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UNDER A MAGICAL MOON

By

Patrick Gaffney

The Cast

KATHLEEN O'CONNELL-HIGGINBOTHAM GAVIN KELLY

Note

Characters are both in their late 50's to early 60's. Specific ages mentioned in the script may be adjusted appropriately according to casting. **KATHLEEN** lives in Muncie, Indiana, but she once lived in New York City. Her character and style should reflect some of that urbanity. **GAVIN** is a New Yorker.

Setting

Muncie, Indiana. The present. Late summer. All action occurs around an outdoor table and chairs in the backyard of **KATHLEEN**'s house.

A barely perceivable hint of magic may pervade the air.

All three scenes occur from late Saturday afternoon until Sunday, noontime.

ACT ONE, SCENE 1

(Muncie, Indiana. Summer. The Present. Late Saturday afternoon. LIGHTS RISE on a modest, the backyard of a house which was built in the 1940's. There is nothing modern about its architecture. The backyard is a place one would love to sit and sip sun-tea over ice with a wedge of lemon. In fact, GAVIN and KATHLEEN are seated, a table between them, with two tall glasses of sun-tea over ice with a wedge of lemon, resting atop. They are both in their late fifties to early sixties and, though they appear to be in good health, no one would describe them as exceptionally handsome or beautiful.)

KATHLEEN: ... and I know who I forgot to ask you about... Timmy McCann! He was so full of energy... swooping in here for one deal, then rushing there for another deal... it seemed as if he hardly ever slept! My gosh... he used to stay out till four in the morning listening to jazz at that little club over on West 44th

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Street... long after our bedtimes!... Scotch and water after Scotch and water right up until the moment he left. And he had to be at work at 9 a.m.! I never understood how he could function. I guess some people are just born with a bundle of energy in their pockets and they proceed to charge through life like a locomotive! Charming, funny, witty... constantly "on"... zipping hither and yon all over New York City... making all his "deals." In fact, he was the only one of us who had any money back them. I haven't heard from him in years and years. How is he?

GAVIN: Dead.

KATHLEEN: Oh, no...

GAVIN: Heart attack.

KATHLEEN: Oh, no... Gavin...

GAVIN: Two years ago.

KATHLEEN: So much heart trouble! My Arthur, too.

GAVIN: Yeah... well... it really came as no surprise with Tim. The way he lived! He never really stopped since the time you knew him. I kept pleading with him to slow down, relax a little, enjoy life. But he just kept over-extending himself... burning the candle at both ends...

KATHLEEN: He always did work so hard... even as a young man.

GAVIN: ... drinking... all that drinking... he <u>finally</u> went AA a few years ago, thank god, but... like he said... he was so glad to give up drinking because it freed him up for more important things...

KATHLEEN: Like all of his "deals?"

GAVIN: You got it! He got over-leveraged in some real estate, and when the market went south... so did he... six feet south.

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