

**The You'll-Never-Have-a-Second-Wife Club**

By

Dawson Moore

PO Box 3505

Valdez AK 99686

907-255-5325

[dawsonguy@juno.com](mailto:dawsonguy@juno.com); [www.dawsonmoore.com](http://www.dawsonmoore.com)

## The You'll-Never-Have-a-Second-Wife Club

### Characters

Elisabeth	Female, mid-20s. A wronged wife.
Selena	Female, early 30s. Leader of the Club.
Karena	Female, mid-20s. The uptight assistant.
Dakota	Female, 50s. A hardened killer.
4 Stupid Men	Male, 20s to 30s. All played by the same actor. Varied, but all stupid in their own special ways.

### SET

The play takes place in a feminine living room. There is a settee with a coffee table set up with scones and tea. There are two doors: one to the outside, the other to a restroom. A hallway leads to the rest of the house.

### TIME

The Present.

*Lights up on Elisabeth sitting. She has clearly been crying: she holds tissues, her face is red, and she is on the verge of crying again at a moment's notice. Karena enters from outside. She is very athletic and peppy, with an undercurrent of youthful nastiness.*

KARENA

Hey there, Elisabeth!

ELISABETH

Oh. Hello.

KARENA

Ready to talk about what that bastard did to you?

ELISABETH

Oh!

KARENA

Come on, Elisabeth. Lighten up.

ELISABETH

You don't understand!

KARENA

I do understand. That's why you're here. Everyone here knows exactly what you're going through.

ELISABETH

When we met, all I wanted was some Tupperware.

KARENA

And I appreciate your purchase.

ELISABETH

I needed new stuff anyway. But then when we got to talking... I don't know that I want to go through with this.

KARENA

At least hear us out. Selena is ready to see you now.

ELISABETH

Oh, okay... if she's ready... I guess I am, too.

KARENA

That's the spirit. Great enthusiasm.

SELENA

*(off)*

Ahem!

*Selena enters and crosses to Elisabeth. She is put-together and graceful.*

SELENA

Elisabeth, wonderful to meet you. Fresh tissue?

ELISABETH

Oh... thanks.

*Elisabeth takes one last honk into her snot rag. Selena offers her a package of napkins. Karena takes the used one, wads it up into a ball, and shoots it basketball style into the audience, pauses, then raises her hands in victory.*

SELENA

*(disapproving)*

Nice shot.

KARENA

Thank youuuuuu!

SELENA

Ahem. Well, Elisabeth, tell me: why should we kill your husband?

KARENA

Tell us what he did.

ELISABETH

*(standing to go)*

I don't think this is for me.

*The two of them circle her.*

SELENA

No, no, calm down, have a bonbon.

KARENA

*(producing chocolate)*

Just sit down.

SELENA

We just like to test people with that question. You SHOULD find murder horrible.

KARENA

And gross.

SELENA

But it is why you are here.

ELISABETH

I just said I'd think about it!

SELENA

If you'll think about it, then you'll do it.

KARENA

The only question is when.

SERENA

And will you get away with it.

KARENA

Good chocolate, huh?

ELISABETH

Yes, but—

SELENA

So do it. Think about it. Talk about it. Let's share our feelings about that miserable bastard, and we'll see if you don't come to the same conclusion we all did.

ELISABETH

Well—

KARENA

*(dangling candy in front of her)*

I've got more chocolate...

ELISABETH

Oh...

*(taking a chocolate, sitting)*

... I could just hear you out...

SELENA

Tell you what. Why don't we meet our killer? Karena, would you fetch her?

*Karena goes to the door and yells very loudly.*

KARENA

Dakota!!

SELENA

Karena.

KARENA

What? I have to yell.

*(to Elisabeth)*

Dakota's kind of deaf.

*Dakota enters, standing just on stage. She stares at Elisabeth, and doesn't stop doing this unless otherwise noted. She wears menace like other people wear shirts.*

SELENA

Elisabeth, meet Dakota. She does our 'wet ops.'

ELISABETH

Um... hello?

*Dakota just stares.*

SELENA

Well, she doesn't have to talk to him, does she?

KARENA

Tell us your story. She doesn't say much, but she can hear you.

ELISABETH

Well... what do you want to hear? He broke my heart.

SELENA

What was the moment? How did he tell you?

ELISABETH

Well... he said..

*She tears up as lights rise on Stupid Man 1 in a separate spot. He's well dressed.*

STUPID MAN 1

I've met someone.

*Elisabeth joins him. The other women watch.*

ELISABETH

Who?

STUPID MAN 1

You don't know her. She's why I've been coming home late.

ELISABETH

But... Jeff, why?

STUPID MAN 1

Come on, Liz. We both know it isn't working. You don't want to have sex with me. I'm a sexual being, Liz! You know that about me. I'm making a lot of money now... women are throwing themselves at me, and I can afford a younger, more attractive wife who WILL have sex with me. This marriage... it's like a chain around my neck. I'm not saying I didn't used to love you. I just don't any more.

*Spot out. Elisabeth rejoins the group. Karena rubs her shoulders.*

KARENA

Men! I don't care how rich he is. He isn't going to find a sexier wife than you.

ELISABETH

Uh, thanks.

SELENA

If he'd ever really loved you, he'd still love you, Elisabeth. Anything else means he's been lying to you this whole time.

KARENA

Men lie, Elisabeth.

SELENA

HE lied, that's what we're focusing on, Karena.

KARENA

It's all of them, Selena. Dakota's on my side, aren't you, Dakota?

*Dakota just stares at Elisabeth.*

Told you.

ELISABETH

But she didn't say anything.

KARENA

I can read her.

SELENA

The point is, Elisabeth, we've all been there. Why does he get to decide when it's over?

KARENA

Or how it ends.

SELENA

You decided to get married together, and now he wants to just tell you it's over.

ELISABETH

That's how it normally works, yes.

SELENA

Because men make those rules.

KARENA

Elisabeth, listen. It's always the same line.

*Lights up on Stupid Man 2. He's sportily garbed.*

STUPID MAN 2

I've met someone.

KARENA

Who?

*(he doesn't respond)*

YOU met someone? Oh really, where, online?

STUPID MAN 2

Yes.

KARENA

Are you kidding? You can't trust people you meet there.

STUPID MAN 2

We've met in person now.

KARENA

How long has this been going on?

STUPID MAN 2

Three months.

KARENA

Three months?

STUPID MAN 2

That's right.

KARENA

We had sex two nights ago.

STUPID MAN 2

I wanted one last time.

KARENA

I didn't know it was the last time.

STUPID MAN 2

It wouldn't have been the same if you had known.

KARENA

I—

STUPID MAN 2

Look, I wanted one last time. You're amazing in bed. Psycho chicks always are. And men will keep dating you because you're so hot and such a great lay until they can't deal with your crazy shit anymore! I just didn't see that till after I screwed up and married you. Jennifer isn't going to degrade me in public, doesn't flake out half the time, and can just be my friend.

KARENA

Wait, you're going off with my hairdresser?

STUPID MAN 2

That's right. We're in love. Don't worry, though. Over the next two weeks, you're going to be getting a lot of phone calls from men who think I'm an idiot for leaving you. Take your pick. See how long they last. You will never have a successful relationship with a man.

*Spotlight out. Karena reenters the group and rests her head on Dakota's shoulder.*

KARENA

It was like he was putting a curse on me.

DAKOTA

*(patting her head, still staring at Elisabeth)*

There, there.

ELISABETH

That's horrible, Karena.

SELENA

Is there no price for him to pay?

KARENA

*(moving to Elisabeth)*

That's when I found Selena.

SELENA

We grow one woman at a time. Our organization is here to wreak vengeance, Elisabeth, on the men who deserve it.

ELISABETH

*(to Karena)*

So you sell Tupperware?

KARENA

To support the organization and look for women.

SELENA

Women who are suffering. We all do it. I sell products from Southern Living. I'm not from the South, but there's a lot of great stuff in there!

DAKOTA

*(raising her hand)*

Mary Kay Cosmetics.

SELENA

Her pitch is actually quite good. She gives herself a make-over... it's quite the transformation.

ELISABETH

What happened to you?

SELENA

Same as everyone else...

*Lights up on Stupid Man 3. He wears bright colors, and is a tad effeminate. She joins him.*

STUPID MAN 3

I've met someone.

SELENA

Who?

STUPID MAN 3

It doesn't matter.

SELENA

Tell me.

STUPID MAN 3

Let it go.

SELENA

Tell me!

STUPID MAN 3

Selena-

SELENA

Tell me right now. Is it that little slut, your secretary? Are you giving it to her at work? That's it, isn't it?!

STUPID MAN 3

His name is Greg.

*(pause)*

He's Japanese.

*Lights out on the spot again.*

ELISABETH

That is harsh...

KARENA

He got his.

SELENA

I was devastated, of course. I'd turned a man completely off women. What hope was left for me? That's when I met Dakota. She was sitting alone in a bar. I remember her smiling, ear to ear, sitting by herself. And I was miserable, and I wanted to know why she was so happy. So I bought her some drinks, and eventually, she told me her story. Her taking care of my little problem—

ELISABETH

Your husband.

SELENA

Right. That's what made me think we should start this group.

ELISABETH

I don't understand how killing Jeff is going to change anything. I'll still feel as rejected as I did before.

KARENA

But he won't be around to remind you about it.

ELISABETH

I'll still be alone.

SELENA

So you meet someone else. Another man.

KARENA

Or another woman.

SELENA

Or another woman.

ELISABETH

But I'm not a lesbian.

KARENA

You could try it.

SELENA

Only if you want to. We're not trying to promote that.

Or discourage it. KARENA

Karena. SELENA

We're not saying "Don't be a lesbian," that's all I'm saying. KARENA

Have either of you met someone else? ELISABETH

It's too soon for me. I'm in mourning. It would look suspicious. SELENA

I get around. KARENA

What about you, Dakota? Have you met anyone? ELISABETH

*Dakota stares, looks off wistfully.*

Dakota is what is classifies as a "quirky alone." SELENA

(*explaining*)  
Solo unit. KARENA

What's your story, Dakota? ELISABETH

*Spotlight up on Stupid Man 4, now dressed in comfortable casual wear. Dakota stays with the women while he talks, now staring at him.*

I've met someone. STUPID MAN 4

(*pause*)  
Did you hear me? I've met someone. Someone I can communicate with. We never talk! I wish you would share your feelings with me. Emily does. When I touch her... it's the first time I ever felt two souls become one. I'm so sorry. I never meant to hurt you. This is a power that is

STUPID MAN 4

beyond my control. I'm in love in a way I never knew was possible, and I have to be with her. Please understand... and please stop STARING AT ME! You're kind of freaking me out.

DAKOTA

You're leaving me?

*She knees him in the crotch, then beats him unconscious, all the while screaming unintelligibly, then exits and returns with a chair, with which she beats his unconscious body. She leaves again and comes back on with a hacksaw. Lights back to normal.*

ELISABETH

Oh my God! But... he just fell in love with someone else... and you killed him and chopped his body into pieces!

DAKOTA

Yup.

ELISABETH

You women are crazy. I still love Jeff, and he may not have meant it, but I did before and I still do. And I can't unleash this psycho on him. I beg you all: stop doing this.

SELENA

We're not going to stop, Elisabeth.

KARENA

Yeah. I thought you were cool, Elisabeth.

ELISABETH

I have to go.

KARENA

You could still become a lesbian!

*Elisabeth exits. The women shake their heads. Selena turns to Dakota.*

SELENA

You know what must be done.

*Dakota gets a big smile, pulls out the saw, and goes after Elisabeth. Pause.*

SELENA

Seventeen to three, Karena. We're somehow not getting our point across. We're killing more women than men.

KARENA

We don't need the weak in our revolution.

SELENA

Still, it's a shame we can't just let them go.

KARENA

Too risky.

SELENA

You're right. Though I think you're scaring them off with the lesbian angle.

KARENA

Just trying to open their eyes to possibilities.

SELENA

And the yelling. We must be more professional.

KARENA

Whatever you say.

SELENA

I've got high hopes for our next candidate. She bought nearly a hundred dollars of soap from me, and it sounds like her husband is a total bastard!

*(Lights out. End of play.)*