

Get Your Flu Shot

Bob Naquin



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GET YOUR FLU SHOT

by Bob Naquin

CAST

EDITH: An older woman.

RAY: An older man.

Place

Anywhere.

Time

Present.

At Rise: A couple is having a cup of coffee as they discuss the day's plans. They sit quietly for a moment.

EDITH: What do you have on your schedule for the day?

RAY: Well I thought I would have this coffee, read the paper, pretend that I was listening to you, and then take a nap.

EDITH: You are so funny. You know that violent death is not that common in Canada, but I could beat you with my shoe and make you the exception.

RAY: Oh relax, Edith. You know I kid because I love.

EDITH: Well I love you too. That is why I think we should run down to the flu clinic today and get the shot.

RAY: A flu shot! That is just for really, really old people.

EDITH: Well I hate to be the bearer of bad news but you are not a really, really young person any longer.

RAY: Give me a break, Edith. Sixty-five is the new fifty.

EDITH: Who are you trying to kid here? I looked at your high school yearbook the other day and I am sure I saw a picture of Moses in there.

RAY: Well I have been around for a while, but so have you. We graduated the same year.

EDITH: I will have you know, that women like me age like fine wine.

RAY: Some of them do. The others age like milk.

EDITH: I am going to assume that I fall into the fine wine category.

RAY: Of course you do. (*thinking*) Then again my eyesight is not what it used to be.

EDITH: Well your eyesight is not going to be any better if you get the flu.

RAY: Nobody gets the flu any more.

EDITH: In Canada there were over 31,000 confirmed cases of flu last year. And a lot of people die from the complications associated with getting the flu.

RAY: That whole swine flu thing was just a scare tactic by big government.

EDITH: I am not talking about swine flu. I am talking about H1N1 flu which is a major cause of respiratory problems and even death among older people. But the flu changes every year and that is why you need a shot every year.

RAY: I guess that swine flu was taken care of by an oinkment, huh?

EDITH: (*sarcastically*) You are so funny. But don't try to change the subject. We all need to get a flu shot not only to protect ourselves but to protect everyone we come into contact with.

RAY: But I never get the flu. Well I did get the Intentional Flu once when I wanted to go fishing. I have never been actually sick a day in my life. Why should I get a flu shot?

EDITH: For the same reason you wear a seatbelt. If you never need it, so much the better. But why not have it?

RAY: I am not going to come into contact with anyone that has the flu so what do I care?

EDITH: Well flu germs can live on surfaces for 48 hours. So you never really have to touch someone to get it. And you come into contact with me every day. You want to give me the flu?

RAY: No, I guess not. Unless it counts as an anniversary present.

EDITH: No, it does not. And by the way you still owe me an anniversary present. Something that is shiny goes from zero to 120 in a hurry would be nice.

RAY: Okay, okay. I will get you a scale for your anniversary.

EDITH: And I am going to get you a burial at sea if you don't stop with the wise cracks.

RAY: Okay.

EDITH: Besides you could have the flu and just feel a little achy but still be infecting other people with it. You want to give our grandkids the flu? Or heaven forbid, my mother?

RAY: Well that would be a 'no' on the grandkids. (*thinking*) Can I get back to you about your mother?

EDITH: You are not going to infect our kids, our grandkids or anyone else because you are going to do the right thing and get your flu shot.

RAY: But the last time I got a flu shot it made me sick.

EDITH: That's not possible. It's only a copy of the virus, a 'killed vaccine,' and that can't make you sick. In two short weeks, your body has produced antibodies and voila' you're protected!

RAY: The people who come up with these shots are just guessing about what strain is coming anyway, so it won't work.

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!