

"THE EGG SHELL MINUET"

Written by

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FADE IN

EXT. DECK OF KATIE'S BEACH HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON

KATIE, an unhappily married, attractive thirty six year old woman, is sitting on a chaise lounge on the deck of her beach house looking out over the ocean.

KATIE

How can Hell-----be so incredibly gorgeous?

GRAPHIC: "One month earlier"

INT. LOUD PARTY IN KATIE'S HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

KATIE, with bottles of both red and white wine, is going around filling glasses for her guests. She walks up to her best friend DOTTIE, who is arm-wrestling with another woman. DOTTIE wins.

KATIE

And you wonder why you can't ever find a date?

DOTTIE

Shut up! It was a bet. I made 50 bucks!

KATIE

Good. You'll need it to pay for one of those on-line dating services! Come on.

KATIE and DOTTIE slowly walk through the crowd, and out onto the deck.

DOTTIE

Got an email from Sherry Banachek, yesterday.

KATIE

What did *she* want?

DOTTIE

That stupid class reunion. Geez! Who cares?

KATIE

Well, apparently, Sherry Banachek!

DOTTIE

She must have nothing else to do, but plan her *next* vacation, and organize some stupid class reunion!

KATIE

And *you* spend all day doing---what, again?

DOTTIE

(defensive)

Kate, I'm *busy*! I told you my kiln broke and I can't fire my new stuff.

KATIE

Oh, yeah. That was when? Back in November?

DOTTIE

What *is* this?

KATIE

(laughing)

Just messin' with you, hon!

GREGG, a male friend of both KATIE and DOTTIE walks up.

GREGG

Where's Mr. man?

KATIE

Mr. man is doing a three country, European turn-around and won't be back for three days. He left this morning.

GREGG

Oh, ok. Pilots. Man, what a life! Good party, Katie.

GREGG walks off.

KATIE

What did he mean by that?

DOTTIE

Who knows? Gregg can be such a little weenie.

KATIE

He can't help it, Dot. He's just a man.

DOTTIE

Fooled me! So, how are you and Jarrod doing, Kate?

KATIE

Honestly, I just don't care anymore.

DOTTIE

Ahhh, you don't mean that.

KATIE

I do, Dottie. I really do.

DOTTIE

But, you guys are the model couple on the beach! Everyone wants to be Kate and Jarrod. I mean, look around!

KATIE

Yeah, well--It's just a house, sweetie.

DOTTIE

Can I put myself up for adoption?

CLARISSA, KATIE'S twelve year old daughter, walks up with a cell phone.

CLARISSA

Mom, it's daddy. Are you here?

KATIE

I am now, dear! Hello?

JARROD, KATIE'S husband, is calling from Europe.

JARROD

Just checking in. Long flight. Probably turn in early. Ok--just wanted you to know I made it. Talk to you later.

KATIE

Jarrold, did you get to---Jarrod?

(She closes the phone and hangs her head)

KATIE

(pulls a "joint" out)

Just too busy to talk---again. Those pilots.
Yep, what a life.

DOTTIE

Mara-friggin-juana!

KATIE

Geez Dottie! What, are you, twelve?

DOTTIE

Marijuana gets me so horny!

KATIE

Bacon-flavored ice-cream gets you horny, Dot!

DOTTIE

Oh My God! They make that?? Let's smoke this,
and then go get some!

BLAKE, another male friend of KATIE'S walks up.

BLAKE

(swaggering)

Get some? Well, timing is everything!

DOTTIE

I got the other white meat on my mind right
now, Blake! Now, run along.

Both KATIE and DOTTIE laugh hysterically. BLAKE walks off shaking his head. KATIE and DOTTIE walk down to the beach.

KATIE
(lights the joint)
Dottie, how long have we known each other?

DOTTIE
I don't know. A long time. I think we met
somewhere in the bible.

KATIE
The bible? You mean, I'm Jewish?

DOTTIE
No, I mean that you were one of those whores
that always got stoned!

KATIE
Cute.

DOTTIE
(grabs joint out of KATIE'S mouth)
Gimme that!

KATIE
It's just that--I need to know what the
purpose is.

DOTTIE
Purpose of what?

KATIE
Life.

DOTTIE
Oh, that. I thought it was something deep!

KATIE

No, really. I come down here, and look around, and realize just how little and insignificant I really am.

DOTTIE

Insignificant, maybe. But, little? Ha!

KATIE

I really do hate you.

DOTTIE

No you don't. You love me.

KATIE

Do I?

DOTTIE

Sure. Who else would you want to have a three-some with?

KATIE

That's YOUR fantasy!

DOTTIE

Oh, yeah.

KATIE

Wait---who's the third person?

DOTTIE

Well it ain't Jarrod!

KATIE

Thank God. You're about the only girl that he hasn't---

DOTTIE

God, I really gotta pee right now.

KATIE

Just go drop your butt in the water, girl.
It's natural.

DOTTIE

What? Pee in the ocean?

KATIE

Why do you think God put so much salt in it?
To *neutralize* the pee!

DOTTIE

I think it's because of the millions of people
all over the world who have *already* peed in it!

KATIE

(laughing)

Wanna go skinny dipping, *now*?

DOTTIE

Not in that toilet!

KATIE

Maybe that's the purpose of life.

DOTTIE

What, skinny dipping in a toilet?

KATIE

Just knowing that everything is all-like,
recycled. You know. Full circle.

DOTTIE

Dust to dust---

KATIE

Ashes to ashes----

DOTTIE

Speaking of ashes, where's that joint?

KATIE

Here, keep it. We should head back. I'm not being a very good hostess.

DOTTIE and KATIE walk back to house.

DOTTIE

Katie, do you really think that Jarrod could still be messing around?

KATIE

What am I supposed to think, Dottie? He's been treating me like crap ever since I found that receipt doing laundry. But I still can't prove anything.

DOTTIE

And, I'm sure he denied everything.

KATIE

Yep. Even after I showed him that room-service charge for a dinner for two. It was the bottle of wine that gave it away. Jarrod doesn't drink wine. So, what the hell am I supposed to do? Just act like it never happened?

DOTTIE (angry)

I'd do like that woman did on TV, and cut his pecker off!

KATIE

Dottie! My God! Look, I'm fine. Don't worry.
Please, let's just drop it.

DOTTIE

I'm sorry, Kate. Really. I'm a pig. I'm just
really stoned!

KATIE

(laughing)

Good shit, huh?

DOTTIE

Hell, yeah! Do I look Asian?

KATIE

That is so wrong! I got this from an old
boyfriend that just popped up on Facebook.

DOTTIE

Oh wow, Katie! Who? If I didn't have to pee
so bad, I'd let you tell me the whole story!

KATIE

There's no story, Dottie. Go pee.

DOTTIE kisses KATIE on the cheek and runs back to the house.

KATIE

No story--- yet.

KATIE (V.0.)

To tell the truth, I was just minding my own
business, and out of the blue, Stuart popped
up on my Facebook page. Stuart Thomas Maddox.
Back in high school, Stuart and I stumbled

through an awkward, teenage spark of sloppy kisses and curfews, but we were pretty hot for each other. And, we were both virgins. But, as fate would have it, life just threw us a fork in the middle of the path of learning, and we parted ways. One to go forth and prosper, the other into remote obscurity.

FADE TO BLACK