

Did You Hear About the Neighbor?

Cynthia MacGregor



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DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE NEIGHBOR?

By Cynthia MacGregor

CAST

MAX: New in the neighborhood. Living alone in a house.

ILENE: Lives next door to Max.

ROSEMARY (Ro): Ilene's friend.

PETE: Max's friend.

Time:

The present.

Place:

ILENE's back yard, ILENE and MAX's back yards, MAX's living room

SCENE ONE

Setting: *ILENE's back yard.*

At Rise: *ILENE and RO are in chairs or chaises, sipping lemonade.*

RO: Too bad we can't see his front yard from here.

ILENE: You want to take another walk around the house and see if the moving van is still there?

RO: We've circled around the house ten times already. He'll think he has spies for neighbors.

ILENE: We're just getting our exercise...walking circles around the house.

RO: He'll know we're exercising our ears and our eyes more than our legs and our heart muscles.

ILENE: What do you care? He's *my* neighbor. And *I'm* not worried.

RO: How come Heather didn't fill you in on this new guy? What kind of friend is she? She sells her house to him and never even tells her own next-door neighbor anything about the new neighbor?

ILENE: I don't think she knew much about him herself. Apparently he's not very open.

RO: I wonder what he's hiding? Maybe you can make friends with his wife and find out more about the two of them from her.

ILENE: I don't think he has a wife. I haven't seen a woman. Just the guy.

RO: No kids either? He's gonna live there alone?

ILENE: (*sarcastically*) Maybe he's gonna use the house as a training camp for eco-protestors.

RO: You think?

ILENE: No! Don't you know sarcasm when you hear it?

RO: I know my best friend getting nasty with me when I hear it.

ILENE: All I'm saying is I think he lives alone, and what's wrong with that?

RO: Wild bachelor parties next door.

ILENE: He doesn't look the type.

RO: What type does he look like?

ILENE: I dunno. Just your average-looking guy. A little sad, maybe.

RO: What nationality is he?

ILENE: I haven't even talked to the fellow yet!

RO: What does he look like?

ILENE: Regular American...who the heck knows?

RO: Did you get a good look at any of his furniture when the movers were unloading it? What does it look like?

ILENE: Well, the dining room table has four legs and a flat top. The chairs all have four legs too—

RO: Cut the crap! Does he have nice stuff or all mismatched, in good condition, or what?

ILENE: I didn't get that good a look...and besides, I was more interested in trying to scope out the guy himself than in his furniture.

RO: So what did you find out about him?

ILENE: Nothing.

RO: A fine spy you are!

ILENE: I never aspired to join the CIA.

RO: The CIA! Hey, maybe that's it! Maybe he's keeping a low profile 'cause *he's* a spy... a *real* spy. Maybe that's why he didn't say much about himself to Heather: Maybe he works for the CIA or the FBI.

ILENE: I think that's an F-I-B.

RO: Don't make fun of me. I'm serious!

ILENE: You're delusional. And too curious for your own good.

RO: You're not curious? You don't want to know more about your new neighbor? You don't wonder who he is and what he does?

ILENE: Well, maybe a little.

RO: *That's* the understatement of the century!

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!