

WATCHING A MOVIE
by Fred Coppersmith

INT -- LIVING ROOM, DAY

Open on JANE and TOM, sitting on a couch facing the camera, watching television. There are things.

JANE
Say, what's this movie called again?

TOM
I don't know.

JANE
Oh. Well who's in it?

TOM
Oh, you know...that guy? Who was in that thing?

JANE
Oh. He's good.

TOM
Yeah, he's not bad. The kids kind of like him. I think he won an award for this.

JANE
No...I think that's the other guy you're thinking of.

TOM
No, this guy. With the hair? You know, he was in that thing. About the war?

JANE
No, that was the other guy. With the girl? And no legs? It was based on that book.

TOM
I didn't read the book.

JANE
Yeah, well you didn't miss much. I'd lend you a copy, but I think the dog ate it.

TOM
What was it called?

JANE

Sparky.

TOM

No, not the dog, the book. What was the book called?

JANE

Oh. I don't know. It was awhile ago. I don't remember. It was about this guy and this girl. You know... There were things.

TOM

Oh. It doesn't sound too bad.

JANE

Nah, the movie was better. It had that girl in it. You know, the one I like?

TOM

With the teeth?

JANE

No, the other one. Without.

TOM

Oh. Yeah, she is good. She was in that thing, right?

JANE

Yeah, with that guy.

(beat)

So you wanna watch this?

TOM

Sure, why not? It sounds okay.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN: SAME SCENE, LATER

TOM

Say, is that that guy?

JANE

Which guy?

TOM

You know. The one on the left. You know, the tall one. With the wig? On top of that...you know, thing?

JANE

You mean his head?

TOM

Yeah, that's the one.

JANE

I don't know. Maybe. Which one is he again?

TOM

Oh, you know. That guy. Who did that thing. He broke some kind of sports record. It was in all the papers. You know, with the melon?

JANE

The canteloupe?

TOM

No, the honeydew.

JANE

Oh! Yeah, him.

(thinks)

You know, I think maybe it is. I didn't even know he was in this movie.

TOM

Well, isn't he married to that girl?

JANE

You mean the one there next to him with the big-?

TOM

Yeah.

JANE

I think so. I always get her confused with that other one, though.

TOM

Which other one?

JANE

You know. The one who did that thing? Like a year ago. She married that guy. With the pony. From that place. I think maybe she played that sport with the thing and the ball.

TOM
You mean golf?

JANE
Yeah, that's her.

TOM
I thought she quit after that thing
with the pony. Wasn't she on the news
for like a month because of it?

JANE
No, that's the other one. You know.
She was taller. And she had that
thing. With the hair and the nose and
the eyes. You remember. She played
tennis or that other thing?

TOM
You mean guitar?

JANE
Yeah, that's it.

TOM
Oh yeah! Now I remember. Wasn't she on
that show about that place with that
guy and the dog? You know, with the
things?

JANE
You mean the bowling balls? No, that's
her. This one, in the movie. With the
big... Well, you know. I told you, I
get them confused.

TOM
Yeah, well they do look alike.

JANE
Yeah. Now c'mon, quiet, I wanna watch
this.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN: SAME SCENE, LATER

TOM
Say, how long is this movie anyway?

JANE
I don't know. I think it's almost
over, though.

TOM
How can you tell?

JANE
Well, I mean, look. There's that guy again.

TOM
Which guy?

JANE
That one there. On the left. With the nose? The one who looks like that guy with the beard.

TOM
(beat)
He doesn't have a beard.

JANE
Exactly. But he's already got that thing from the girl at that place. You know, the one with the feathers and the stripes and those things that look like feet?

TOM
You think they look like feet?

JANE
What? Don't they?

TOM
I don't know. Maybe, I guess. I thought they looked a little like those other things, though. You know, those things they use on TV?

JANE stares at TOM blankly.

TOM (CONT'D)
You know. With the president? When he does that thing. From that place... Where they keep those things. You know. In that place.

JANE stares at TOM blankly. He is growing increasingly more desperate.

TOM (CONT'D)
You know. In that place. With the things? And that guy? Who does that thing. With the sheep. In that place?

Where they do that thing? That they
do? Long pause.

(sighing)

Okay, I admit it, I'm just making stuff
up now.

JANE

You too, huh?

TOM

You mean -- ?

JANE

Yeah. I don't recognize any of these
people. I was just hoping you wouldn't
notice. Actually, this movie kinda
sucks.

TOM

Yeah, it kinda does. Wanna see what
else is on?

JANE

Yeah, sure.

JANE points remote at TV and shuts it off.

FADE TO BLACK.