

Blind Date

Arthur Keyser





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BLIND DATE

by

Arthur S. Keyser

CAST

JEN: An attractive woman in her mid-sixties.

WAITRESS: Who is in her late fifties.

GUS: A handsome man in his late-sixties.

Place

A quiet upscale restaurant in a mid-sized city.

Time

Six-thirty on a weekday evening.

At rise: JEN walks into the restaurant. She waits for a hostess to seat her, but before the hostess appears, the WAITRESS approaches her.

WAITRESS: Excuse me. If you're waiting for our hostess, she's busy just now, but I can seat you. Will it be just one?

JEN: I hope not. I'm expecting someone to join me. A gentleman.

WAITRESS: Would you like to wait here? Or would you prefer that I seat you now?

JEN: If you don't mind, I'd rather wait at the table.

WAITRESS: Of course. And if a single gentleman comes in looking for someone he's meeting, who should I say has already arrived?

JEN: If he's an attractive man, just say it's the computer lady.

WAITRESS: And if he's not attractive?

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JEN: Just say the computer lady called and said she couldn't make it. Her plans were changed.

WAITRESS: You want me to make that decision?

JEN: Something tells me you'll have no trouble deciding.

(The WAITRESS leads JEN to a table for two in a quiet corner of the restaurant, where the lighting is very subdued.)

WAITRESS: Will there be enough light here? I can move you to a table that has better lighting.

JEN: This will be just fine.

WAITRESS: Would you like to order a drink, while you're waiting?

JEN: I would love a drink. A vodka martini, straight up...very dry.

(The WAITRESS takes a small electronic tablet from her pocket and punches in some information.)

WAITRESS: One vodka martini, straight up. By the time I get over to the bar, our bartender should have it ready.

JEN: Isn't it incredible how computers have changed our lives?

(Looking over toward the door into the restaurant, the WAITRESS sees the door open and a man walks in.)

WAITRESS: I'll have your drink in just a moment. I just saw someone walk in the door. Maybe it's your gentleman.

(The WAITRESS walks over to the door. The man who has just entered is GUS.)

GUS: Excuse me, I'm looking for—

WAITRESS: A very attractive woman? I think I know who you're meeting. Is it the computer lady?

GUS: That's her. She didn't give me her name.

WAITRESS: I think you're going to be pleased, and I'm sure she won't be disappointed.

GUS: Disappointed?

WAITRESS: Don't mind me. I'll take you to her table. She's already ordered a drink. Can I bring you something?

GUS: Sure. Do you have a single malt scotch?

WAITRESS: I know we have Glenlivet.

GUS: That's fine. In a large glass with ice on the side.

WAITRESS: I'll put the order in with the bartender, but first I'll take you to your table.

(The WAITRESS leads GUS to the table, where JEN is sitting. He doesn't sit down. The WAITRESS walks away.)

GUS: Excuse me. Are you—

JEN: Yes.

GUS: Yes what?

JEN: Yes. I'm the computer lady. And you must be Gus. I recognized you right away from the picture on my computer screen.

GUS: Is computer lady your real name or may I call you something else?

JEN: I'm sorry. Jennifer's my name, but I'd rather be called Jen.

(The WAITRESS returns to their table, carrying the drinks on a tray. She places the martini in front of JEN and the two glasses, scotch in one and ice in the other, in front of GUS.)

WAITRESS: Will there be anything else now?

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GUS: Not for the moment.

(The WAITRESS leaves.)

GUS: You're much prettier than your picture...Jen.

JEN: If we're exchanging compliments, you look younger than your picture.

GUS: I probably needed a shave.

JEN: Shaved or not, it's nice meeting you, Gus.

GUS: I've never done this before.

JEN: Been on a blind date?

GUS: Used a computer dating site. Have you?

JEN: A few times.

GUS: And?

JEN: They haven't worked out.

GUS: But you're trying again?

JEN: I liked what you wrote, how you described yourself.

GUS: Suppose I lied? I could have used someone else's picture. I've heard some men do that.

JEN: I'm looking at you now. You didn't lie. You're quite handsome...even without a five o'clock shadow.

GUS: Maybe I should quit while I'm ahead. You might decide I'm just another one that didn't work out.

END OF FREEVIEW
You'll want to read and perform this show!