

“Stand By Your Man”

By Mary Engquist

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Characters: Yolanda and Ricky

Props: A bench, cd music “Stand by my man,” burnt toast crumbs and artificial plants.

Summary: Will Yolanda still want to marry Ricky when he shows his true colors? Is he teasing her or is it real? Will they marry on Valentine’s Day?

(Scene is set in a yard setting with a few artificial plants around. Yolanda and Ricky are sitting on the bench when scene opens. Quiet music in the background.)

**YOLANDA**

I am so glad that you talked me into marrying you and it’s so close to Valentine’s Day.

**RICKY**

Well, it did not take much talking into. All I had to do was turn on my baby smile for you and you melted in my arms.

**YOLANDA**

Don’t you believe that for a minute. Why, I played hard to get. Ha, ha.

**RICKY**

Hard to get me? Nonsense, you see I had it all planned.

**YOLANDA**

What are you saying? You tricked me?

**RICKY**

Oh, Yolanda, don't be a sore loser.

**YOLANDA**

I would never trick you like you did me. Honestly, Ricky, you are so full of surprises you scare me.

**RICKY**

Now, now, you're taking this all too hard. Let's start over.

**YOLANDA**

Yea completely over. I wished that I never met you, so there.

**RICKY**

No, no sweetheart, you're taking this all wrong.

**YOLANDA**

The only thing wrong is that I answered with the big word YES.

**RICKY**

Are you saying now that you won't marry me on Valentine's Day?

**YOLANDA**

Yes, I'm saying that I will not marry you on Valentine's Day or any day, so there.

(She crosses her arms)

**RICKY**

Oh dear, what have I done letting my ego interfere with my heart?

**YOLANDA**

Your ego just flew south.

**RICKY**

That's good, you see that's good. No more ego, dear, just more heart.

**YOLANDA**

Give me one good reason that I should marry you?

**RICKY**

Just take one look at me, baby.

(He stands up and admires his arms and body)

**YOLANDA**

I'm looking at you and I want to run.

**RICKY**

Run, baby, run

(He grabs her arms and she stands up)

**YOLANDA**

Get your cotton picking hands off of me. What are you doing?

**RICKY**

I'm saving you, baby, I'm saving you.

**YOLANDA**

Yea, from a life of pure unhappiness?

**RICKY**

No, from that black widow that just dropped on your head. If we run it might blow it off.

(Yolanda jumps up and down trying to get the spider to come off and she is shaking her head and screaming.)

**YOLANDA**

Come on, please just get it off my head. Use your hands.

**RICKY**

Not on your life. Do you want me to get bit?

**YOLANDA**

Better you than me. Now do something.  
(She screams.)

**RICKY**

Okay, sit down back on the bench.

**YOLANDA**

Oh, no, look! They are crawling all over the bench!  
(She looks down and jumps back)

**RICKY**

It's all right, sweetheart, I will protect you. Here let me brush the bench off.

(He takes his hands and brushes the spiders off and starts singing:

Itsy Bitsy Spider song lyrics:

Itsy Bitsy spider climbs up the waterspout  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out  
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain  
Now Itsy Bitsy spider went up the spout again!

**YOLANDA**

Wait a minute!

**RICKY**

What?

**YOLANDA**

Why, these are burned toast crumbs.  
(She picks up a few and smells them.)

**RICKY**

Oh, gee, Yolanda, I had my breakfast out here this morning. I must have drop some crumbs.

**YOLANDA**

Well, you are the biggest crumb that I ever met.

**RICKY**

Does that mean that you won't marry me?

**YOLANDA**

Okay, listen up. I know you said some weird things and I can forgive you for that. But it is payback time.

**RICKY**

What is that supposed to mean, sweetheart?

**YOLANDA**

It means that I will “Stand By My Man”  
(music start playing the song)

**RICKY**

Aha, Yolanda, be my valentine?

**YOLANDA**

Oh, yes, and to think of all the years I will have to get even.  
Ha, ha.

**RICKY**

It’s all right. I just love you to pieces.

**YOLANDA**

Me too, that is I LOVE YOU.

(Scene closes with them kissing and music playing.)

***THE END***