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We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!

ArtAge Publications

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LOUIE AND LOUISE

By

Bob Rinfret

CAST

LOUISE PARKER:	A large, domineering type.
LOUIE PARKER:	Her husband, small and meek.
RITA KRAUS:	Louise's friend.

Place:
A middle class home.

Time:
The present.

Setting: There is a table and a couple chairs off to one side. A couch center with a table in front. There are typical knick-knacks spread about. There should be a good supply of magazines or papers about the room.

At Rise: Louise is sitting at the table talking to her friend Rita. She is upset and trying to collect herself.

LOUISE: I'm telling you, Rita, he's finally gone off the deep end. I don't know what to do. I've tried everything I can think of, but he's flipped.

RITA: Well maybe it was something you did, that set him off.

LOUISE: I didn't do anything. Louie is the crazy one here, not me.

RITA: Have you suggested counseling? I've heard that it sometime helps with these really tough cases.

LOUISE: Of course, I suggested counseling, but he won't hear of it. I tell you, I'm at my wit's end. If he doesn't come to his senses soon, I won't be responsible for my actions. Wait a minute, here he comes again.

(Louie enters. He goes around the room lifting papers and magazines. He looks at them for a second and says "That's not it." and puts them back.)

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LOUISE: Louie, we have a guest. *(He ignores her.)* LOUIE! *(He still ignores her.)* See? Nothing. He just goes around the house morning, noon, and night, picking up things, looking at something, and saying “That’s not it.” Then he puts it down and leaves.

RITA: How long has this been going on?

LOUISE: I don’t know. Three or four weeks now I think.

RITA: And all he says is, “That’s not it?”

LOUISE: Yes! That’s all. I tell you, he’s flipped.

(Louie goes to the table, picks up Rita’s purse, and looks inside.)

RITA: Hey!

LOUIE: *(examining the purse)* That’s not it. *(He puts the purse down and continues to look around the room then exits.)*

LOUISE: There, see what I mean? I tell you I can’t take this anymore.

RITA: Yes. I do see, you poor dear. I’ve heard of cases like this. Sane for years then suddenly...*(She snaps her finger.)* They snap. You need to be careful.

LOUISE: Careful? Why?

RITA: Well, if he’s like this now, who’s to tell what he’ll do next?

LOUISE: What do you mean?

RITA: Well, he could get violent.

LOUISE: Louie? Violent? Never. I trained him over the years to do exactly as I say. He can’t even find his socks unless I tell him where to look.

RITA: Still, you need to be prepared. You might wake up one night and find him standing over you with a butcher knife.

LOUISE: Will you get real? This is Louie we’re talking about. Besides, he doesn’t even know where I keep them. I’ve told him what to do and how to do it for the last forty five years. I don’t think he’s going to have any strange thoughts now...

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