAN

This is your moment, Roseanne.
Enjoy.

(ROSEANNE SMILES AT DAN)

ROSEANNE

Sit down, Dirk.

(DIRK TAKES A SEAT AT THE COUNTER. ROSEANNE LOCKS THE FRONT DOOR. DAN POURS DIRK A CUP OF COFFEE)

ROSEANNE

I'm Roseanne Conner. Mrs.
Roseanne Conner, and this is my husband, Dan.

DIRK

Great place you've got here.

Whoever did the carpentry really
knows their stuff.

Well Dirk, aside from being my soul mate and faithful, dynamic lover of twenty years, Dan's also one hell of a handyman.

DAN

You into woodworking, friend?

DIRK

Use to be a carpenter. My wife and kids just gave me that new Sears table-saw for my birthday.

ROSEANNE

Married? Kids? Dirk, if you're tryin' to blow your image as a love God, you're doin' a great job.

DAN

Roseanne gave me the same exact saw for Christmas!

DIRK

Wish I had time to use it. There's nothing like the feel of wood and the smell of sawdust.

(ROSEANNE LOOKS AT DAN. SHE LOOKS AT DIRK. SHE'S COMPLETELY DUMBFOUNDED)

Hey Dirk, don't you like, have some lines to memorize or something? Maybe a calendar to sign for me?

DIRK

(TO DAN) With this tour and all, I haven't even taken mine out of the box yet. I've been dying to check it out.

DAN

You're welcome to give mine a try.

DIRK

Serious?

DAN

Come on! Got it in the back room!

(DIRK GETS UP AND HEADS FOR THE BACK)

DAN (CONT'D)

(SOTTO) What a great guy, Rosey!

ROSEANNE

I'll say, Dan. Looks like you've got something in common with a big soap star, after all.

DAN

Oh yeah? What's that?

You both bore the hell out

of me with shop talk!

(ROSEANNE AND DAN FOLLOW DIRK INTO THE BACK ROOM. WE LEAVE THEM TO FIND NANCY AND JACKIE DESPERATELY POUNDING ON THE FRONT DOOR)

JACKIE & NANCY

Dirk! Dirk! Dirk!

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

INT. ROSEANNE & DAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT
(Roseanne, Dan)

(IT'S DARK. WE HEAR A MAN AND WOMAN GIGGLING UNDER THE COVERS. DOOR OPENS. ROSEANNE ENTERS AND FLICKS THE LIGHTS ON. THERE'S QUIET)

ROSEANNE

Dan . . . ?

(DAN POPS HIS HEAD OUT FROM UNDER THE SHEETS)

DAN

(GUILTY) Roseanne...!

ROSEANNE

What then hell's goin' on here!

(A WOMAN POPS OUT FROM UNDER THE COVERS -- IT'S SOAP OPERA QUEEN <u>SUSAN LUCCI</u> WEARING SLUTTY NEGLIGEE)

SUSAN LUCCI

I've moved in on your husband,

that's what, Roseanne!

(ROSEANNE GASPS. SHE'S SHOCKED BEYOND BELIEF)

ROSEANNE

You little slut! And just what

do you have to say about this,

Dan?!

DAN

Quite frankly dear, I think

Susan's performance deserves an

Emmy.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. ROSEANNE & DAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT
(Roseanne, Dan)

(IT'S DARK. ROSEANNE BOLTS UP IN BED, SWEATING AND OUT OF BREATH. DAN STIRS)

DAN

(GROGGY) Roseanne? You okay,

honey?

ROSEANNE

Dan, I just had the most horrible

nightmare! You and Susan Lucci

were doin' it in our bed!

DAN

What was the horrible part?

ROSEANNE

(GLARING) When I had to kill the two of you.

DAN

Roseanne, nothing like that could ever happen in real life.

ROSEANNE

(LAUGHING AT THE ABSURDITY) Yeah,
I guess you're right.

DAN

(INSULTED) Now go back to sleep.

(THEY BOTH SETTLE DOWN)

ROSEANNE

Goodnight, Dirk.

DAN

'Night, Susan.

(ROSEANNE SLUGS DAN WITH HER PILLOW)

FND OF SHOW