

## THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES

**BUNNY**

You know what your trouble is. You got no sense of history. You know that?  
Are you aware of that? The greatest tide in history is coming today...

**ARTIE**

It's a quarter to five in the morning, Bunny—

**BUNNY**

Lucky for you I got a sense of history. Oooo, it freezing out there...People have been up for hours. Queens Blvd.—lined for blocks already. Cripples laid out in the street in stretchers. Nuns...everywhere. You've never seen so many nuns in your entire life. A lady even drove in from Ohio ... OHIO!!! Just for today. She drove four crippled people in from Toledo...It's that big Artie. There's miracles in the air.

**ARTIE**

It's soot, Bunny. Polluted air.

**BUNNY**

All those out-of-staters driving in with cameras and you live right here. I have Miss Henshaw and her nephew who's a cop saving us two divine places right by the curb. But, she can't save them forever. Oh God Artie what a morning. You can see the stars. I know all about stars from the time I worked for that astronomer. Orion, Jupiter and Venus and Mars...they're all out. What a welcome for the Pope! And right now the Pope is flying through that star filled sky, bumping planets out of the way...Everybody's waiting Artie—everybody !

**ARTIE**

What I want to know is who the hell is paying for this wop's trip over here anyway...I don't put my nickels and dimes in Sunday collections to pay for any daggone holiday...flying over here with his robes and geegaws and bringing buddies over when I can't even afford a trip to Staten Island.

**BUNNY**

What's in Staten Island?

**ARTIE**

Nothing! But I can't even afford a nickel ferryboat ride. I've known you two months and I can't even afford a present for you...a ring...

**BUNNY**

I don't need a ring...

**ARTIE**

At least a friendship ring

**BUNNY**

I'd only lose it

**ARTIE**

And this guy's flying over here...not coach...oh no...

**BUNNY**

Where'd you go last night?

**ARTIE**

You go see the Pope tell him hello for me.

**BUNNY**

You went to El Dorado Bar Amateur night, didn't you? I spent two months building you up to be something and you throw yourself on that drivel.

**ARTIE**

They talked all the way through it...They talked and walked all the way through it...I even had to pay for my own drinks...I am too old to be a young talent.

**BUNNY**

It's not too late to start...with me behind you the El Dorado Bar will stick up a huge neon sign flashing onto Queens Blvd. in couple of years "Artie Shaughnessy Got Started Here"...and nobody would believe it...

**ARTIE**

*(starts thoughtfully singing as he pulls Bunny over to the kitchen)*

I'll go see the Pope--

**BUNNY**

Oh I love you!

**ARTIE**

I'll come if...

**BUNNY**

You said you'll come. That amounts to a promise...

**ARTIE**

I will if...

**BUNNY**

A promise...I didn't work in a law office for nothing. I could sue you for breach.

**ARTIE**

*(seductively)...Bunny?*

**BUNNY**

I know what you're going to say

**ARTIE**

Cook for me?

**BUNNY**

I knew it... I knew it.

**ARTIE**

Just breakfast.

**BUNNY**

I got to be strong.

**ARTIE**

I'm not asking for a ten-course dinner.

**BUNNY**

Just put your clothes on...it's 38° out there...I don't want you getting your pneumonia back.

**ARTIE**

Eggs, baby. Eggs right here.

**BUNNY**

Brush your teeth and come on let's go.

**ARTIE**

*(seductively)*

You boil the eggs and pour lemon sauce over...

**BUNNY**

Hollandaise...I know Hollandaise... It's really cold out so dress warm...

**ARTIE**

And you pour Hollandaise over the eggs on English muffins...and then you put the grilled ham on top. I'm making a scrapbook of all the food you tell me you know how to cook and then I go through the magazine and cut out pictures of what it must look like.—Look...veal parmigeena...chicken cacciatore.

**BUNNY**

I cooked that for me last night. It was so good I almost died.

**ARTIE**

(singing)

*If you cook my words*

*Like they was veal*

*I'd say I love you*

*For every meal.*

*Take my words,*

*Garlic and oil them*

*Butter and broil them,*

*Sautee and boil them*

*Bunny, let me eat you!..... (SPEAKS) Cook for me!*

**BUNNY**

Not until after we're married.

**ARTIE**

You couldn't give me a little sample right now?

**BUNNY**

I'm not that kind of a girl. I'll sleep with you anytime you want. Anywhere. In two months I've know you, did I refused you once. Not once! You want me to climb into bed with you right now. Unzip it—go on—unzip it. Give your fingers a snap and I'm flat on my back...Because Artie I'm a rotten lay, I know it... you know it...everybody knows it...

**ARTIE**

What do you means everybody knows it?

**BUNNY**

I'm not good in bed. It's no insult. I took that sex test in Reader's Digest two weeks ago...and I scored twelve. Twelve, Artie. I ran out of that dentist office with tears gushing out of my face. But, I faced up to the truth about myself...So if I cooked for you now and said I won't sleep with you until we were married, you'd look forward to sleeping with me so much...that by the time we did get...I'd be such a disappointment...you would never forgive me...My cooking is the only thing I have to lure you on with...Artie, Artie we got to keep some magic for the honeymoon. It's my first honeymoon...I want it to be so good, I'm aiming for two...million...calories. I want to cook for you so bad I walk into the A&P, I get all hot inside my thighs...but I can't till I got that ring right on my cooking finger.

**ARTIE**

(begging) Two eggs over easy?

**BUNNY**

No...no...I'll pour you some cornflakes.

**ARTIE**

You better leave

**BUNNY**

A nice bowlful...it'll be a coming attraction.

**ARTIE**

You're a tease, Bunny and that's the worst thing to be.