

**SCENE THREE**

*(A different but not dissimilar living room. Perhaps the couch and chair used in ETHAN'S apartment are simply rearranged. This is the home of ETHAN'S older brother JOSH and his wife JESSICA. JOSH is watching a downstage TV and JESSICA enters)*

begin  
JESSICA

Turn it off. Please.

JOSH

I'm watching it.

JESSICA

I pieced that together, actually. I don't want to watch it. Certainly not for the third time tonight.

JOSH

So therefore, it goes off.

JESSICA

It is, I repeat, the third news story on this thing tonight. The first two were lying?

JOSH

If they show that bloody, bandaged head one more ...completely slanted coverage. Each time. You'd think he was the victim, they way they -

JESSICA

Then turn it off.

JOSH

Fine. *(With an unconcealed contempt)* Access Hollywood it is.

JESSICA

You have this charming way of saying the names of my shows that implies that watching them is the moral equivalent of sodomizing kittens.

JOSH

If you had any idea how hard it was to get that voice down.

JESSICA

Your mother watches this show, you know. *(Beat)* Wow. That was a dumb argument.

JOSH

I'm glad it was you who said it.

JESSICA

The point being, it would be nice if you could find it in your morally indignant heart to not equate my passing interest in movies and who's doing who in Hollywood -

JOSH

Who's doing whom.

JESSICA

Grammar? Are you kidding me? Anyway. If you could not equate who's doing WHOM in Hollywood with strapping dynamite to my chest and blowing up a bus load of school kids.

JOSH

I thought we'd agreed that these kind of exaggerations get us nowhere.

JESSICA

No, you and Dr. Liebman agreed to that, I thought we'd agreed that starting of sentences with "I thought we'd agreed that" was incredibly smug and irritating.

JOSH

Why are you so cranky?

JESSICA

I don't remember, to be honest, but the grammar lesson couldn't have helped.

JOSH

Trying to be helpful.

JESSICA

Josh, no one, anywhere, at any time, has ever corrected someone else's grammar in order to be helpful.

JOSH

OK.

JESSICA

End  
"OK"?

JOSH

OK is somehow disagreeable now?

JESSICA

It's the context of the OK.