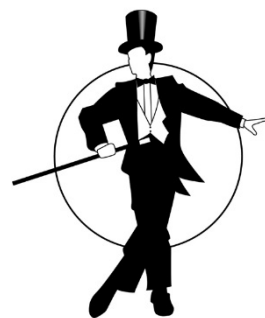


Chicken or Meatloaf?

Eric Weil



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CHICKEN OR MEATLOAF?

Eric Weil

CAST

CHUCK: Husband, in his 50's - 60's

CAROL: Wife, in her 50's - 60's

Place

Living room of Chuck and Carol's middle-class home.

Time

The present. Late one afternoon.

CHICKEN OR MEATLOAF?

At Rise: CHUCK sits on the sofa, reading the newspaper. Enter CAROL, dish towel in hand. She speaks rapid-fire.

CAROL: What do you want for supper, Chuck? I could make us a nice juicy meatloaf or I could roast the chicken breasts I got yesterday? Bake us each a big ole potato?

CHUCK: Meatloaf. *(barely gets his answer in as CAROL takes a breath)*

CAROL: Except the ground beef is still frozen and the chicken breasts are in the meat drawer. I never put them in the freezer yesterday when I got home with them.

CHUCK: Chicken then.

CAROL: Although I guess I could defrost the ground beef in the microwave and save the chicken for tomorrow, it really wouldn't make much of a difference you know, either way?

CHUCK: Okay.

CAROL: Okay thaw the ground beef for the meatloaf or okay chicken? Because I'll fix whichever one you want today and we'll have the other one tomorrow.

CHUCK: Okay, meatloaf.

CAROL: Except now that I'm thinking about it I really think we ought to have the chicken tonight and save the meatloaf for tomorrow, I'll get the ground beef out of the freezer right now so it'll be ready by tomorrow, but we'll just go ahead and have the chicken today, okay?

CHUCK: Okay.

CAROL: Okay then. I'm glad that's settled.

CHUCK: But Carol?

CAROL: Yes, dear?

CHUCK: Why did you ask me which one I wanted, meatloaf or chicken, when you'd already decided on the chicken?

CAROL: But I hadn't already decided on the chicken rather than the meatloaf.

CHUCK: Really?

CAROL: Really. I wanted your input so we could decide together what to have tonight.

CHUCK: Because if you had just said, "We're having chicken tonight," I'd have said, "fine."

CAROL: No, you wouldn't. You'd have said, "Chicken again?"

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!