

ACT III THE ANNIVERSARY

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SHIRLEY No. I love him, and I've got his baby, you see.

MUM (smoothing her dress) Not very original, are you, dear?

SHIRLEY It doesn't show, I know.

MUM But it does.

SHIRLEY You knew?

MUM (stretching her neck and feeling the front of it) Up here it showed. Round here.

KAREN (frowning) He's never gone this far before.

HENRY I think we ought to make her leave.

MUM (with narrowed eyes) You know, it's about time you had

treatment for your complaint, Henry. It's affecting your mind.

(TERRY glances across at MUM.)

SHIRLEY (bravely) You're the one who ought to walk out, Henry.

HENRY (kindly as he sits in armchair R.) I've nowhere to go, Shirley.

SHIRLEY Neither will I once my parents find out about the kid.

MUM (with dignity) Thank God, there are still some people left with Christian values. Not many of us, I admit, but a few.

At least I know she comes from a decent family, so that's one worry I can cross off.

SHIRLEY (hopefully) Are you pleased about the baby, Mum?

MUM No, not really. I keep seeing your ears on him.

(SHIRLEY gazes at MUM'S back. She then turns and goes out.)

With a brief glance over her shoulder.) Walked out a bit

different from last time, didn't she?

TERRY (taking a few paces in) Did you mean that about Henry needing treatment, Mum?

MUM Why?

TERRY Well, it's what he would get if he gave himself up.

MUM (indignantly) I'm not having no son of mine hauled up in front of a magistrate.

TERRY But what about me?

MUM You needn't be there neither.

KAREN He needn't?

MUM Not if he does his Mum a favour.

KAREN (suspiciously) What's the favour?

MUM Forget about Canada.

(KAREN crosses to the french windows.)

Terry

Karen

Mum