

Scene Two

A split stage. Pete is building a wall. Eve is cutting money-off coupons from a mountain of magazines. They speak forward.

Eve It's nearly five.

Quiet.

Eve Will you be long?

Quiet

Eve Do we need another shed?

Pete Put things in

Eve What things?

Pete Tools. Paint. Hammers.

Eve (aside) Where do we keep them now?

Pete Gardening tools

Eve (aside) You going to start a garden then?

Pete We need more space.

Quiet

Pete What?

Quiet

Pete (aside) Women don't understand the demands of tool storage space.

Eve (aside) Might buy a bike to put in it

Pete (aside) Be another story if it was canned food at issue.

Eve (aside) For the summer

Pete (aside) Besides. A man likes to build.

Eve (aside) Ride out to the country

Pete (aside) It's genetic.

Eve (aside) On my own.

Quiet

Eve He works hard. He likes to get the muck under his nails of a weekend. Likes to sweat.

Pete She's never forgiven me

Eve His sperm were dead

Pete Couldn't furnish her with children

Eve Dead as little doornails

Pete We got new carpets every three years

Eve The young rugby fields of England

Pete Religiously

Eve All that scrum-downing

Pete We've had some lovely carpets in here

Eve Crotch-grabbing

Pete Love....

Eve I hear cats cry

Pete Eve.

Eve Movements in milkless breasts

Pete Eve!

Eve My children are somewhere
Pete Eve!
Eve A man likes to build
Pete EVE.
Eve What?

Quiet.

Pete Football's my game now. **(Shadow Tackles)** I manage a team. A great little squad. Could do with a bit more push up front and a bit more solid at the back. A bit of work on ball control. Passing. Kicking. Superb goalie. Needs a bit of work on actually keeping hold of the ball. It's the taking part. The rumble of boot and the slap of leather.
Eve Keeps him off the streets.

She moves the pile of clothes. He washes his hands and cleans himself up. They skirt around each other for some time in silence.

Pete Is Mary out?
Eve She's my mother
Pete So
Eve Don't call her Mary
Pete That's her name
Eve She's my mother
Pete What am I supposed to call her ?
Eve Mother.

Quiet.

Eve She's an old lady

Small quiet.

Eve Where do you want her to go? How dare you. She's my mother. I don't hear you trying to throw David into the streets. You wouldn't dare. It's because she's weak. There's nowhere else for them.
Pete Just a minute.

Quiet

Pete goes back out to the wall. Eve leaves and returns with another mountain of washing to be ironed.

Eve He doesn't know when to stop.

Quiet. Pete builds.

Eve It'll have to come down anyway.

Quiet.

Eve You heard what David said.

Quiet.

Eve Need planning permission for a brick structure beyond the building line.

Pete stops.

Eve They take aerial photographs to check for unauthorised erections. Probably got a satellite by now. Looking down on you playing with your bricks.

Quiet.

Pete Marriage made in heaven

Eve On a youth training project.

Pete Just tell me your not happy and we'll call it a day.

Quiet.

Pete Just say it. "I've had enough".

Quiet.

Pete Help us both out.

Quiet.

Pete Just say it.

Quiet.

David enters. They both return to their work. David watches.

Blackout.