ACT ONE Scene 6

EVELYN'S STATEROOM. HE is finishing shaving at mirror of washstand, dressed only in BVD's, HIS back to the cabin door. At rise, STEWARD knocks on the door.

EVELYN

Còme in.

STEWARD

(Entering) Did you ring, Sir?

EVELYN

Yes, you might bring me some tea ... and mind you bring me a pot of tea and none of those little bags that dangle over And Steward, make it snappy, will you? the side. (Consults HIS notebook)

Yes, make it snappy ...

STEWARD

Yes, Sir.

There is another knock at the door) (Exits.

Begin

EVELYN

Come in. EVELYN doesn't turn) (RENO enters.

Just put it down on the bed.

(RENO sits)

I hope it's good and hot.

(RENO gives HIM a look)

You know, I really wanted it before I started to dress

RENO

Say, am I early or late?

EVELYN

Oh, hello, there! I thought it was the steward with my tea. But I'm delighted it's you. We've oodles of time before dinner and I did so want to have a chat with you.

RENO

Well, I'm glad you feel that way about it, because I certainly feel that way about you.

EVELYN.

What way?

RENO

(Caressing HIS neck)

That way!

EVELYN

You know, I love the expressions you Americans use. I'm making a collection of them. Just a moment.

(Writes in book) "To feel that way about a person means to rub his neck ... " Do tell me some others.

You don't understand ... I mean you send me ...

EVELYN

I send things to you?

RENO

Oh, damn it, Evie, you know what I mean. One look at you and I get hot pants.

EVELYN

Do you really? Would a bit of ice do any good? The second of the second

Evie, that means I like you.

EVELYN

It means you like me! Hot pants. How perfectly devastating! Most racy language the American. Hot pants! (Writes it down)

RENO

I don't think I'm getting through. Look ... you're a man, I'm a woman. Man, woman ... you ... me ...

EVELYN

Quite. But what does that have to do with us?

RENO

A hell of a lot. Evie, you excite me.

EVELYN

I excite you, how perfectly marvelous!

(Entering)

Ahhh, ha! What's going on here? So this is what I find! You beast, you despoiler of innocent girlhood. Look at this poor child ... her clothes torn off by your fiendish attack, standing there in her nakedness. (Looks ar RENO)

There's something wrong here?