HE

You're smoking again before breakfast!

SHE

Just a couple of puffs.

HE

Go ahead. Put another nail in your coffin!

SHE

I'm cutting down. What more do you want?

HE

What cutting down! Where are you cutting down! You're smoking more than ever!

SHE

Yeah. But I'm enjoying it less! Some cigarette! I can't even taste the tobacco! But scientific tests prove that this filter---

HE

Filter! And you believe all that jazz!

SHE

What are you talking about! This isn't an ordinary filter. It's what they call a *filtered* filter! Look---Its got four sections. From here to here. Only this much tobacco!

HE

Let me see.

SHE

Go ahead, open it. See this little round ball? That's micronite. And this one here is charcoal. And this third one chlorophyll.

HE

What's the last one?

SHE

That's a green stamp! I'm going to start saving them. You get very nice prizes.

HE

Sure. If you collect like ten million! You know what they're worth? Maybe an eighth of a cent apiece!

SHE

So? You put together eight eighths and you get a whole cent. Aren't you always teaching me that?

HE

Big deal! So you'll save me three cents, but you'll burn maybe a quarter's worth of electricity leaving the light on all night.

SHE

I like to read.

HE

Who's telling you you shouldn't? But when you finish, you put the light out.

SHE

I fell asleep.

HF

Then why don't you stop reading before you fall asleep?

SHE

Who figured it was really going to work?

HE

What was going to work?

SHE

This book here, see---

HE

"How to Hypnotize Yourself." What do you want to read that junk for?

SHE

What do you mean, junk? It's not junk! It can serve a very useful function.

HE

Like what kind of function?

SHE

Like how to stop smoking! That's what kind! There's a whole chapter in here that tells you how to do it. By hypnosis.

HE

Yeah? So how come you're still puffing away like a chimney?

SHE

Because I'm not up to that chapter yet! I mean, I'm not ready for it. I've got to condition myself as a *subject* first. Like last night. That's one of the first lessons. I told myself to go to sleep and---pow! I went!

HE

It couldn't be because you were tired!

SHE

I'm tired every night. But I don't sleep. But last night I said to myself---: You are sleeping in a soft bed again. There is no more hard board! And I believed it.

HE

Never mind. It takes a little time to get used to it. But once you do, you'll fee like a new person. You won't only have better posture, your whole chest will expand. Clear some of that smoke out of your lungs. Open up your nasal passages. You'll be able to breathe clear! Like me!

SHE

Yeah? So how come you snore!

HE

Who snores! For your information that happens to be what they call dynamic tension breathing! That means that even while I'm asleep my heart keeps pumping full steam ahead.

SHE

I know. I hear the foghorn! If you want, I can hypnotize you out of it!

HE

Maybe you can hypnotize me into believing I'm a squirrel! Then I'll have a reason for living with a *nut* like you!