

SCUBA DUBA by Bruce Jay Friedman

Jean -- early 30s

FEMALE -- COMIC

Jean tries to explain to her white husband why she ran off with a black scuba diver.

Harold, will you just listen for a second? I'm not going to ask your full attention because I know I'm not entitled to that. Not in the short span of time that's been allotted to me on earth. But will you listen a little? I've been outside . . . All right, you know I've been outside, Harold. But what you don't know is that I looked around a little. And I saw what they're doing out there. They're not hollering out of windows, Harold. They're not taking their families three thousand miles to a beautiful new country with dozens of charming little villages to roam around in -- so they can stand around in bathrobes and shout things out of windows and never see those charming villages. Harold, let's face it. We both know there's only one charming thing in the world. You . . . in your bathrobe . . . shouting out of windows. That's the entire list. The charm line-up of our generation. . . . Let me tell you what happens to me when I'm outside, Harold. The strangest thing. You know how I trip a lot and bang my head on things and we both think it's cute although actually it's very serious and some of the injuries will probably turn malignant at a future date -- well, I don't trip over things out there. I didn't bang myself on the head once. There's nothing wrong with my eyes, Harold. I wish it were that. If it were an eye problem, believe me, I'd grab it. No, there's a reason that women out there don't bang into things and kill themselves. You see, they've had a breakthrough out there, Harold. They actually -- and you'd better sit down for

this one -- they actually believe there's a difference between men and women. And here's the shocker of the year. You ready? They're doing something about it. They've come up with a separate way of treating women. They speak a little more gently to them. They actually say things to women. Romantic things. And it doesn't make them feel like Herbert Marshall either.