

BILL'S BACK

CORI. Alright. Here goes. Just remember you asked. (*She collects herself, then presses onward*) Barry, you are a failure. I fail to see how you can continually call yourself a playwright. Correct me if I'm wrong, but isn't the definition of a playwright . . . one who writes plays? Looking at you, I feel for Shannon. She was completely taken in by you. As far as I'm concerned, you're no better than a crook. I'm not calling you a crook, I'm just saying that you are no better than one. What's the difference you may ask? A crook is one who steals from people and knowingly does it. You, stole from Shannon, and she nor you ever knew it was happening. Look, I'm not opposed to a person supporting another person *if* the person that is being supported is doing something constructive! You, however, spend your days sitting on your ass. Has it hit you that Shannon is actually gone? What are you going to do for rent? Food? Bills? Where did you think all of that money was going to come from? Did you think that it was going to fall from Heaven like manna? If you think that things are bad now, you just wait. You are a very lonely person. I understand lonely. I have trouble with people, myself. No one will take me for what I truly am. Then again, how can people take me seriously if I don't do the same for them? But, it's a little different with me. I can bat my eyelashes and get a free meal. You can't! That's not my rules. That is a gender thing that society has thrust upon you. It's hard. I know. But, Barry, you are going down the tubes. No, you are already down the tubes . . . you're just plugging up the ends now. If you don't change, if you don't change *soon*, your life is as good as over. You have to take charge of your problem. Take the bull by the horns. Change! (Pause) You say that you have a mental block. A mental block is only supposed to be temporary . . . *it's not supposed to be a lifetime problem!* (Pause) You have to get over this. Otherwise, you will never meet a woman that is willing to stay with you. Look at Shannon. From what I gather, she stayed as long as she could . . . then she finally realized that enough was enough. Women are women are women, Barry. We are all different, but we are also all the same. Just like men are. I'm a firm believer that whoever said

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that history never repeats itself should be shot to death. My experience has taught me that it seems that's all it does. You are going to realize that, Barry. The hard way. You say that everyone always runs out on you? Take a good look at yourself and ask yourself this, "If you were a woman, would you honestly want to stay with you?" Don't answer it . . . just think about it. (Pause) I have to go. I hope that you work through this, Barry. You're pathetic . . .but you're still a good person underneath.