

Adapted from Ingmar Bergman's Scenes from a Marriage.

Marianne: I'm getting hungry just watching you eat. I can't help it, I've got to have a sandwich. I'm so hungry I'm dizzy. I've lost over four pounds this last week: does it show?

Johan: No.

Marianne: I can feel the difference though. It all seems so pointless at times. I mean why deny ourselves all the good things in life? Why can't we be fat and cheerful? Remember Aunt Miriam and Uncle David? They were perfect dears and got along so well together, and they were so fat! They slept together in that creaky double bed of theirs, holding hands and content with each other. I mean: why can't we be like them? What's the matter? You're upset? What's wrong?

Johan: I came to tell you something. I've gone and fallen in love, you see. It's ridiculous and probably a big mistake. I met her at that convention in June. She's a secretary. She's not much to look at. You'd probably think she's ugly. I've no idea what this will lead to. I've no idea about anything. I'm completely bewildered. Of course I'm pleased but I also feel guilty about you. We always got along so well. Say something for Christ's sake.

Marianne: I don't know what to say.

Johan: You probably think I'd have told you sooner. But I didn't know how it would turn out. I thought: I'll soon get over it. It's just a passing phase. I didn't want to worry you...

Marianne: It's funny.

Johan: What's funny?

Marianne: That I didn't notice anything, that I didn't suspect anything... Everything has been as usual, even better in fact: you've been so sweet. I've been such a blind and silly fool!

Johan: No, you didn't notice but then again you've never been very observant.

Marianne: And where do we go from here?

Johan: I don't know.

Marianne: Do you want a divorce? Are you going to marry her? Why tell me tonight of all times? What's the rush all of a sudden?

Johan: We're going to New York tomorrow. I want to get away from all this. I need to be with her. I can't be without her. I need to think things out. Now that I'm talking to you, I feel like scrapping the whole thing. I just feel tired and scared. It all sounds so absurd and cliché. I know exactly what you're thinking.

Marianne: You don't know what I'm thinking!

Johan: I've no excuses. I could pretend to feel guilty about it but that would be just an act. That's the way it is, Marianne. There's nothing I can do about it!

Marianne: Then I suggest you go to bed. I suppose you're leaving early tomorrow morning?

Johan: I've to be at the airport at nine.

Marianne: Then go to bed.