

Mrs. Dally Has A Lover

FRANKIE

What happened to my--?

Mrs. Dally comes out of the Bathroom

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

Hey, look.

MRS. DALLY

What?

FRANKIE

The buttons. There's no buttons.

MRS. DALLY

Did I do that?

FRANKIE

Well, I didn't.

MRS. DALLY

I'm sorry

FRANKIE

Jeez!

MRS. DALLY

They must be around, I'll sew'em
back on. How many are there?

FRANKIE

Six.

MRS. DALLY

You want some coffee? I'm makin'
some.

FRANKIE

Okay.

MRS. DALLY

One more.

FRANKIE

There it is.

MRS. DALLY

Where?

FRANKIE

Right there, by your foot.

MRS. DALLY

You got good eyes, too. So you want
some coffee?

FRANKIE

Yeah, sure.

MRS. DALLY

I mean, you ain't in a hurry or
anything.

FRANKIE

No, I ain't in a hurry.

MRS. DALLY

I gotta get a needle and thread.

She goes to the bedroom and comes back with a sewing box.

MRS. DALLY (CONT'D)

You have to take it off,
sweetheart.

FRANKIE

Lucky I don't have buttons on my
pants.

MRS. DALLY

Fresh. Coffee all right?

FRANKIE

Yeah, great.

MRS. DALLY

You want something to eat, a sandwich or something?

FRANKIE

No, I ain't hungry.

MRS. DALLY

Not for sandwiches, anyway.

FRANKIE

What?

MRS. DALLY

I said not for sandwiches anyway.

FRANKIE

I ain't the only one.

MRS. DALLY

You know I was almost raped once when I was sixteen?

FRANKIE

Yeah? What happened?

MRS. DALLY

I wasn't.

FRANKIE

I know, but I mean, how come?

MRS. DALLY

I told the guy I had syphilis.

FRANKIE

You did?

MRS. DALLY

Yeah.

FRANKIE

You had the syph when you was
sixteen?

MRS. DALLY

No! I didn't have syphilis! I
thought you meant did I tell him I
had it.

FRANKIE

No, I meant did you have it.

MRS. DALLY

No, I didn't really have it, I only
told him I had it.

FRANKIE

He believed you?

MRS. DALLY

He didn't wanta take a chance on
not.

FRANKIE

That was pretty smart.

MRS. DALLY

Well, there's certain times when a girl has to think fast--like in rape. I mean, you lose your head and you're outta luck. So I just told him I had syphilis. He says, you're lyin'! I said, so go ahead then and find out.

FRANKIE

He didn't wanta take the chance though, huh?

MRS. DALLY

What the hell, would you?

FRANKIE

No, I guess not.

MRS. DALLY

He beat the hell outta me, but he didnt' rape me. Well, what the

hel...

FRANKIE

I'll hafta remember that next time
somebody tries to rape me.

MRS. DALLY

Fresh.

FRANKIE

Well, I mean, uh...

MRS. DALLY

Frankie...you got a lotta girl
friends?

FRANKIE

Ohh, twenty or thirty, somethin'
like that.

MRS. DALLY

No, I mean it.

FRANKIE

Well, you know, a couple, yeah.

Why?

MRS. DALLY

I was just wondering. Listen, get a load of me letting you sit there without a shirt or nothin'. I better get you something to put on before you catch a cold.

FRANKIE

No, that's okay. Look, I don't need...

She goes into the bedroom.

MRS. DALLY

I got just the thing.

She comes back carrying the sweater.

MRS. DALLY (CONT'D)

It's never even been worn. It's
his, you know? I bought it for him
last Christmas but he wouldn't even
wear it. I told him they're very
popular now, everybody wears'em,
but he wouldn't. He's got no class,
you know? No class. The brute.
Here, put it on.

FRANKIE

It's a little big. A
little....bright, maybe. For a guy.

MRS. DALLY

Yeah, well, I thought it might
brighten up his personality a
little. Not him.

FRANKIE

How come you asked me before if I

had any girlfriends?

MRS. DALLY

Oh, I was just curious.

FRANKIE

Oh.

MRS. DALLY

Curiosity killed the cat, hah?

FRANKIE

No, but I mean, d'ya think I didn't
have any girlfriends, or something?

MRS. DALLY

No, I didn't think that.

FRANKIE

I mean, I ain't Marlon Brando,
okay, but I do all right.

MRS. DALLY

What I meant was, do you have girl
firends that're...nice to you.

FRANKIE

Sure, they're nice to me.

MRS. DALLY

I mean are they as nice as me.

FRANKIE

What do you mean, do they put out?

MRS. DALLY

Yes, I suupposed that's what I
meant.

FRANKIE

Nah, they're just kids. Well, one
maybe. Sometimes. On the roof, you
know? Why'd you wanta know?

MRS. DALLY

I just wondered.

FRANKIE

Well, they're just kids.

MRS. DALLY

Frankie...do you like me?

FRANKIE

Sure I like you.

MRS. DALLY

No, but I mean, do you really like
me. I mean, do you...think about
me?

FRANKIE

Well sure I think about you. I'm
thinking about you right now.

MRS. DALLY

But when you're not here, when
you're someplace else, do you think
about me then?

FRANKIE

Sure.

MRS. DALLY

What do you think?

FRANKIE

What?

MRS. DALLY

What do you think? Like when you're
walking down the street, and you
think about me, what do you think?

FRANKIE

Well, I don't know, I never thought
about it. I mean, about what I
think. You just think, don't ya?

How can you think about what you
think?

MRS. DALLY

Do you think I'm pretty?

FRANKIE

Sure.

MRS. DALLY

Do you think...I have a nice
figure?

FRANKIE

Hell, yes.

MRS. DALLY

Actually, I'm in pretty good shape,
all things considered. I mean, for
a woman my age, I'm in pretty good
condition.

(pause)

Maybe I'm nuts.

FRANKIE

Why? Listen, if you really want to know something, I think you're...very beautiful.

MRS. DALLY

Really?

FRANKIE

Sure

MRS. DALLY

It's very nice of you to say so, Frankie.

FRANKIE

Don't mention it. I figured you knew it, I didn't have to say it.

MRS. DALLY

No, you could say it once in a while, that would be all right.

FRANKIE

Like my old man says.

MRS. DALLY

What.

FRANKIE

Women're always fishin' for compliments.

MRS. DALLY

Yeah, we're a real nuisance.

FRANKIE

So my mother says if she got one once in a while she wouldn't hafta fish for it.

MRS. DALLY

I always liked your mother.

FRANKIE

You know my mother?

MRS. DALLY

Just to say hello to in the A&P.

FRANKIE

Oh, I thought you meant you knew
her. That would be funny.

MRS. DALLY

She's nice, your mother.