

The Boys Next Door
Norman and Sheila Date

Sheila arrives to Norman's house with flowers and knocks on the door. Norman answers the door.

Norman. Hi Sheila.

Sheila. Hi Norman.

Norman. Hi Sheila.

Sheila. Hi Norman.

Norman. Hi Sheila. Hello. My name is Norman Bulanksy. Welcome to my home. Won't you take a seat?

Sheila sits and Norman brings doughnuts to the coffee table for them.

Sheila. This is nice.

Norman. Yeah. It used to be better when we had those little rugs but, but Arnold's got them hid.

Sheila. Arnold. ICK! He's not here is he?

Norman. Oh boy, that's all we need. Can I manage your coat?

Sheila. I don't have one.

Norman. Oh boy.

Sheila. I got these for you. (Sheila hands Norman the flowers)

Norman. Flowers.

Sheila. Picked them at the lot near the Swanco gas station. You know that lot?

Norman. Swanco gas, that's good gas. Would you please like a doughnut?

(Sheila grabs a doughnut)

Sheila. I gotta go at 4. The bus comes then.

Norman. Oh boy. Alright. I know what to do. (Norman sets the flowers down and runs to the kitchen and returns with the timer. He sits on the flowers without realizing it)

Norman. This is the clock that Barry uses when he makes eggs. Um, I don't like eggs. They make sticky plates. And don't get me started on lemonade. But I will just set this at 4 and the bell will tell us when it's time. It works like a butler or somebody.

Sheila. Very good Norman.

Norman. Ooooh. We have a shower curtain with sailboats. You wanna see?

Sheila. I went before I came. (beat) I could see the sailboats anyway?

Norman. Why not? You're here.

(They get up and go towards the bathroom and Norman realizes he has sat on the flowers.)

Norman. Sheila. I'm very sorry but I think I broke your flowers.

Sheila. That's alright Norman.

Norman. I'm very sorry.

Sheila. That's alright.

(Norman points out the Welcome sign on the door)

Norman. We usually don't have a sign up like this. It's just for special times.

Sheila. It's a cozy pad Norman.

Norman. Yeah we like it. Would you please have another doughnut?

Sheila. I had Spaghettios for lunch.

Norman. Then it's time. Go have a doughnut on the couch. I've got a surprise to surprise you with.

(Norman runs to the kitchen as Sheila goes back to the couch)

Sheila. Let me guess. Is it a frog?

Norman. Oh boy. A frog would be hard to wrap.

Sheila. See Norman, you're so funny.

Norman. I sure am funny. Oh boy, you ain't kiddin. Sheila, I got you this. It's a present.

Sheila. Oh Norman. I feel all jumpy.

Norman. Me too. Can I have the bows?

Sheila. No. Oh Norman. Keys! You got me keys!

Norman. There nice huh? Try them on. Oh boy, I can't wait to see them on.

Sheila. What side?

Norman. Whatever makes you feel more balanced. Arnold got me all the keys. They're movie theater keys.

Sheila. Movie keys.

(The alarm goes off)

Norman. Oh boy, did that go fast.

Sheila. I gotta go. Bus goes at 4. I gotta go. Bus leaves Norman at 4. It don't wait.

(Sheila starts to leave)

Norman. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you for visiting with my home. Won't you take a doughnut for the road?

Sheila. I gotta go. Norman, this is the most best beautiful present I ever got.

(She gives him a kiss)

Norman. Me too.

(She leaves and starts walking down the street)

Norman. Sheila. Welcome to Norman Bulansky. Please come again. (He realizes he is locked out) Oh boy. Bye Sheila!