

GIGOLO IN THE BASEMENT

By Deborah Karczewski

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CAST: COLLEEN and MICHELLE

(As the scene opens, COLLEEN and MICHELLE leap into a high five slap, whoop, yell, and appear as ecstatic as though they just won an important game.)

COLLEEN: Yes! You go, girl!

MICHELLE: Colleen, you were amazing!

COLLEEN: No way! You are the number one, best actress I have ever seen!

MICHELLE: Are you kidding? You should win an Oscar for your performance!

COLLEEN: But did you see his face when you walked in right on cue, Michelle? Like a deer caught in headlights!

MICHELLE: *(laughing)* He never knew what hit him!

(COLLEEN puts her palms up flat vertically to indicate that SHE is resting them on and yelling through a pantomimed door to her left.)

COLLEEN: Did you hear that Jim? You never knew what hit you!

MICHELLE: *(laughing and yelling through the "door")* Like a deer caught in the headlights! Who feels like the fool now, Jim?

(The girls squeal and whoop again, victoriously. COLLEEN stops as though SHE hears someone speaking on the other side of the "door.")

COLLEEN: Oh give it a rest, Jimbo. Just keep your lying mouth shut!

MICHELLE: Yeah, we don't want to hear another word, lover boy. You just sit tight, shut up, and seriously think about what you've done!

COLLEEN: Yeah!

MICHELLE: *(ignoring the door and focusing gleefully on COLLEEN)*

I still can't get over how convincing you were, Colleen. *(mimicking COLLEEN as a sexy parody much like Marilyn Monroe)* "Oh Jimmy! I'm so sorry that I ever suspected that you were seeing Michelle behind my back. I don't know how I ever could have been so distrustful. It's just that when I'm jealous, I get so paranoid."

COLLEEN: *(giggling, mimicking Jim as an arrogant parody of a ladies' man)* "Oh Baby, you have nothing to worry about. I swear that

there's only one girl in my life, and she's *you*, Colleen. Michelle is just my lab partner. But you...you are my woman."

MICHELLE: (*laughing*) His woman? He sounded like a caveman or something! (*exaggerated*) "You are my *woman!*"

COLLEEN: (*laughing*) No, he sounded more like Tarzan! "Me – Tarzan. You – woman!"

MICHELLE: You – woman! Me – lab partner!

COLLEEN: (*still playful*) Yeah! Like it's normal to take your lab partner out to dinner! *Everybody* does that! All guys give their lab partners gifts – right? All lab partners...hug...and kiss...and...

(starts to cry and sits in one of the two chairs provided).

MICHELLE: (*awkward pause*) I had no idea you two were an item.

COLLEEN: I know.

MICHELLE: I mean it.

COLLEEN: (*honestly*) I believe you.

MICHELLE: He was so cute, and so fun as a lab partner.

COLLEEN: (*quietly*) He is cute.

MICHELLE: And since I'm new in school, and since I didn't know you outside of study hall...

COLLEEN: You don't have to make excuses, Michelle. You didn't know.

MICHELLE: But I feel so terrible about it.

COLLEEN: I know you do.

MICHELLE: Here I am, the new kid in school. And I want everyone to like me. You know? And...and...everybody's being really nice...especially my new lab partner. So I figure, what the heck, I'm going to jump right into my new life and open up to this cute guy.

COLLEEN: You don't have to explain, Michelle.

MICHELLE: No – I want to.

COLLEEN: OK.

MICHELLE: It's just that...nobody knows me...and...I wanted this to be a fresh start...and...I'm a really nice person...but...now everybody's going to see me as a horrible person...the one who broke up Colleen and Jim...the other woman...the new school slut.

COLLEEN: Nobody's going to think that.

MICHELLE: *You* do.

COLLEEN: No, I don't.

MICHELLE: Honestly, if I had known you two were going out, I never would have...

COLLEEN: (*getting annoyed*) I know – I know already!

MICHELLE: See? *You* are angry!

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