

MP

The Goodbye Girl

Paula

Elliot? Elliot? Are you up here? Say something! I don't like this...

Elliot

I said it was formal, kid! Party's got to be over by 9:00 am. Otherwise, it's another 5 bucks for the suit. Don't panic! Even Ginger was nervous the first time she danced with me. (He sings along with music) "How about you? I like a Gershwin tune. How about you? I like the fireplace when the lights are low. I like potatos chips, moonlight and motar trips. How about you?" What are you crying about?

Paula

So kill me... I'm a sucker for romance

Elliot

Elliot Garfield is a many faceted individual. I got a job. A real job. A real acting job.

Paula

You did? Where?

Elliot

Its at a place called The Inventory. It's an improvisational group of Charles St. They saw Richard III. They said if I could do that, I could do anything.

Paula

Oh no! Don't let it rain!

Elliot

Don't worry about that. The suits too big for me anyway. I auditioned for them today. It's improvisation you understand. Now, very difficult, but I auditioned with this very talented girl, Linda. Really talented girl--

Paula

Is she pretty?

Elliot

No, very unpretty. Very ugly. Unpug-nosed. I played Abraham Lincoln. Mary Todd Lincoln's out of town. General Grant takes me to a cathouse. We're all trying to act very dignified— (they kiss)

Paula

Oh don't stop, I never danced in the rain!

Elliot

To hell with the dancing! My pizza's getting drenched! So what happened after you found out about this other girl and Tony?

Paula
Bobby. Tony comes after Bobby.

Elliot
Sorry

Paula
Well it happens all the time on the road. He's gone for 6 months with a play, he gets lonely. The only time you have a good marriage is when your husband is in a flop. He's broke but he's home.

Elliot
How'd you meet Tony?

Paula
I'm ashamed to tell you.

Elliot
Why?

Paula
I saw him in "The Iceman Cometh" at Circle in the Square. He wasn't very good but he was gorgeous. I couldn't take my eyes off of him. Don't ask. I waited until he came out of the stage door and I introduced myself like a regular groupie. A week later, I moved in with him. I used to do things like that.

Elliot
Why?

Paula
Well when you dance in the chorus of a musical the boys voices are usually higher than the girls. After 10 years of that, you get very hung up on macho men. Thank god I am over that period.

Elliot
I think I;; let that remark pass.

Paula
Are we going to sleep with each other tonight?

Elliot
Of all the "right up front" girls I know, you are the "right up frontest." How do you feel about it?

Paula
Nervous. A push over but nervous