

# Exchange

by

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## 2nd Draft

**Characters:** John: of middle height, slim, long hair, good looking. Wants to be loved, gives in easily, romantic. - A classical female role  
Jane: of middle height, strongly build, short hair. Self centred, doesn't listen.  
Suppresses emotions. - A classical male role  
Susan, Angela, Caren: " buddies" of Jane's. All very rough.

**Locations:** Living room, kitchen, dining room and Pokertable, bedroom, bathroom  
deck of old ship

## 1 LIVING ROOM AND KITCHEN

Everything looks neat and tidy. It's cosy. A romantic rock song is filling up the air. You see the living room and then the kitchen where John is standing with his back to us, preparing dinner. You don't see that he is a man. His long hair is loose hanging over his shoulders. The cookery rattles. Then you hear the apartment door being closed and the keyring dropped on the table in the living room.

Jane  
It's me

## 2 LIVING ROOM

Jane, dressed in a suit, sits down in an armchair, loosens her tie and puts up her feet. We don't see that she is a woman.

## 3 KITCHEN

A hand is opening the fridge, takes out a beer and opens it.

## 4 LIVING ROOM

John is coming into the living room with the beer and gives it to Jane.

John  
Hi, Darling. How was your day?

Jane  
Not too bad. - I'm sorry I'm late. We had a lot of work to do. - Is dinner ready?

John  
Yes, almost. It won't be a minute.

John is going back into the kitchen.

Jane (louder)  
I'm starving.

Jane is drinking the beer noisily and burps.

Just what I needed

While John is preparing the dinner in the kitchen he talks to Jane.

John

You know, you should talk to your boss. Every day you have to work so late. She should employ someone new when your business is doing so good.

Jane just enjoys her beer. She doesn't even bother to respond. John keeps on talking.

Poor baby, you must be exhausted! I hope you had lunch. It's not right that they won't let you have the required lunch break. You should report this to the union. - I thought we'll have red wine with our dinner. The bottle is already on the dining room table. Darling, would you please open it.

Jane reluctantly gets up and walks to the dining room, taking her beer with her..

## 5 DINING ROOM

A beautifully set table with candlelights already lit, nice plates, cutlery, table cloth. Jane walks in and puts her beer on the table. She takes the bottle of wine and opens it. John is still talking in the kitchen.

John

I tried a new recipe tonight: Beef Stroganoff. I know you like fillet. And they were on sale. You know, I got the recipe from Mr Lupin, our new neighbour. Have you met them?

As he raises the question John is coming into the dining room with the food on two plates. Jane and John are now face to face.

Jane

No

She is pouring wine into the glasses.

John

They're having a house warming party this Saturday. I said we would come.

He expectantly looks at her. She doesn't look too happy.

Jane

Do we have to?

She starts to eat.

John

Steve, Mr Lupin, told me that his wife loves meat, you know, just like you and they will have a big bar-b-q. And she also brews her own beer. He said you should come over one night and try it. - Anyway, Steve said, that Linda, his wife, loves Beef Stroganoff, so I thought you might like it, too. How is it?

He smiles and is anxious to hear her praising his cooking.

Jane  
Yes, it's good. -  
I'm going over to Susan's. -

Disappointment is showing in Johns face.

John  
But I thought we would spend the evening together.

Jane  
Not today, I'm afraid. They can't play without me. Kate has the flu. I just take a shower and I'm off.

John  
But it is Friday night! I haven't seen much of you all week. You're always coming home so late and then you're so tired and only want to watch TV. I thought we could go out, spending time together.

Jane  
Another time

John  
But...

Jane looks at her watch and interupts him.

Jane  
Look, I really must be on my way

She is leaving. His eyes following her. Then he slowly is putting the dishes together and carries them into the kitchen. Then he comes out again, blows out the candles, sighs and goes back into the kitchen with the rest of the dishes.

## 6 KITCHEN

John is washing up the dishes. Jane comes in.

Jane  
I might be late. Don't wait up for me.

She is giving him a goodbye-kiss.

John  
Be careful! Don't drive home if you had too much to drink

Jane  
Don't worry.

While going out again she grabs him at his bottom. We hear the door and silence. Lonely John is washing up the dishes.

7 SUSAN'S DINING ROOM

The room is full of smoke. Music in the background. Loud talking. Jane, Susan, Angela and Caren are sitting at the table playing poker, drinking and smoking. They laugh and have fun.

8 BATHROOM

John is standing in front of the mirror, barechested and turns on the razor. He lifts his arm and shaves under the armpit, where there is already no hair. Then he shaves the other armpit, turns the razor off and puts it away. He puts his hair back in a ponytail takes one last look into the mirror and goes into the bedroom.

9 BEDROOM

John comes into the bedroom, puts on the pyjamatop and goes into bed. He takes a book from the nightstand and starts reading it. You see the cover: "Love you forever" and a strong woman embraces a man who has his hair down.

10 SUSAN'S DINING ROOM

The women are getting drunk and starting to make jokes about men.

Susan  
How do you make a man come?

The others are guessing: Fuck him! Blow his dick!

Who cares!

They're laughing.

Angela  
Another one another one!!

The women try to calm down to listen to her.

What do you call the useless skin attached to the penis?

She is not waiting for them to guess.

The guy!

They are laughing so hard that Jane, who was just having a sip of her beer, is spilling the beer over the table

## 11 BEDROOM

The clock shows 1 am. John is putting the book aside and turns off the light. It's dark and we hear the toilet flush. The door opens and light falls in. Then the light in the bedroom is turned on.

Jane  
Honey, are you awake?

No answer.

Come on, I know you're awake.

She is going to him and jumps on the bed. He is turning around and they are facing each other.

John  
You're drunk!

He is trying to push her back.

Leave me alone. I want to sleep.

Jane  
Come on, you can do better than that. I know I can make you hot anytime!

Jane is moving off him so she can put her arm under the sheet. He winces and tries to pull her hand back.

John  
Get off me!

Jane  
I want you!

She is holding his head in both hands and kisses him. He goes rigid but she is moving all over him and has her pleasure. Very quick everything is over and she rolls to her side. He is turning away from her. He feels sad and humiliated and has tears in his eyes. He turns out the light and dreams about his heroin.

## 12 DREAM SEQUENCE

John is tied up to the mast of a pirate ship. His clothes are torn apart. Jane, dressed as a pirate is fighting with her sword against other womenpirates. She kills them and then she turns to him, cuts the ropes.

They fall in each other's arms and kiss.

THE END