

The Things We Do

By

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INT. MARIN'S APT

Lights up on Marin's studio apartment. It is simple and chic. 1950's Big Band and Jazz plays off a laptop in the corner. Marin (late 20's-early 30's) sits on her bed in the center of the room. She is wearing pajamas and full makeup. She is lost in thought, sipping champagne like she was born to do it. Audrey Hepburn would be jealous of Marin's natural elegance.

The door buzzes.

MARIN

It's open!

Penny (early-mid 20's) rushes in. She wears many layers of clothing, is carrying a large backpack, and a several tote bags. She is goofy and laughs easily. She is the Carol Burnett to Marin's Hepburn.

PENNY

(putting her bags down)

I'm so sorry I'm late! Oh my god. Rehearsal was the worst ever. We went late because the director has a messiah complex and the playwright could not stop talking about her terrible childhood. I'm sorry but, the playwright should not be the lead actor, I know she wrote it and all, but that doesn't mean she's better than the rest of her cast. I hate this job.

Penny greets Marin with a kiss on the cheek.

MARIN

Bubbly?

PENNY

Don't mind if I do.

Penny knows exactly where Marin keeps her champagne. As they talk, Penny brings the bottle to Marin, refills her glass, then pours for herself after.

PENNY

And the worst thing is, the stage manager keeps trying to hit on me.

MARIN

I thought you liked stage managers.

(CONTINUED)

PENNY

Not this one. He's a creeper. He never shuts the fuck up. Today he saw my TARDIS notebook and was like, "Oooh you like Doctor Who? I cosplayed the Eleventh Doctor at Comicon last year."

MARIN

What did you say?

PENNY

(pointedly)

"I'm a tenth Doctor sort of girl."

MARIN

Good girl.

Marin eyes Penny for a moment.

MARIN

Did you bring an outfit or do you plan to stay dressed like that?

PENNY

Of course I brought an outfit! It's in the blue tote.

MARIN

Good. I call you because I know you can femme it up.

PENNY

I can. And hey, you're still in your pajamas.

MARIN

(winking and smiling)

Well, it's my job to be hard on you around tonight.

PENNY

(pulling something out of her back pack)

I know, I know... Hey guess what?

MARIN

What?

PENNY

I brought you a present.

Penny brings Marin a book.

(CONTINUED)

MARIN

"Yes, And Give Me the Money?"

PENNY

It's about improvisational comedy!
But, like how it can help your
business. It's really good. I mean,
your job is basically just Yes, And
scenes anyway. This will help you
monetize your clients more!

MARIN

(looking sad)

Oh Penny, you're always so good to
me.

Penny sits next to Marin.

PENNY

How are you, pretty lady?

MARIN

Ugh. I'm mad at Keaton again. We're
not doing well at all. I think I'm
really going to break up with him
this time.

PENNY

I thought everything got fixed! I
can't ever keep track of what's
going on with you two.

MARIN

To be perfectly honest, I don't
understand what is going on between
us. I've never met anyone who made
me as happy as him. And I've never
met anyone who made me as unhappy.
He drives me bonkers. And that's
not good enough for me. I don't
trust him anymore. And so I
should... I should end things with
him.

PENNY

I'm sorry, Marin. I really liked
Keaton.

MARIN

Yeah. I did too.

Penny goes back to the bathroom and begins putting on
makeup.

(CONTINUED)

PENNY

So I ended things with Andrew.

Marin looks at Penny like, "duh. you did."

PENNY

Yeah, yeah, I know, I know. We all saw that coming. But, oooh, he did not take it well. He unfriended me on facebook and then he blocked me. He blocked me! Like I was the clingy one! What a little boy.

MARIN

If I recall correctly, you have unfriended and blocked a number of your exes.

PENNY

Yeah, but only the ones I was in love with.

MARIN

Maybe he was in love with you...

PENNY

I really, really, really hope not.

MARIN

Wait, why did it take you so long to break up with him. You told me you were going to do it at Christmas.

PENNY

He had one of my favorite t-shirts and I was worried that if I didn't get it back before we broke up that he would keep it. Oh this shirt actually!

She takes off and throws the shirt she was wearing to Marin. Marin examines it.

MARIN

I like the design. It reminds me of an art exhibit I saw in London a few years ago.

PENNY

(from the bathroom)
Oh yeah?

(CONTINUED)

MARIN

The National Gallery had an amazing special exhibit about Christian saints. They commissioned an artist to take all of the most gruesomely martyrs saints and make interactive wooden statues out of them. They were constructed like Victorian carnival murder statues. Very bizarre pieces that turned the viewers into museum sadists. There was one where if you pressed a button, then St. Augustine would hit himself in the head REALLY hard. BAM! My little sister adored it, which I was not expecting in the least. She would say, "press it again, Marin! Press it again!" It was my favorite part about our trip.

PENNY

(coming out of the bathroom)
That doesn't exactly surprise me, Marin... Hey, I just got my period, thank god, but it stained my underwear. Should I just go without panties?

MARIN

Are you sure you want to show everything today?

PENNY

Dude, you pulled my panties down last time.

MARIN

Sweetie, that was because we got more last time! Here, just borrow one of mine.

Marin gets a thong from a chest of drawers and hands it to Penny. Penny looks at it and frowns.

PENNY

This is basically the same as not wearing any underwear at all.

MARIN

Yes, except I get to make you wear it. Tee hee.

Penny goes back to the bathroom to change.

(CONTINUED)

MARIN

(Over the music)

So why don't you quit the play?

PENNY

(from the bathroom)

Quit? Why would I quit it?

MARIN

It sounds terrible. Just quit it.

PENNY

I need the money.

MARIN

Fair enough.

Penny comes out of the bathroom. She is dressed in a naughty school girl outfit.

PENNY

Ta da!

MARIN

(Distracted)

Hm? Oh. Yes, you look very nice.

PENNY

Oh your head is somewhere else entirely.

MARIN

Oh Penny, I really don't know what to do about Keaton. I hate being this upset over a dumb boy. It's so embarrassing.

PENNY

Listen. If he loves you and you love him and you both believe in it, it will work. But if you don't believe in him, if you really don't trust him, even if you love him, well, end it now before it's too late. For both of your sakes.

MARIN

Yeah.

PENNY

Hey. Come here.

(CONTINUED)

Penny hugs Marin for a long time. Marin grabs Penny's face and they share a long, passionate kiss. They are unsurprised by this kiss. This is something they do regularly.

PENNY

Ok, but seriously, you need to get dressed.

Marin gets into her outfit. It would be best categorized as "Hot Teacher."

Marin's door buzzes.

MARIN

Time for Bobby.

Penny turns off the music. Marin goes to her door. Opens it and steps into the hallway. Comes back with an envelope and a little piece of paper. She puts the envelope on her kitchen counter while reading the little scrap of paper.

MARIN

Ok. He wants the locker room one.

PENNY

Am I subbing or switching?

MARIN

Actually, he wants you to just top with me.

PENNY

Oh really?

Penny frowns.

PENNY

Well that's no fun.

MARIN

Don't be sad, I'll take care of you later.

PENNY

Okie dokie!

Marin puts fake glasses on. Clears her throat.

MARIN

(yelling to the door)

Bobby! You may see the principal now.

Enter "Bobby." Late 30s- early 50's, he is a shy and sensitive man. Also. He likes to pay beautiful women to humiliate and hurt him. Penny begins full-on high school mean girl play acting. Marin becomes as sharp and mean as a razor.

BOBBY
Yes, principal?

MARIN
Do you recognize this girl?

Penny is fake frowning.

BOBBY
Yes, that's Suzy.

MARIN
Yes, and Suzy told me something very upsetting.

PENNY
So upsetting.

MARIN
She told me that you were in the girls locker room!

BOBBY
What? No I wasn't!

MARIN
Are you calling Suzy a liar?

BOBBY
N-no?

MARIN
So which is it, Bobby? Is sweet Suzy lying or are you a filthy pervert?

BOBBY
I-I did it. But I didn't mean to. Honest. I promise I'm not lying.

MARIN
Yes and I think you are lying. I think you meant to do it so you could touch yourself inappropriately.

PENNY

Yes and I saw him touching himself!
I saw his little weiner out!

MARIN

Yes. And. How did that make you
feel Suzy?

PENNY

It made me feel--

Penny pauses, unsure how he wants her play it.

BOBBY

Did it make you feel bad?

PENNY

So bad.

MARIN

Tell me more, Suzy.

PENNY

Seeing Bobby in the girl's locker
room made me feel scared, and
embarrassed, and... uh... uh...

Penny breaks character for a split second to think of a good
third adjective...

PENNY

ROTTEN. IT MADE ME FEEL ROTTEN.

MARIN

You made Suzy feel rotten, Bobby.
How could you? You should be
ashamed of yourself! Are you
ashamed?

BOBBY

Yes.

MARIN

And what am I going to do about
this? Should I tell your parents?

BOBBY

No! Please, Principal! Please don't
call my mom and dad!

MARIN

Well, I'll just have to make your
punishment EXTRA painful. Suzy,
pick a number between 1 and 10.

(CONTINUED)

PENNY

Hm. Nine.

MARIN

Nine spankings! Suzy, leather or wood?

PENNY

Wood.

Bobby whimpers. Wood hurts the most.

MARIN

Alright. Get into position, Bobby.

BOBBY

Yes.

MARIN

Yes, what?

BOBBY

Yes, Principal.

He pulls down his pants and bends over Marin's bed.

MARIN

Suzy, since you had the distasteful experience of looking at Bobby's gross little pecker, you should do the honors.

PENNY

Oh I would love to! Thank you principal, I love doing anything you tell me to. You are so--

Marin sends Penny a sharp look. This is a touch too submissive for the moment.

Penny mouths, "sorry" and shrugs her shoulders. She always gets so carried away.

PENNY

OK, Bobby. Count it out.

With each slap of the paddle, Bobby counts along.

Thwak!

BOBBY

One!

Thwak!

(CONTINUED)

BOBBY
Two!

Thwak!

BOBBY
Three!

Thwak!

BOBBY
Four!

Thwak!

BOBBY
Five!

Thwak!

BOBBY
Six!

Thwak!

BOBBY
Seven!

Thwak!

PENNY
LOUDER DICKWEED!

She hits him extra hard.

BOBBY
Eight! JESUS Christ!

MARIN
I am going to give the last one.

Marin waits a moment to let him anticipate the final smack.

THWAK!

BOBBY
NINE! Oh god, oh god, ouch!

MARIN
OK, Bobby, you were a good boy. You
can go back to class now.

BOBBY

Thank you Principal. I am so sorry principal. I'm so sorry Suzy.

MARIN

You better be. I hope you learned your lesson. Or the next time you see me, you will be much sorrier.

BOBBY

Yes, principal.

He exits the apartment.

PENNY

Well that was fun! I've never topped so hard before.

Marin pulls money from the envelope on the counter.

MARIN

Here you go.

PENNY

Thanks... Marin, have you ever done a strap-on scene?

MARIN

I have.

PENNY

Is the money good?

MARIN

It is, in fact.

PENNY

I think I'd let you bang me with a strap on in front of someone.

MARIN

Would you?

PENNY

But just you. I couldn't imagine doing it with a stranger. That would be demeaning.

MARIN

I'll remember you said that, if something comes up.

(CONTINUED)

PENNY

Please do. I swear to god, I would
much rather get paid to be pounded
by you than go to my day job.

MARIN

I'm in the mood for Chinese food.
Would you like to get some
dumplings with me?

PENNY

Sure! Let's do that.

End.