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JERRY. Katie hi

KATIE. Hi father hello hi your still here good there's still time

JERRY. Uh yeah three fifty five time enough for six or seven sins

KATIE. Ha yes

JERRY. How's your back

KATIE. Excuse me

JERRY. You won the limbo contest last night

KATIE. I did yes I did didn't I

JERRY. Well sit or kneel

KATIE. What

JERRY. You want to confess don't you

KATIE. Confess what

JERRY. That's what you're here for isn't it

KATIE. Yes sure of course I'm here to confess

JERRY. Okay by me

KATIE. Okay uh Jerry Father I mean Father

JERRY. Jerry is fine Katie relax will you

KATIE. Oh I'm relaxed I'm fine

JERRY. Okay

KATIE. Bless me Jerry for I have sinned.

JERRY. I think you can use Father in there Katie

KATIE. Bless me Father for I have sinned

JERRY. Yes

KATIE. This is going to be official isn't it

JERRY. Official

KATIE. I mean what I'm going to say to you is regulation confession right it count's right I tell you what I did you tell me it's okay, you bless me I leave

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JERRY. Yeah every once in a while somebody comes in with a whopper we've got to toss it around a bit before I set 'em loose on the street again.

KATIE. A whopper that's a mortal sin right

JERRY. Right it's also a buck ninety-eight at burger king

KATIE. Look can we just talk first

JERRY. Sure

KATIE. I mean just talk you know life friends

JERRY. Fine

KATIE. Good well

JERRY. Well

KATIE. Can I get up

JERRY. You are up almost

KATIE. But is it okay I mean can I walk around is it allowed

JERRY. Oh yeah you'd be amazed the things you can do since Vatican two

KATIE. Ha yes

JERRY. I had a wonderful time last night

KATIE. Did you

JERRY. For the first time in my life I really felt what it was like to be part of a memory I'd shake hands with a guy and I wouldn't see the guy I'd see the boy he was and I'd know he wasn't looking at me but at a kid with a face full of freckles and a runny nose and a baseball cap and a creme from a twinkie at the corner of his mouth

KATIE. Oh Jerry Father Jerry

JERRY. What's the matter Katie

KATIE. I had such a wonderful time last night

JERRY. Well I'm glad that's what reunions are for

KATIE. And you really did have a wonderful time too didn't you

JERRY. Are you ready now

KATIE. For what

JERRY. For confession

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KATIE. Not yes I just want to talk a little more

JERRY. Sure about what

KATIE. Well I mean we've known each other since we were kids there must be a million topics we could discuss

JERRY. I bet

KATIE. There's politics

JERRY. Politics

KATIE. Religion

JERRY. That'd be good

KATIE. Except you probably get that all the time

JERRY. It comes up a lot in my job yes

KATIE. There's dancing

JERRY. Dancing

KATIE. Wanna talk about dancing

JERRY. What's there to talk about

KATIE. I danced a lot last night

JERRY. Did you

KATIE. Yes oh yes

JERRY. The band was great didn't you think

KATIE. The band was phenomenal yes

JERRY. They were very inventive with all the old songs

KATIE. Phenomenally inventive

JERRY. I mean you wouldn't think "Moon River" "My Boyfriend's Back" and "The Ballad of the Green Berets" would ever work in a medley would you what were we talking about

KATIE. Dancing

JERRY. Oh yes you danced a lot last night you were telling me

KATIE. And you didn't leave your dancing shoes at the seminary either

JERRY. I made my way to the floor a few times

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KATIE. Nine

JERRY. You counted

KATIE. You're a priest everybody counted

JERRY. You're not upset are you

KATIE. Why should I be upset

JERRY. I don't know

KATIE. I mean you never took a vow against the hully gully right

JERRY. Right

KATIE. So there's no reason for me to be upset now is there

JERRY. No reason at all

KATIE. Jerry Dolan the dancing padre

JERRY. But you did count

KATIE. Count what

JERRY. My dances

KATIE. Yes

JERRY. So

KATIE. But that was easy

JERRY. What was easy

KATIE. Counting your nine dances

JERRY. Why

KATIE. Because six of them were with me Bless me Father for I have sinned

JERRY. Katie

KATIE. When you asked me I was touched it was nice and the first two or three dances were I don't know fun yeah fun

JERRY. They were all fun

KATIE. Of course they were all fun Jerry fun was a given what wasn't a given was dance four through six especially six

JERRY. Good God in heaven

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KATIE. I did not believe it there I was with the parish priest slow dancing to "Since I Don't Have You" my husbands favorite song next to "Wipeout"

JERRY. You have to slow dance to "Since I Don't Have You" it's a slow song if you dance fast you finish way before the band

KATIE. I have a life I've got no business thinking what I'm thinking

JERRY. What what is it that you're thinking

KATIE. And neither do you god damn it

JERRY. I'm not thinking it I swear I'm not

KATIE. Not thinking what

JERRY. How did it get to be you asking me

KATIE. Because you said the word "it" you said you weren't thinking "it" what is "it" and why if you weren't thinking it do you know what "it" is

JERRY. It happens that's all the young priest comes into the parish puts his best foot forward the congregation is impressed especially the young mothers

KATIE. Ralph caught on you know

JERRY. Whatd'ya mean

KATIE. Around ten thirty or eleven o'clock he said he noticed he hadn't danced with me once he asked me where I was all night

JERRY. What did you tell him

KATIE. I told him I was dancing with you which opened his eyes let me tell you

JERRY. Katie you're blowing this all out of proportion

KATIE. See there you go again "this" you say now "this" you haven't even bothered to tell me what "it" is and you're already talking about "this"

JERRY. There is no "it" there is no "this" it's all in your mind

KATIE. What's all in your mind

JERRY. It this what I don't know

KATIE. Bless me Father for I have sinned

JERRY. Katie

KATIE. Bless me Father for I have sinned

JERRY. Katie

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KATIE. Bless me Father for I have sinned siddown and do your job bless me Father for I have sinned

JERRY. You danced that's only a sin in Footloose I danced too you don't see me beating my breast and begging for forgiveness from an avenging god

KATIE. Get up

JERRY. What

KATIE. Get up it's your turn to talk

JERRY. I have nothing to say

KATIE. Oh yes you do Father Jerry Dolan I am a grown up person who is standing in front of you in the early stages of hysteria and I'll be damned I'm going to take the trip alone get up answer a few questions

JERRY. I don't want to answer questions

KATIE. Do you enjoy being a priest?

JERRY. What kind of question is that

KATIE. Yes or no

JERRY. Yes yes of course yes

KATIE. Is the life ever lonely

JERRY. Don't be silly

KATIE. I'll take that as a yes

JERRY. Don't take it as a yes it was a no when do I have time to be lonely you tell me

KATIE. All the time I'd say

JERRY. All the time is right

KATIE. Jerry

JERRY. So I danced with you a couple times is that so big a crime I have to turn my collar in and go on Oprah Winfrey

KATIE. I just wanted you do admit

JERRY. Alright alright I admit I danced I laughed I held I nuzzled I enjoyed

KATIE. It's okay

JERRY. I mean what do people really think out there you're out there with them what do they think we do Priests when the masses are over and the confessional's closed and the

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sermons are preached and the babies are baptized and the church is swept do they think we go up to our rooms and read Thomas Aquinas for kicks do they think we go into the rec hall and throw a cassette of Going My Way into the VCR every night do they think we sit around checking the diocesan register counting how many old priests have to die before we get to be bishop

KATIE. I knew this had to come out

JERRY. What

KATIE. This this is finally "this" "it" "what" what we were talking about

JERRY. Uhh no

KATIE. What do you mean no oh Jerry are you going to deny it

JERRY. Deny what

KATIE. That you are attracted to me

JERRY. Don't say that

KATIE. Okay okay I've taken it this far by myself I might as well just dive in the deep end how's this I am attracted to you okay is that allowed

JERRY. Oh God no

KATIE. Jerry

JERRY. Perspective we need perspective we need to look at the whole picture

KATIE. I don't need perspective I need to talk to you

JERRY. We're talking we're talking but let's talk with an eye towards a solution

KATIE. What is there to solve you won't acknowledge that there's a problem so what is there to figure out

JERRY. Katie never in my life have I enjoyed being with anybody as much as I enjoy being with you

KATIE. Jerry what's the matter

JERRY. I'm waiting for the lightning

KATIE. What

JERRY. Did you hear what I said to you

KATIE. Yes it was beautiful

JERRY. I know that's the problem I'm a priest I'm not supposed to say beautiful things to beautiful women

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KATIE. Say it again

JERRY. What

KATIE. Please just say it again

JERRY. You want to see me fry is that it

KATIE. Trust me say it again mean it again

JERRY. Never in my life have I enjoyed being with anybody as much as I enjoy being with you

KATIE. Ssh now just for a second before you say anything else just for a tiny moment you're Jerry Dolan I'm Katie Gavin now look at me *(after a long moment they impulsively kiss, gently)* there now go ahead and put that in perspective

JERRY. This isn't me

KATIE. Jerry

JERRY. Katie you're going to have to go

KATIE. It was just a kiss

JERRY. Exactly it was just a kiss please

KATIE. Okay I'll go but think about this here I am I am telling you that yes you can have what you want I'm telling you that we can figure out a way for you and me to be you and me I'm telling you that nothing is final and that you're making a mistake

JERRY. I'm sorry Katie

KATIE. You're sorry I'm sorry we're both the sorriest cases in town

JERRY. Goodbye Katie

KATIE. Goodbye Father