

GRANDPA. (*Rises, shaking his head.*) No-o, Mr. Kolenkhov. (*Sits.*)
(*A shrug and KOLENKHOV returns glass to desk.*)

PENNY. But I'm sure Mr. and Mrs. Kirby would love this game. It's perfectly harmless.

ALICE. Please, Mother . . .

KIRBY. I'm not very good at games, Mrs. Sycamore.

PENNY. (*Crossing below table to the desk.*) Oh, but *any* fool could play this game, Mr. Kirby. All you do is write your name on a piece of paper — (*Getting pads and pencils.*) (*TONY helps KOLENKHOV and himself to pads and pencils.*)

ALICE. But, mother, Mr. Kirby doesn't want —

PENNY. Oh, he'll love it! (*Going right on distributing pencils, pads.*) Here you are, Mr. Kirby. Write your name on this piece of paper. And Mrs. Kirby, you do the same on this one. (*PAUL, ESSIE and ED sit on couch. ESSIE takes pencils, ED pads.*)

ALICE. Mother, what *is* this game?

PENNY. (*Crossing back of table to L. KOLENKHOV sits at desk.*) I used to play it at school. It's called Forget-Me-Not. Here you are, Grandpa. Now, I'm going to call out five words—just anything at all—and as I say each word, you're to put down the first thing that comes into your mind. Is that clear? For instance, if I say "grass," you might put down "green"—just whatever you think of, see? Or if I call out "chair," you might put down "table." It shows the re-

#10

actions people have to different things. You see how simple it is, Mr. Kirby?

TONY. Come on, Father! Be a sport!

KIRBY. (*Stiffly.*) Very well. I shall be happy to play it.

PENNY. You see, Alice? He *does* want to play.

ALICE. (*Uneasily.*) Well —

PENNY. Now, then! Are we ready?

KOL. Ready!

PENNY. Now, remember—you must play fair. Put down the first thing that comes into your mind.

KIRBY. (*Pencil poised.*) I understand.

PENNY. Everybody ready? . . . The first word is "potatoes." (*She repeats it.*) "Potatoes." . . . Ready for the next one? . . . "Bathroom." (*ALICE shifts rather uneasily.*)

ALICE. Mother! (*But seeing that no one else seems to mind, she relaxes again.*)

PENNY. Bathroom!—Got that?

KOL. Go ahead.

PENNY. All ready? . . . "Lust."

ALICE. Mother, this is not exactly what you —

PENNY. Nonsense, Alice—that word's all right.

ALICE. Mother, it's *not* all right.

MRS. KIRBY. (*Unexpectedly.*) Oh, I don't know. (*To ALICE.*) It seems to me that's a perfectly fair word.

PENNY. (*To ALICE.*) You see? Now, you mustn't interrupt the game. (*ALICE drifts U.S.*)

KIRBY. May I have that last word again, please?

PENNY. "Lust," Mr. Kirby.

KIRBY. (*Writing.*) I've got it.

GRANDPA. This is quite a game, isn't it?

PENNY. Sssh, Grandpa. . . . All ready? . . . "Honeymoon." (*ESSIE snickers a little, which is all it takes to start PENNY off. Then she suddenly remembers herself.*) Now, Essie! . . . All right. The last word is "Sex."

ALICE. (*Under her breath.*) Mother! (*Crossing to buffet.*)

PENNY. Everybody got "sex"? . . . All right— (*She takes TONY's and KOLENKHOV's papers.*) now give me all the papers. May I have your paper, Mr. Kirby? (*Crosses back of table to R. gathering the pads.*) (*Three at table tear off sheets. ED hands three pads to PENNY.*)

GRANDPA. What happens now?