

## The Rabbit Trap

ABBY: How did he find you

EDDIE: I didn't tell him where we were

ABBY: You must've

EDDIE: I mailed him a card when I went into town Tuesday but I didn't say where

ABBY: Postmark

EDDIE: I didn't think of that

ABBY: Eddie let's not go he gave you a vacation two weeks

EDDIE: Honey

ABBY: Every year it's the same thing let's not let him get away with it this time we didn't get the message they couldn't find us we don't know anything about it

EDDIE: Now listen honey

ABBY: Do you know how many weeks paid vacation you've had in eight years three including this week in eight years what does he think you are last year and the year before he couldn't spare you at all

EDDIE: I got a nice bonus

ABBY: So did Gerry so did Matty and Pete and they got vacations too

EDDIE: It was a special deal

ABBY: Yeah special for them three years ago he let you have a week but we had to keep in touch remember that so we stayed in that little hotel in Hampton Bays and you called in every morning and we couldn't plan a thing because we didn't know from one hour to the next whether we'd be there and sure enough we had to come back a day ahead of time some vacation and the year before that none I forget what his story was that year oh sure you get a bonus two weeks pay well so did Gerry and Matty, and they got two weeks off besides and they sent us a card from Pike's Peak Eddie I don't care what happens let's say we didn't get the message

EDDIE: But honey we did the message

ABBY: Then we did get it and we ignored it

EDDIE: There's such a thing as company loyalty

ABBY: The company doesn't own you

EDDIE: If I'm going to move up I have to prove to him I can be depended on to be there when I'm needed

ABBY: He knows you can be depended on to do what you are told whether it's fair to you or not

EDDIE: That isn't true and you know it

ABBY: He knows he can get away with it so he treats you like dirt can't you see that

EDDIE: Now honey you've built this whole thing up out of proportion there are certain things there that I have to handle that's all like Campbell-Cherokee that's my account maybe something's come up on that Spellman's learned to depend on me honey he's been giving me raises when he couldn't afford it he's been having trouble

collecting on some of the jobs I told you that it's not all rosy with him either and I'm in line to move up a notch any day now I know it's tough but

ABBY: You've been in line a long time Eddie

EDDIE: If you're talking about Pete honey Pete was behind me in seniority I know and he wasn't a neat draftsman but he was better qualified than I am to be a project engineer I wasn't ever in line for that kind of promotion Pete has the educational background don't forget I have the experience yes but Spellman told me that he was holding me for just the right spot I wasn't ready to be a project engineer I wasn't ready

ABBY: Oh, darling do you mean you weren't ready to take the responsibility of learning a new job do you mean

EDDIE: No wait a minute

ABBY: you weren't ready to fight to be promoted ahead of some of the others

EDDIE: I've got a record to protect I can't just grab any promotion without knowing whether I can make good on it only a jerk would do that and jeopardize his whole future just to try to get ahead a little faster

ABBY: Darling I hope you won't hate me for saying this but it's true and you've got to find it out you don't really believe you deserve to get ahead

EDDIE: Are you out of your mind

ABBY: You think everybody that has more education than you ought to be ahead of you

EDDIE: I'll tell you just how far off base you are Abby how could I feel like I lack education over there Spellman himself was the one who told me I should quit night school he said two years was enough did you forget that he said I had plenty of book stuff and I should quit missing out on the overtime did you forget that

ABBY: No I didn't forget that Eddie can I say one thing more you know how you used to wrap me up in your arms sometimes and I'd say I wasn't afraid of anything on earth while you were holding me like that

EDDIE: Yes

ABBY: You don't wrap me up like that anymore and I don't say things like that anymore because we both know they wouldn't be true anymore I feel afraid now that's a horrible thing to have to say.

EDDIE: Well just in case you think I've gotten so weak that I can't control my own family get ready we're going back to Long Island tonight

ABBY: When you act like this it doesn't make you seem strong it makes you seem weaker

EDDIE: I said get ready

ABBY: OK