

*(Two men stand opposite each other.)*

TOM

*(upbeat)* It's really finished this time.

JERRY

Right.

TOM

I know. Believe this time. It's true.

JERRY

So what'd she do to you?

TOM

I'm telling you, this isn't like the other times. I just came to the realization that I'm a peach and she doesn't know how to carefully handle fruit.

JERRY

This oughta be good. What...do... you... mean?

TOM

I don't really even get horny any more... too terrified. I mean, I jerk off two to four times a day, but as far as actually wanting to commit myself emotionally, to Jackie or anyone? Ha. No thanks. Not much chance of that looking fun again for a while. I'd love to say I was a quick healer, but I'm not. I won't be moving on like people are always counseling me. But I will be sidestepping the whole love-thing for quite a while. When I was young, I realized that I had a queasy stomach. Roller coasters and all those things made me vomit. Every time. Now I ride the Ferris wheel.

JERRY

And you're a peach how?

TOM

Emotionally and physically, I bruise like a peach. Now that I'm lying bruised and discarded on the ground, I have to rot. I have to dissolve into the earth until I'm fertilizer for growing a new me. Who will probably be another peach. Unfortunately.

JERRY

Okay. *(pause)* Have you told Jackie?

TOM

Jackie's dead. I stabbed her to death. *(JERRY pauses, then laughs)* No joke.

*(End of play.)*