

A Senior Moment

by

Michael Bettencourt

67 Highwood Terrace #2, Weehawken NJ 07086

201-770-0550 • 347-564-9998 • michaelbettencourt@outlook.com

<http://www.m-bettencourt.com>

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DESCRIPTION

Jewel, Darcy, Salvia, and Seeromanie, all in their sixties, wonder why Chantelle, also in her sixties, is looking good these days, as if she's not a day older than, say, fifty.

CHARACTERS

- Chantelle
- Darcy
- Jewel
- Salvia
- Seeromanie

All are in their sixties or older (or can play that age).

SETTING

- Somewhere where five people can sit around to drink and talk.

* * * * *

Five women sitting around having coffee (or something else) and talking. Four of them are looking at CHANTELLE, who does not mind having the four of them look at her.

CHANTELLE

Nope.

JEWEL

Come on.

CHANTELLE

I said no. The four of you—you and you and you and you—haven't even gotten close.

JEWEL

A better clue, then—

Wait— DARCY

Yeah— SALVIA

—not yet— DARCY

—wait— SALVIA

I still want to try— DARCY

Me, too— SALVIA

—to figure [out]— DARCY

—this mystery who sits before us— SALVIA

Yes! DARCY

You said— SEEROMANIE

Only if— CHANTELLE

She said, didn't she— SEEROMANIE

She did— JEWEL

—she'd tell us— SEEROMANIE

JEWEL

—you did—

SEEROMANIE

—if we guessed, right?—

CHANTELLE

But none of you—I'm telling you this now—not even warm.

JEWEL

Then some better clues—

DARCY

Not yet—

JEWEL

A more clued-in clue is what we need, mi amor—

CHANTELLE

(to JEWEL)

No—

(to SALVIA)

I agree with you—

SALVIA

Mystery.

SEEROMANIE

And that means she wins the [game]—

CHANTELLE

And we can't have that. Can we.

A momentary silence.

SEEROMANIE

All right. She threw down the challenge—

DARCY

The gauntlet!

CHANTELLE

I like my challenges—

DARCY

(likes the sound of the word)

The gauntlet!

SALVIA

(matching her)

All right, the gauntlet!

SEEROMANIE

She thinks she's given us all she needs to give us—so instead, let us review.

CHANTELLE

By all means.

SALVIA

Review, review. Items—hair.

JEWEL

A sheen—

DARCY

A new cut—

SALVIA

A little color—

JEWEL

Highlights—

SALVIA

But the color, too—there's a name for that?

SEEROMANIE

I think she'd like us to say "brassy."

CHANTELLE

Ah—

DARCY
So, brassy—she is brassy—

SALVIA
Item—skin.

JEWEL
That—a mystery, ain't it—not lizard skin—

DARCY
Not corrugated card[board]—

JEWEL
Not the sag and the flop, like this—

ALL (EXCEPT CHANTELLE)
Tighter.

JEWEL
Tighter.

SEEROMANIE
In the pink—

SALVIA
One: brassy. Two: pink.

JEWEL
And tighter.

SALVIA
Item three—clothing.

JEWEL
The clothing.

DARCY
Now that you [mention it]—right—

JEWEL
New threads.

New duds—
SERROMANIE

JEWEL
(fingering cloth)
Real silk, isn't it, real silk?

Indian silk.
CHANTELLE

Errandi silk?
SEEROMANIE

What other?
CHANTELLE

SEEROMANIE
(to the rest)
Friends, this silk that—

(to JEWEL)
—you are fingering—

JEWEL
It says "Do not let me go."

SEEROMANIE
This silk—errandi silk—is the silk of silks.

JEWEL
(letting it go)
Slick. Smooth and—

DARCY
(to SALVIA)
All right, so silk—c'mon, let's keep it [going]—

SALVIA
What're we up to?

DARCY
Number four.

SALVIA

Number four—jewelry.

DARCY

Don't see a big increase in that—

SEEROMANIE

Except for—do you see it?—the second piercing in the left lobe—

SALVIA

But not the right one—you're right—

DARCY

Yeah—

SALVIA

—the little silver hoop—

DARCY

Right—

JEWEL

Don't see any tongue studs, though—

SALVIA

Eeww!

JEWEL

No nostril posts—

DARCY

Eyebrows—none. Lower lip—none.

CHANTELLE

But wait.

CHANTELLE lifts up her shirt: a belly-button piercing. Stunned.

SALVIA

That was not expected.

DARCY
(overlapping)

Unexpected—yeah—

SALVIA

Is there, like—well—

JEWEL

—like anywhere else?

CHANTELLE's look says "yes."

JEWEL

Anyone brave enough to guess where?

DARCY

It isn't—is it? Is it?

CHANTELLE nods yes.

DARCY

Get out!

CHANTELLE

I'll show you—

DARCY

Get out!

SALVIA

I don't even look at my own—I'm not gonna look at yours—

JEWEL

Our loosened labia—

DARCY

Vanishing vaginas—

SEEROMANIE

Stop the alli[eration]—

Clandestine clits— CHANTELLE

Good! JEWEL

All right, we'll stop! CHANTELLE

Thank you. SEEROMANIE

(to SALVIA)
You are going to tell me that you're not the littlest bit—

I didn't say I wasn't— SALVIA

Me, neither— DARCY

SALVIA
But still—come on—come on—to do that, down there—

JEWEL
I haven't seen a cooch in a long time—

SALVIA
It's different if it's in your nose—

JEWEL
I'm up for it—

(to SALVIA)
C'mon, it's not an alien—

SALVIA
Speak for yourself.

JEWEL
Won't bite!

DARCY

Vagina dentata!

CHANTELLE
(to SALVIA)

Look at you—you are going to tell me that I have a best friend who would not share this with me?

SALVIA

What about old dogs and new tricks?

CHANTELLE

And which for you? Old dog? New trick?

SEEROMANIE

“Woof” or “wow”?

SALVIA

You always want to embarrass me.

DARCY

It’s so easy.

SALVIA

I suppose this means I have to go first.

(to CHANTELLE)

All right.

JEWEL

We are proud of our prude!

CHANTELLE pulls out her pants waist. SALVIA looks. Then all of them.

SALVIA

I couldn’t imagine—

CHANTELLE

Did not have a single problem with this.

SALVIA

But still—

DARCY

And it's not like you're young—

SALVIA

It didn't hurt?

JEWEL

She didn't say that. Did it?

CHANTELLE

The real point—if we're gonna talk sensation—is not about the pinch of the installation, but—after—

Something dawns on them.

SALVIA

You're—

JEWEL

(at the same time)

You're—

DARCY

—getting it!

SALVIA

You're not!

CHANTELLE

You're not—but I am.

JEWEL

Wait. Wait! I don't get—the connection between—you know—all the baubles and bangles and bright shiny—wait a minute—wait—

SEEROMANIE

Dawn comes late to Marblehead—

JEWEL

No!—

CHANTELLE
Go on.

JEWEL
You can't!

SALVIA
She can't what?

JEWEL
Either you're paying for it, or—

CHANTELLE
I am not paying for it.

JEWEL
Something just squeezed in my thighs—

DARCY
(to JEWEL)
What're you thinking?

SEEROMANIE
I'll tell you the other choice.

CHANTELLE
I know you can.

SEEROMANIE
You're getting paid to get laid.

CHANTELLE
(overlapping)
—paid to get laid. Lights. Camera. And. Granny porn is born.

They are not sure what to say.

CHANTELLE
You've guessed the secret.

(to SEEROMANIE)
You win.

SALVIA

No shit.

CHANTELLE

No shit.

SALVIA

No shit! And for the record, this time I'm not sorry that word comes out of this mouth.

JEWEL

Will wonders never cease.

DARCY

Wonders? I just don't know. I just don't know.

They are still not sure what to say.

SEEROMANIE

All right, since I won, I get to ask what I'm gonna ask, and simple is what I'm asking: why. Just "why."

DARCY

Yeah.

SEEROMANIE

As you can see, we're all a little shocked—

SALVIA

No shit.

SEEROMANIE

—and we're not sure we should be doing an intervention on you or drinking more heavily.

JEWEL

We should drink more in either case.

CHANTELLE

Good suggestion. Here, hold up your glasses.

CHANTELLE serves them all.

CHANTELLE

Now lose those tight little sphincter-faces you've put on and listen up. Why? Here's the why. What's a young girl to do after her husband kicks it over—and the plumbing still works—and he didn't quite leave enough behind because he had his own—well, I don't need to repeat all that to you all.

DARCY

But there's dating.

Everyone bursts out laughing.

DARCY

Well, it's better than—

CHANTELLE

Really?

DARCY
(considering)

All right, then it's different—

SEEROMANIE

It's buying and selling.

JEWEL

Giving and taking—we give and get taken. You know this—

DARCY

Yeah, but still—

(whispering)

—porn—

JEWEL

She's thinking "degrading"—

DARCY

We've always been told—

CHANTELLE

And let me tell you what was—is—"degrading," and I don't mean to be nasty about this, so don't take it that way, but after he died? I felt shame for being so weak—I had nothing like a skill or a strength to my name—always his signature on everything. Now—

JEWEL

Some of the shots you get to call are your own.

SEEROMANIE

The money shots!

SALVIA

Have you done—

Everyone looks at SALVIA.

JEWEL

She speaks.

SALVIA

I can't believe I'm gonna ask this—

JEWEL

Go, girl!

SALVIA

Up the—

CHANTELLE

I've done "up the" all over the place, with all sorts and shapes and hydraulics—

SALVIA

But "up the," you know—

SEEROMANIE

Just say it.

SALVIA

I can't just say it—

JEWEL

The poop chute!

CHANTELLE

Oh yeah.

SALVIA

Wow.

DARCY

Do you—swallow?

CHANTELLE

Not supposed to—believe it or not, there're scripts to follow—

DARCY

So it just goes—

CHANTELLE

All over—well, that depends—

SALVIA

On?

CHANTELLE

How many fountains are flowing, so to speak.

SALVIA

More than one?

DARCY

Look at you!

SALVIA

I had one guy all my life—then he goes pfft!—excuse me if I'm a little curious!

JEWEL

Curious?

(to others)

Is that what she looks like? You look hungry!

SALVIA

Who here hasn't been hungry for a long time?
(to CHANTELLE)

Good for you!

JEWEL

And disease?

CHANTELLE

At least this outfit I'm with—all of us tested, condoms all around—
STDs are not good advertising—

SEEROMANIE

Personally—

CHANTELLE

What?

SEEROMANIE

I get all of the curiosity and the hunger—

JEWEL

Don't forget my thighs—squeeeeeeze!

SEEROMANIE

But—well—the body, you know—it's an older body—we all got
older bodies—no matter what we—

SALVIA

Do you ever come?

CHANTELLE

Sometimes.

SALVIA

I just wanted to know! Go on.

JEWEL

You are a hoot.

DARCY

A hoot and a half. Go on.

CHANTELLE

Your point about the body—this body—let's face it, I can pump my iron and do my senior Pilates and firm firm firm until the bovines waddle home—

SEEROMANIE

But it's still—

CHANTELLE

It is still—sometimes I go out of my head while the lights/camera/and/action thing is going on—because I need to let slide away this picture of the too too sagging flesh being—

DARCY

The money's good?

CHANTELLE

Beats Social Insecurity and a silly pension.

DARCY

So it's good?

CHANTELLE

It's good.

DARCY

So if it jiggles—so what?

SALVIA

Mine flounces—ka-floom, ka-floom!

SEEROMANIE

And when would it be doing that?

SALVIA

Sometimes, early morning, before getting out of bed—

JEWEL

The five fingers will never divorce you.

SALVIA

Exactly!

DARCY

And they always come home at night!

SEEROMANIE

And they never tell lies!

DARCY

Maybe we should have all just married our right hands.

SALVIA

Left for me. Means I'm in my right mind.

DARCY

And you can get awards—you know, like the Oscars, only not—I've heard—c'mon!

CHANTELLE

I don't think—

SEEROMANIE

You never know—

JEWEL

All your hard work could add up to—

SALVIA

"Best Senior Porn Star of"—see, I'm not completely clueless.

JEWEL

Not completely, dear.

DARCY

And we'd all be sitting right there, wouldn't we?

SALVIA

Flouncing in—

JEWEL

A night of lavish celebration—

SEEROMANIE

All dressed up to go see the ones who get undressed—here, here!

THE OTHERS

Here, here!

CHANTELLE

Here, here. Who knows how long it'll last.

JEWEL

But while the ride is good—

DARCY

The ride is good, right? Right.

SALVIA

Um—

DARCY

What?

SALVIA

Nothing.

SEEROMANIE

A nothing like that always means something.

JEWEL

C'mon, cough it up—

DARCY

Eew!

JEWEL

It's not like you're the only one thinking it here.

DARCY

What am I thinking that I don't know I'm thinking?

SALVIA

Do you have any of your movies?

CHANTELLE

To show you?

SALVIA nods yes. CHANTELLE gestures to the rest of them. They all nod yes.

CHANTELLE

Well, let's see—what from my oeuvre would you like to see?
Frisky Over 60? Older and Bolder? Aged to Perfection, volumes 1
through 7?

JEWEL

Dealer's choice.

CHANTELLE

Dealer's choice—you're all sure?

They nod yes. CHANTELLE raises the glass of whatever she has been drinking.

CHANTELLE

Salud.

SALVIA & DARCY

Dinero.

SEEROMANIE & JEWEL

Y amor.

ALL

And the time to enjoy them.

They clink the glasses and toast each other.

BLACKOUT