

Four Weddings and a Funeral.

Carrie and Charles sit in a tea room.

CHARLES

Do you mind the always raining in England

CARRIE

I love it - when we were young and it rained, my Dad always took us out in big yellow coats, with no umbrellas and we'd fool around 'till the rain stopped - so for my family, rain's a happy thing.

CHARLES

That's a sickeningly wholesome story
- what did your Dad do when it was sunny?

CARRIE

He locked us in the basement and .beat us with sticks.

CHARLES

One really strange thing is thinking you'll never sleep with anyone else. You don't think you'll ever be unfaithful?

CARRIE

No - not once we're married - I've told Hamish I'll kill him if he is - so I think I better stick by that.

CHARLES

Quite right. Although just before he died John Betjeman was asked if he had any regrets in life and he said he wished he'd slept around more.

CARRIE

No -I reckon I've had a fair run at it.

CHARLES

How many is a fair run these days?

CARRIE

o, I don't know - more than ... one.

CHARLES

Like - how many? I've seen the dress - I can take anything now.

CARRIE

Well... Okay - let's see. Right - 1 - not easily forgotten. Kind of nice. 2 - mistake, hairy back. 3 - lovely, getting into the swing of it now. 4, 5, 6, that was my birthday present.

CHARLES

Which birthday?

CARRIE

Sixteen I think.

CHARLES

We've only reached sixteen?

CARRIE

That's right: I was brought up in the country - endless fooling around in barns. Then there was 7 - yummy - 8 - yummy yummy- 9 - against a fence - really uncomfortable - don't try it ...

CHARLES

I won't.

CARRIE

Then 10 - ah, 10 - he was the really annoying one we all have, when you say, oh no, why didn't I know all this stuff before?" - I wasted one to nine. 11 - obviously, in the circumstances, very disappointing. 12 - still recovering. 13 - o, so there's even more to it. 14, 15, 16, 17 - the University years - lovely, intelligent, sensitive sexually speaking, a real low patch. 18 - he broke my heart. Long years of yearning.

CHARLES

I'm sorry.

CARRIE

After which came 19 - who I don't remember, but my room-mate said we did it - 20 - long one - 3 years. 21 - my Fatal Attraction.

CHARLES

He went crazy?

CARRIE

No, he looked like Michael Douglas. 22 - that was my first year in England - I love English guys - 23 and 24 together, something

CHARLES

You're joking.

CARRIE

No, it was a holiday, I was brown, they were foreign, sure beat conversation, and we're before AIDS. 25 - gorgeous - older man. 26 - dreadful - older man. 27 - that was a mistake.

CHARLES

Suddenly at 27 you make a mistake?

CARRIE

He had a really bad cold, I thought it wouldn't matter, it did. Actually there are a few nasty ones round here - lots

of rather grand Frenchman I thought were glamorous.
Very nearly thing. But Spencer changed my mind
that's 28. His father - 29 ...

CHARLES
His Father

CARRIE
Then 30 - he shouted a lot, which I
found odd, 31 - fine, 32 - lovely. And my fiancée - 33.

CHARLES
So I came after your fiancée

CARRIE
No, you were 32.

CHARLES
o thank you.

CARRIE
So there we have it - something to
tell my daughters. you?

CHARLES
Me?

CARRIE
Yes - how many girls have you slept
with?

CHARLES
O God, well, nothing like that many. I don't know what
the fuck I've been doing with my time. Work probably -
that's it. Work. I have been working late, a lot.

CARRIE
Well, go on.

CHARLES
Ah, well, lets see -

Oh It must be about twenty.

CARRIE
No go on, try harder.

CHARLES
Five...six...all right, about 15.

CARRIE
My husband says he's slept with 84.

CHARLES
That's a lie - he's filthy liar.

CARRIE
Apparently not. He was very perky

in his 30's.

CHARLES

Was he? o, God. I've wasted my life! Here I am, having tea when I should be out scouring the streets. Look, do you mind if I pay 'n' run, I've got serious shagging to do. sorry - Sorry.I wish I'd rung you. But then you didn't' ring me either. You ruthlessly slept with me twice, and then never rang me.

CARRIE

That's another thing about getting married - you look back on all the people you've been with, and you get sentimental about them, and you think about other decisions you might have made. Who knows, maybe I should have given the guy with the hairy back another chance -there are creams. I have to go soon.

CHARLES

I know this is a stupid question - particularly in view of our recent shopping trip - but I just wondered whether you're sure - well of course you're sure, but I just wondered whether there's any chance - I mean obviously not, I'm just some git who's slept with 9 people but I just wondered whether I know I'm going to regret this even as I say it, but I really feel...aha..in short, in a slightly clearer version - in the words of David Cassidy in fact , while he was still with the partridge family.- ' I think I love you' and I wonder whether you wouldn't by any chance like to ... no of course not, that's the answer really isn't it - I'm an idiot, he's not. Excellent, excellent. Fantastic. Im so sorry. Lovely to see you. Sorry to disturb you - better get on. Fuck.

CARRIE

That was very romantic

CHARLES

Well I thought it over a lot, you know, wanted to get it just right ...

CARRIE

No, I mean it. I'm getting married in 14 days time

CHARLES

Yes. I agree. I just wanted to have said it - important to have said it it think,

CARRIE

Said what?

CHARLES

Well, You know to have said what I just said about David Cassidy. Would you· like to marry me just -in case you' re being forced into this marriage by some kind of hideous blackmail. •• If that' s the case - if there's some grotesque plot to make you marry a man you absolutely hate, I'm willing to step in and save you.

CARRIE

Thank you. I really appreciate
that. You're lovely.