

The beginning of

**SWING SET** (from **COME AGAIN**)

a comedy in one act

by Rich Orloff

*Place:* A hotel room  
*Time:* Saturday night  
*Characters:* ANGELA, Joe's wife  
JOE, Angela's husband  
CHUCK, Tena's husband  
TENA, Chuck's wife

A hotel room. The bed is a complete mess. We notice two faces sticking out at the top, one male and one female, and both seem relaxed and happy. We also see four feet sticking out at the bottom of the bed... but in such a way to make one think that the couple is either *very* tall, or that something's very odd, especially since the four feet don't face in the same direction as the two faces.

By the bed is a large tray with the remnants of a feast. Strewn about the room are four pair of shoes, clothing, and some sex toys.

As the play begins, the two faces at the head of the bed smile at each other. The faces belong to ANGELA and CHUCK.

ANGELA

You were great.

CHUCK

No, *you* were great.

ANGELA

I was good, but *you* were –

CHUCK

You were *great*.

ANGELA

*You* were great.

CHUCK

*You* were great.

TENA  
(from under the covers:)  
You were both great.

Another face, belonging to TENA, emerges from under the covers.

ANGELA  
*You were fabulous.*

TENA  
You were amazing..

CHUCK  
You were both great.

JOE  
(from under the covers:)  
Hey, what about me?

ANGELA  
We'll talk later.

JOE emerges from under the covers.

JOE  
About what?

ANGELA  
About how delightful you were.

TENA  
(to Joe:)  
You were great.

JOE  
I do what I can.

All four sigh with satisfaction.

CHUCK  
So you think the Bears will win tomorrow?

JOE  
Are you kidding? Green Bay.

CHUCK  
Green Bay?! Not a chance.

TENA

Well, so much for afterglow.

ANGELA

You know, you have such an adorable cock.

CHUCK

Thanks, Angela.

ANGELA

Joe, don't you think he has an adorable cock?

JOE

(uncomfortable)

It, uh, it's very... cocky.

TENA

Oh my God, look at the time.

CHUCK

Relax, honey.

TENA

I have to get to church early tomorrow  
to help set up the bake sale.

CHUCK

(sighing)

Why does Sunday morning always  
have to follow Saturday night?

TENA

So we can ask forgiveness for our sins.

ANGELA

And start the week ready for more.

JOE

Honey, let's get moving, or we'll have  
to pay the babysitter overtime.

ANGELA

Don't rush me.

TENA

This was so great.

CHUCK

We're so glad you answered our e-mail.

JOE

We're so glad you actually look like your photos.

TENA

Isn't it amazing how you can exchange e-mails, you can exchange photos, but until you meet someone, you just never know what someone's going to be like.

CHUCK

Yeah, like we could be axe-murderers.

Chuck and Tena laugh. Joe and Angela join in, but with less enthusiasm.

JOE

And we could have horrible diseases.

Joe and Angela laugh, but Chuck and Tena chuckle only feebly.

TENA

We're not murderers.

ANGELA

We're clean.

JOE

And thanks for bringing those ribbed condoms.

ANGELA

Very classy.

TENA

Well, thank you for saying so. I don't think people care about class anymore.

CHUCK

A couple of months ago we exchanged e-mails with this couple, and they seemed so sophisticated, but when we met them in person, he, he –

TENA

He snored. In the middle of sex.

ANGELA

He fell asleep?

TENA

He snored awake. He snored *during* sex.

ANGELA

How awful.

TENA

When he went down on me, it sounded like I was being vacuumed.

CHUCK

No class.

ANGELA

Well, back to the cold, cruel world. I really enjoyed myself tonight.

CHUCK

Me, too.

ANGELA

We meshed.

TENA

We really connected.

JOE

(holding the check:)

So Chuck, you had the surf and turf, and Tena, I think you had the –

ANGELA

Joe.

JOE

I'm handling this, Angela.

ANGELA

We discussed this in the car.

JOE

Now I only had one glass of wine –

ANGELA

Joe.

JOE

But we'll be glad to split the bottle.

ANGELA

We'll split the whole check.

JOE  
I said I'm handling this, Angela.

ANGELA  
I don't want you to –

JOE  
You don't mind, do you, Chuck?

CHUCK  
Sounds fair to me.

TENA  
*Chuck.*

CHUCK  
We had shrimp cocktails; they had soup.

TENA  
We split it with that couple last month.

CHUCK  
(remembering, not comparing)  
Oh yeah. Nice couple.

TENA  
They ate like pigs, and he came fast.

JOE  
Um, I didn't, uh –

TENA  
No, no, no. You were uh fine.

JOE  
Fine?

TENA  
Fine, great, whatever.

ANGELA  
How about if we split it, Tena?

JOE  
Chuck, what would *you* like to do?

CHUCK  
Whatever you want –

JOE

Great. Now I had a burger,  
and you had the surf and turf.

ANGELA

You also ate his wife's pussy.

JOE

So? He ate *your* pussy, *and* the surf and turf.

TENA

Chuck, say something.

CHUCK

The steak was overcooked.

JOE

The burger was great.

CHUCK

The lobster was okay.

JOE

I thought the fries were a little –

ANGELA

(to Joe:)

Split the damn check!

JOE

Do you know how much we owe  
on our credit card?

ANGELA

So we'll die in debt. We paid for  
the kids' braces; we did enough.

JOE

Look, just because you have  
no sense of money –

ANGELA

There are more important things  
in life than money, Joe.

JOE

We split *one* flan; they got *two* tiramisus.

ANGELA

You fucked his wife for half-an-hour.

TENA

It wasn't that long.

ANGELA

Joe, for once in your life, be generous.

JOE

Generous? I'm the most generous man I know.

ANGELA

Bullsh—

JOE

Remember when you wanted a gang bang for your birthday? Twelve guys, and I let them all screw you before I did. I let that nineteen year-old screw you twice before me. Now if that isn't generous, what is it?

CHUCK

Are you planning any other gang bangs in the –

TENA

Shut up.

JOE

We had a great time tonight, Angela, so just drop this and everything'll –

ANGELA

No. Not this time.

JOE

Didn't you have fun? You were kissed, caressed, licked, and fondled till you got so hot I expected the fire alarm to go off, and I could tell how much you were getting off when I was inside her for uhhh... 25 minutes.

TENA

It wasn't that long.

JOE

Twenty minutes.

TENA

14.

CHUCK

Tena has an amazing sense of time.

TENA

Chuck's great at directions.

CHUCK

We're a great pair when we travel.

JOE

(not friendly)

We'll have to go on a car trip someday.

ANGELA

Joe –

JOE

Did you have fun tonight, Angela?  
Tell me whether or not you had fun.

ANGELA

There's more to life than sex, Joe.

JOE

Not on Saturday night! Most of the week's  
about making a living, raising the kids,  
paying the bills, and collapsing at the  
end of the day. One night of the week  
I want to be about sex. *Just sex.*

ANGELA

But it's always more than just sex with  
you, Joe. It's sex, and splitting the check.  
Or it's sex and complaining about how much  
the room costs. Or it's sex, and wondering  
why we're driving further than they are.  
I'd love some night to be just about sex,  
but for you, sex is just foreplay to stupidity!

Angela runs into the bathroom and slams the door.

JOE

(to Chuck and Tena:)

I'm sure she'll be out in a few minutes.

ANGELA (o.s.)  
You wish!

JOE  
Honey.

ANGELA (o.s.)  
(tears in her voice:)  
You always have to ruin everything.

JOE  
(to Chuck and Tena:)  
I'm sorry.

CHUCK  
Hey, you should see some of the fights we have.

JOE  
I saw the scars.

TENA  
Those weren't from fights.

Joe walks over to the bathroom door.

JOE  
Honey, I'm... Come out, honey, please?...  
If we don't leave soon, we'll have  
to pay the babysitter double -

ANGELA (o.s.)  
The babysitter's gonna have one lucky night.

JOE  
What do you want from me? You want  
me to offer the split the check?

ANGELA (o.s.)  
I want you to die!

JOE  
Do I really ruin... everything?

ANGELA (o.s.)  
I don't blame you for the Middle East!

JOE

Honey... Aren't I attentive? Aren't I considerate? Have I ever said No to any sexual adventure you've wanted to have?

ANGELA (o.s.)

No, but –

JOE

Then please come out... We don't even have to go straight home; we can drive around the block until the babysitter makes a bundle off us..... You know, if you're not home in the morning, the kids will wonder where you are..... Are you ever planning to come out?

ANGELA (o.s.)

I'll come out tomorrow, at 12:01 p.m.

JOE

Twelve-oh –... You know we'll be charged extra unless we check out by noon! Listen you bitch, if you don't come out this second, I'm breaking this door down!

ANGELA (o.s.)

Go right ahead.

JOE

Okay, I'm counting to three...  
One. Two. Three.

ANGELA (o.s.)

Oh, boy. I married a man  
who can count to three!

JOE

You want me to break this door down?!

ANGELA (o.s.)

You wouldn't dare break this door down.

JOE

How do you know?

ANGELA (o.s.)

Because then you'd have to pay for the door!