

I LOVE YOU, I'M SORRY, AND I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN

by  
Keith Snyder

Revision 2-12-06

INT. FACTORY FLOOR - QUEENS, NY - NIGHT

EDDIE enters from outside and goes toward his office. No one else is in the factory. A lone machine clanks to itself somewhere out on the dark shop floor.

Two THUGS enter, flick their cigarettes away, and split up. THUG #2 disappears into the factory. THUG #1 follows Eddie.

When Thug #1 makes a little noise behind him, Eddie turns, startled. We now see he's unshaven and bruised. He can't see Thug #1 in the darkness.

EDDIE

I got your money! I got your money!  
It's in the office! It's safe.  
Nobody else has the key.

Thug #1 comes out of the darkness. They both go into the

FACTORY OFFICE

EDDIE and THUG #1 enter. Eddie opens his toolbox, reaches under the tool tray, and finds--a ripped-open, empty envelope. He looks in the toolbox, shakes it--the lid closes on his fingers and he drops it. It hits a control button.

FACTORY FLOOR

A machine starts up, clanking in syncopation with the first.

RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Eddie bolts out the office door--and is marched back in by THUG #2. Thug #1 shakes his head. Thug #2 cocks his gun and raises it. Thug #1 follows suit. Eddie makes a "wait, wait!" gesture and dials the phone.

While he's doing that, Thug #1 corrects Thug #2's gun position.

INTERCUTS:

INT. EDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eddie's wife CLARISSE and her friend AGNES are pulling new things out of shopping bags and admiring them. Their dialogue in this scene is sung operatically.

CLARISSE  
 (picking up)  
 Hello?

AGNES  
 Is that Eddie?

EDDIE  
 Clarisse, honey...

Thug #2 puts it on speakerphone so they can all hear.

CLARISSE  
 What do you want?

AGNES  
 Tell him he's a--

EDDIE  
 Did you by any chance find an  
 envelope in my toolbox?

CLARISSE  
 The envelope you were hiding from  
 me?

AGNES  
 Tell him he's a--

Clarisse hangs up--bang! Eddie redials. Clarisse picks up.

CLARISSE  
 The envelope with money in it?

EDDIE  
 Honey--

AGNES  
 He's a big fat--

Clarisse hangs up--bang! Eddie redials. Clarisse picks up.

EDDIE  
 Look--

Clarisse picks up just long enough to hang up. It rings  
 again. Clarisse picks up.

AGNES  
 Tell him--

Clarisse holds the handpiece up toward Agnes--who finally  
 finds her words as we

## RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Eddie grabs up the handpiece so we can just barely hear the faint yammer of Agnes telling him off on the phone.

## RESUME APARTMENT

AGNES  
 (finishing, into phone)  
 --JERK!

Clarisse holds the phone out to Agnes, who slams the handpiece down.

## RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Eddie holds a dead phone. Thug #1 hangs it up. Thug #2 sighs and holsters his gun. Thug #1 follows suit.

THUG #2  
 He's a smooth one. Look...  
*Since the beginning of marriage,*

THUG #1  
*Back in the day,*

THUG #2  
*Way back when.  
 There have only been three  
 Bits of commentary,  
 That women needed to hear from men:*

He prompts Thug #1.

THUG #1  
*I love you, I'm sorry,  
 And I'll never do it again.*

They heave Eddie out of his chair and thrown him against the control panel. Another button lights, and:

## FACTORY FLOOR

A third machine starts up, pounding along with the others.

## RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Eddie is slumped on the floor.

Both Thugs dance.

Thug #1 kicks Eddie in the head, sending us to:

VIGNETTE: EXT. GARDEN OF EDEN - DAY

In these *vignettes*, THUGS portray the couples, alternating who's in drag. Here, Thug #1 is ADAM and Thug #2 is EVE.

THUG #2  
*When Adam ate the apple,  
And God said,*

THUG #1  
*"Out you go,"*

THUG #2  
*Adam could have said, "*

THUG #1  
*Eve, I do believe,  
That due to your feedin' me apples in Eden,  
We have to relocate out there in the snow."*

As EDDIE watches, GOD kicks them out and slams a gate shut.

OUTSIDE THE GARDEN OF EDEN

It's snowing. Adam and Eve join Eddie.

EVE/THUG #1  
*But Adam knew what he had to do,  
To keep him from sleepin' alone in the den--*

ADAM/THUG #1  
*I love you, Eve! I'm sorry, Eve!  
And I'll never, ever do it again!*

Eve snuggles into his shoulder.

RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Thug #2 slaps Eddie, waking him from the fantasy.

Both Thugs dance.

Thug #1 pulls the mains breaker. The power goes out in the entire building. The machines go dead; the lights go out. We hear a generator kick on. Emergency lighting comes on in the office: a trouble light hanging from a nail.

Thug #1 takes it down and twirls it as he approaches Eddie-- then presses it against his face and burns him. Thug #2 puts his gun to Eddie's head so he doesn't move. As Eddie passes out, we find ourselves in:

VIGNETTE: INT. DELILAH'S DESERT TENT - DAY

The Thugs are dressed as SAMSON and DELILAH. Delilah/Thug #1 dances seductively around a muscle-flexing Samson.

SAMSON/THUG #2  
*Samson and Delilah!  
 Another happy pair!  
 Did Samson care when she cut his hair?  
 You bet he did, pal!*

Delilah cuts Samson's hair off. He sags weakly. PHILISTINES wave swords outside the tent.

SAMSON/THUG #2  
*But he faced that gal,  
 And shouldered the burden all men must bear.  
 As his strength, which had been that of ten,  
 Reasonably strong and athletic young men,  
 Left him, which was hardly fair,  
 A few nearby Philistines heard him declare:*

A Philistine leans in, ear cupped.

SAMSON/THUG #2  
*I love you, Delilah! I'm sorry, Delilah!  
 And I'll never, ever do it again!*

Delilah kicks Samson out of the tent.

RESUME FACTORY FLOOR

The THUGS kick Eddie (in his chair) out of the office, onto the shop floor.

EDDIE  
 But what did he have to apologize  
 for?

THUG #2  
 We ain't gettin' through.

THUG #1  
 Edjmacate him some more.

THUG #2 notices a fire axe near the office door, takes it down, approaches Eddie...

THUG #2  
*Lizzie Borden takes a hatchet.*

He coldcocks Eddie with the butt of the axe.

VIGNETTE: INT. BORDEN RESIDENCE

Thug #2 is now dressed as LIZZIE BORDEN. Thug #1 is dressed as DAD BORDEN.

DAD BORDEN/THUG #1  
*Mama's head, she does detach it.  
Tells her dad he'll catch it too,  
If he does not know what to do.*

Lizzie prods Dad to a Victorian sofa, which he falls back on. EDDIE is sitting on it already.

THUG #1  
*She hoists up the weapon,  
All ready to dent him,  
Quickens her step--increases momentum!  
From his brains to his nuts,  
She hates all of his guts,  
And it's time to say ciao--'cause now,  
She's gonna vent 'em!*

*And the axe whistles down,  
Towards his cranium when,  
He recites the three sentences,  
Known to all men.*

He opens his mouth to say the three lines.

Lizzie/Thug #2 screams and hacks him into tiny pieces.

EDDIE  
*(newly blood-spattered)*  
*She killed him, you jerk!*  
*She murdered the man!*

RESUME FACTORY FLOOR

THUG #2  
Well...

THUG #1  
It don't always work.

THUG #2  
But nothing else can.

They walk Eddie back toward his office.

THUG #2  
She'll think more highly of you,  
When you say--

EDDIE  
I love you.

THUG #1  
From the Indian Sea to the dry Kalahari,  
Knowledgeable husbands continue--

EDDIE  
I'm sorry.

THUG #1  
And once they've said that,  
What do they say then?

EDDIE  
I'll never, ever do it again.

THUG #1  
The light, I think he's seen it.

THUG #2  
Now say it like you mean it.

EDDIE  
I love you, I'm sorry, and I'll  
never do it again.

THUG #2  
A man who's no good with women--

Thug #1 aims his gun at Eddie, corrects his own gun position.

THUG #1  
Has nothing left to live for.

They let Eddie walk under his own power back into

THE FACTORY OFFICE

Thug #1 puts his gun away and idly pushes buttons on the  
control panel. We hear machines starting up again.

Thug #2 points at the phone. Eddie redials, using the speakerphone. When Clarisse picks up:

EDDIE  
 (to phone, quickly)  
 I love you.

INTERCUTS:

INT. EDDIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

CLARISSE  
 Really.

AGNES  
 You can do much better.

EDDIE  
 I'm sorry.

CLARISSE  
 Really.

AGNES  
 You know he's a liar.

EDDIE  
 And I'll never, ever, ever, ever,  
 ever, ever, ever, ever do it again.

CLARISSE  
 Really?

AGNES  
 (disgusted with Clarisse)  
 Oh!

EDDIE  
 Really.

CLARISSE  
 I'm sorry too honey. I wouldn't  
 have taken it--

EDDIE  
 I know, honey--

CLARISSE  
 I just get so mad when I think  
 you're hiding money. I get crazy--

EDDIE  
I know, honey--

CLARISSE  
I'm sorry, baby.

EDDIE  
That's all right. I'm sorry too.  
Just tell me, honey. Where's the  
money?

CLARISSE  
Well, I spent it, honey! We were  
six months behind on the rent! We  
were hiding the car from the repo  
man! And we owed my mother a lot of  
money, a lot of money! And the  
power bill, water bill, dentist's  
bill...and I bought a few things  
for myself that I wanted--and a few  
little things for you, Eddie.

RESUME FACTORY OFFICE

Thug #2 disconnects the call. Thugs take out their guns.

Eddie smiles weakly, terrified. With nothing to lose, he  
takes the only shot he can think of.

EDDIE  
(to Thugs)  
I love you.

Thugs just stare. Did this idiot really just say that?

The moment draws out... No one talks... No one moves...

EDDIE  
I'm--

And in one swift motion, Thugs raise their pistols, and in  
the instant they pull the triggers, we

CUT TO BLACK.