

IN THE ACT (GJ) 1 - 1

SHE

The lease on the school's building has run out, so that's the end of adult education. So I'll be at home next week. And the week after that. And so on.

HE

Home? What about your adult education things?

SHE

God, how many times? Edgar, I just told you the school is closing, their lease has run out, and so that is the end of it.

HE

Oh. That means you'll have to find something else to occupy yourself with on those afternoons.

SHE

I suppose so. I might stay home and paint here.

HE

I'll be busy up in the lab.

SHE

I could make a kind of studio down in the cellar.

HE

I'll be working. I need absolute peace and quiet.

SHE

Well, painting isn't very loud.

HE

Helen, I'd like to have the house to myself.

SHE

Oh right. Yeah, okay. If you'd like the house to yourself, you can have it. Maybe you wouldn't mind fixing some supper for us while you're here. That way, I'd have something to look forward to as soon as I get in from walking around the block five thousand times.

IN THE ACT 1 - 2

HE

There's no need for that.

SHE

Okay, you can take me out. Twice a week.
That'll be nice. We could see a lot of new
movies in just one month.

HE

You're being very unreasonable.

SHE

Of course I am. I'm a woman. You've already
explained that to me.

HE

Let's not get into that.

SHE

Why not? If I'm not even allowed to paint
downstairs somewhere for two afternoons a
week. I never come up to the attic, do I?

HE

You're always tapping on the door, asking me
if I want a cup of coffee.

SHE

Only that once.

HE

It was a crucial moment.

SHE

Well, now you've got your thermos bottle and
everything, you're all set up there.

HE

You came up other times.

SHE

For that big noise - explosion, or whatever
it was. Of course I did. I was worried.
You could burn the house down.

HE

I think this is time number fourteen for
telling you that the experiments are not
dangerous.

IN THE ACT 1 - 3

SHE

Fourteen? I'm sure that must be right. You keep track of things like that so well. Each time I conceived, it was a positive miracle of timing. I can remember you crossing off the days on the calendar.

HE

You're trying to sidetrack me.

SHE

I'm trying to get you to allow me to stay in my own house.

HE

I really do need complete freedom to work. It simply isn't the same when somebody else is in the house. Even if you didn't try to interrupt me again.

SHE

The only other time I knocked on the door was when there was all the screaming.

HE

I told you. I got the volume too high.

SHE

It sounded like real people.

HE

It was a tape.

SHE

For heaven's sake, Edgar, where can I go?

HE

To see some friends? look around a museum or two. Or find another one of those adult education places.

SHE

Thank you very, very much. That's really helpful, Edgar.