

MARCH 16+17 '02

~~PROPS~~ SOUND/LIGHT

TA' TAHT FUQ

KUMMIEDJA FI
TLETT ATTI

MAQLUBA GHALL-MALTI
MINN
TONIO VASALLO

CHARACTERS:

DENISE PALMER ROMINA
MAJOR ALAN BUXTON TONIO VASSALLO
DAVID CLARKE ANDRE CARMILLERI
RONALD SMYTHE LEONARD PALZOW
ELIZABETH SMYTHE RITA CARMILLERI
HUMPHREY BENNETT MAYJA
BRENDA BENNETT MARIELLA SACCO
JACQUELINE ROBERTA SACCO
POSTMAN LUKE COPPINI

The action takes place in the garden flat of a Victorian Villa in Lancaster Gate.

ACT 1 9 o'clock Monday morning

ACT 2 5 o'clock Monday evening

ACT 3 the same evening

Time: The Present

The garden flat of a Victorian villa in Lancaster Gate, London, 9 o'clock Monday morning.

The flat is comfortable, but not luxurious. DL is a walk-in wardrobe cupboard. Above it a single divan-bed, on which is a large teddy bear. UL is a door leading to the rest of the house. In the corner above it is an electricity meter and mains switch. In the upstage wall is a window, through which can be seen a small brick area, with steps going up to the street. UC is the front door to the area. To the right of the door is a small chest with three drawers, and to the right of that a pay-phone on the wall. On the wall R is a door, upstage, leading to the bathroom. DL is another door to the kitchen. The only other furniture is a small easy chair and a bedside table. There is a small suitcase on the easy chair.

When the CURTAIN rises, Denise Palmer, late twenties, attractive and smartly dressed for the office, is tidying the bed. She goes to the cupboard and takes out a dress, which she puts in the suitcase. The case has several labels on it, Brussels, Paris etc. *etc she goes*

She goes into the kitchen and comes back with an empty milk bottle, picks up the case, her handbag and her car keys and goes out of the front door, shutting it behind her.

After a moment there is a knock on the door UL. Major Alan Buxton, fifty, enters. He wears a sports jacket with leather patches on the elbows (which he wears over a cardigan) and cavalry twill trousers. The doorbell upstairs rings. The Major goes out of the front door.

Postman (off, at the top of the steps) Bongu, Maggur. Zewg ittri registrati biss dalghodu.

The Major goes up the steps

Maggur Eh, mill-War Office ovvja.

Postman (off) Le Maggur, mid-dipartiment tat-taxxi u ohra tal-keru. Nista nxommhom minn mil 'l boghod.

Maggur Imma bilfors li hemm xi zball.

Postman (off) Kif tghid int Maggur. Iffirma hawn jekk joghgbok.

The Major comes back, carrying a sheaf of mail, all bills and demands. He quickly looks through them and is appalled. He goes to the kitchen door, knocks on it, and looks in. He repeats the same business at the bathroom door. Satisfied that there is no-one in the flat, he opens one of the letters, reads it and reacts in horror. He quickly goes to the phone and dials a number. After a moment he insters a ten cent piece.

Maggur Hello? National Bank ? ... Nista nkellem lil-manager jekk joghgbok ? Il-Maggur Alan Buxton ... X'inhu ? Qed jistenna telefonata min ghandi ? Grazzi ... Hello George, Alan jien. Heq l-ittra tieghek hasditni ftit. Ma rridx tghidli hekk hux ? ... Eh precisament hekk ridt tghidli ? Head Office ? ... Eh iva huma ? M'ghadhiex f'idejk izjed ? Hi x'wahda din ! ... imma dik daqs il-pensjoni ta xahar shih. U ta' xahar iehor. Se tiblali ta' xahar iehor ukoll ?...Eh ta kull xahar sakemm naqta d-dejn kollu ? Imma b'din ir-rata mhux se naqtghu qabel sena ohra. Kif tridni nghix ? ... imma kif tridni nhallas il-kontijiet jekk ma nistax insarraff il-pensjoni ? ... naf li dik problema tieghi, imma George jiena hsibt li se ttini palata biex nohrog minn din il-problema. Meta hrigtek tiekol tajtni dik l-impresjoni ... X'inhu ? ... Lanqas dak ic-cheque mhu se ssarraff ? ... Imma inti ghidtlili kemm ghogbuk l-oysters ... u id-Don Perignon ... u x-Chateaubraind ... iva naf li ragel fil-posizzjoni tieghi mhux suppost li naghmel spejjes kbar bhal dawk imma inti accettajt l-inviti tieghi ... imma jien diga ghidtlek li m'ghandhiex proprjeta, tista tghid li haditli kollox u d-dar taghha u ma tridx tbieghha. U tippretendi li nhallas il-kontijiet kollha u ntieha xi haga tal-kera ukoll ... iva krejt il-basement kif ghidtlili u jiena qed niddobba billi norqod fuq go sleeping bag ... iva ili nfittex job ghal dawn l-ahhar sena u nofs imma min irid jipjega ragel bhali, irtirat, ex-maggur u minghajr kwalifikazzjonijiet hlief il-Victoria Cross. Ix-xjafek, m'ghandiex 10 cents ohra ... George ... Mr. Perkins ... hello ...jekk joghgbok (The phone goes dead and he replaces the receiver) Issa se naghmel.

He looks at his watch, realizes that he has very little time and crosses to the bed, picks up the large teddy bear and throws it out of the door UL. He then goes to the wardrobe, grabs all the dresses, shuts the wardrobe door and goes off UL.

Denise returns down the area steps with a bottle of milk. She goes into the kitchen, putting the car keys on the chair as she goes.

The Major enters carrying a man's clothes, all on hangers, and puts them in the wardrobe. He goes to the chest of drawers and pulls one drawer open.

Denise comes in from the kitchen.

Denise Ah, Maggur !

The Major shuts the drawer quickly.

Maggur Ah, Miss Palmer. Hsibt li tlaqt.

Denise X'inti taghmel fil-flat tieghi.

Maggur Kemm inzilt biex nuza t-telephone tieghek.

Denise Imma inti ghandek wiehed fuq fid-dar tieghek.

Maggur Iva .. imma ... imma ... mhux qed jahdem ... iva ... out of order (He quickly scrabbles up the bills from the chest and stuffs them in his pocket)

Denise X'inti taghmel bl-ghamara tieghi ?

Maggur Eh ... il-kexxun. Jehel. Ili biex insewwieh.

Denise Imma m'hemm xejn hazin fih.

Maggur Ah.... iva. Irrangajtu. Issa niftakar, irrangajtu gimghatejn ilu qabel ma gejt inti. Mhux se titef l-ajruplan ?

Denise Le, se mmur izjed tard.

Maggur Izjed tard ? Kemm tard ?

Denise Tal-ghaxra u nofs. Ghalhekk ghandi hafna zmien.

Maggur Imma din se taghmilha kull nhar ta' Tnejn filghodu ?

Denise X'naghmel kull nhar ta' Tnejn ?

Maggur Tiehu l-flight tal-ghaxra u nofs.

Denise Ghaliex taghmel differenza ?

Maggur Le, le dazgur li le.

Denise Ix-xjafek ! Insejt nippakkja il-basket ta filghaxija. Issa fejn stajt qeghdu. Eh iva fil-gwardarobba.

Maggur Il-gwardarobba. Le, irrid nghid zgur li mhux hemm qeghdu.

Denise U inti bhalek kif taf ?

Maggur Le ma nafx. Imma ma nahsibx li kieku jien inqeghdu hemm.

The kettle whistles in the kitchen.

Maggur Il-kittla tieghek qed issaffar.

Denise (Slightly puzzled) Iva, hija kittla li ssaffar.

She goes into the kitchen.

The Major enters carrying Denise's clothes, which he hastily returns to the wardrobe and closes the door. He then quickly gets the teddy bear from UL and comes back as ...

Denise enters with a mug of coffee

The Major hastily hides the teddy behind his back.

Denise Eh, hsibt li tlaqt.

She turns away and puts her coffee cup down. He drops the teddy on the bed.

Maggur Iva kelli nitlaq. Mort fuq ... imbaghad ergajt inzilt.

Denise Kafe'

Maggur Le hwejjeg.

Denise Hwejjeg ?

Maggur U kafe'. Waqqajt ffit kafe' fuq il-hwejjeg. (He brushes his sleeve, and sees the time on the watch) Ara x'hin sar. Se jkolli nahrab.

Denise Eh mela thalliniex inzommok jiena.

Maggur Imma jiena mhu sejjer imkien. Inti se tkun tard. Irrid nghid se titef l-ajruplan. Ghandhom bzonnok Brussels.

Denise Le ma tantx. Jiena sempliciment segretarja.

Maggur Imma inti taf titkellem bil-franciz. Ma tistax thallihom jistennew.

Denise Imma Brussels jghaddi minghajri ghal ffit sieghat. Se nkun mal-principal tieghi sal-ahhar tal-gimgha.

Maggur Liema gurnata gejjja lura ?

Denise Il-Gimgha filghaxija bhas-soltu.

Maggur Eh kollox sew mela.

Denise Li kien ghalija lanqas immur.

Maggur X'inhu ?

Denise Nobodha Brussels. Il-hbieb tieghi kollha joqghodu Londra. Qed nahsibha bis-serjeta biex nibdel il-job.

Maggur (Thoroughly alarmed) Tibdel il-job. Imma lili tirrovinani. Irrid nghid tirrovinak. Ftakar f' dawk in-nies kollha li ma jahdmux. Bhali.

Denise Iva imma int differenti minnhom, inti m'ghandekx bzonn tahdem.

Maggur Eh m'ghandhiex bzonn. Eh le veru m'ghandhiex bzonn nahdem.

Denise Nahseb li hija xi haga sabiha li jkollok xi haga ohra diehla minbarra l-pensjoni tal-Army.

Maggur Iva hekk nahseb. Irrid nghid dazgur li sabiha.

Denise Mela nahseb li ahjar immur.

Maggur Tinsiex il-basket.

Denise Qeghdha fil-karozza

Maggur Eh, l-ahhar haga bil-haqq. Il-kera.

Denise Eh allura ?

Maggur Ma jimpurtax jekk tahseb fiha hux ?

Denise Imma l-kera li jmiss mhux qabel hmistax ohra.

Maggur Iva appuntu. Jimporta jekk tahseb fiha ... hmistax ohra.

Denise Le lanqas xejn, mela le.

Maggur Tajjeb ! Ha nhallik mela.

He goes out UL.

Denise (As she goes) Ciao, narak il-Gimgha.

She shuts the door UL and drops the latch on the Yale lock. She then goes out of the front door, closes it behind her, and goes up the area steps.

We hear a key going into the lock of the UL door. The door opens and the Major appears holding a key. He dashes to the chest of drawers and opens a drawer.

Denise runs back down the steps and into the room.

Denise Insejt il-basket ta filghaxija.

She goes to the wardrobe and collects her evening bag.

The Major slams the drawer on his hand.

Maggur Ahhh ! (He hops around waving it)

Dennis Skuzani.

Maggur Ah ... ergajt gejt. Kont gejt nghidlek li ma ghalaqtx il-bieb sewwa.

Denise Deherli li sew ghalaqtu.

Maggur Le, is-serratura hi daqxejn antipatika. Irrid nirrangha. Wara kollox trid ikollok il-privacy tieghek mhux hekk. Ciao narak il-Gimgha. (He starts to go).

Dennis Ara daqxejn, it-Teddy iccaqlaq.

Maggur Ma jistax ikun.

Denise Dejjem naghmlu fuq l-imhadda biex ikun komdu.

Maggur Irrid niftakaraha din ara. Irrid nghid niftakar iva.

She puts her evening bag on the bed and arranges Teddy in his place. The Major looks out of the window from time to time, and is rather agitated throughout the following conversation.

Denise Eh iva ili biex nghidlek ... il-gradenza.

Maggur Gradenza ?

- Denise Iva, tista ttini l-ohra lura ?
- Maggur Liema wahda ?
- Denise Dik li taqbel ma l-iehor. (She indicates the chest). Dik li hadt il-gimgha l-ohra biex issewwieha
- Maggur Eh iva dik. Eh ... inkissret. Izzarmat.
- Denise Izzarmat ? Imma kienet gdida fjammanda.
- Maggur Xoghol hazin u kollha kamla.
- Denise Mela sewwa ghamilt li hlist minnha.
- Maggur Ezattament (He starts to go again)
- Denise Imma ghandi bzonn ohra. Ghandi bzonn izjed fejn inqiegħed l-affarijiet issa.
- Maggur Eh iva ? Da zgur li ghandek bzonn.
- Denise Zgur li ghandek xi haga tghodd għalija fuq. Kollox jghaddi.
- Maggur Eh kollox jghaddi ? Iva dik hi. M'ghandi xejn. L-ex mara haditli l-ghamara kollha.
- Denise Hi x'wahda din. Imma ma stajtx izommha ?
- Maggur Le. L-ghamara tagħha.
- Denise Imma ma setghetx tagħmel hekk.
- Maggur Imma hekk ghamlet. Ma rridx nagħmel 'fuss' zejzed fit-tmienja ta' filghodu.
- Denise Anzi hallitlek id-dar.
- Maggur (Little chuckle) Ma tantx setghet tagħbieha fil-van ukoll hux.
- Denise Imma ma tistax tghid mingħajr ghamara.
- Maggur M'ghandhiex ghazla.

Handwritten notes in Arabic script: *Ma tistax tordna godda?*

- Denise Ma tistax tordna godda ?
- Maggur Iva, kieku nista nsib ... (He stops in mid-sentence)
- Denise Issib xiex ?
- Maggur Insib it-tip ta' ghamara li rrid.
- Denise X'tip ta' ghamara toghbok ?
- Maggur It-tip li hadet il-mara. Kienet antika. Tiswa kemm^uxejn flus.
- Denise Ghalhekk haditha maghha mela.
- Maggur Iva hekk nahseb.
- Denise Jiena ma hadtx xejn mieghi meta tlaqt ir-ragel. Ippakjajt il-bagalji u hallejtu warajja mal-flat, l-ghamara u l-habiba Taljana li kellu mieghu meta wasalt id-dar mix-xoghol.
- Maggur Jiddispjacini imma naf ezattament kif stajt thossok ... mhux ghax il-mara telqitni biex tmur ma Taljan taf.
- Denise U allura kif sirt taf ?
- Maggur Sirt naf l-ahhar nies u l-ahhar hin.
- Denise X'jigifieri ?
- Maggur Qaltli dik il-gurnata li irtirajt. Konna qed naraw it-television u besqitha. Qaltli 'Int se thalli l-Army u jien se nhalli lilek'. L-ghada filghodu telqet.
- Denise Ma tantx hliet zmien ?
- Maggur Le, kellhom kollox ippjanat. Ha nghidlek jekk ma kellu xejn, kien jaf jorganizza. Ma hemmx xejn li ma jistax jitfa idu fuqha.
- Denise Anki il-mara tieghek mid-dehra.

The Major looks at his watch, and once again out of the window.

Qed tistenna lil xi hadd ?

Major Iva fil-fatt (He does not move)

Denise Mela thalliniex inzommok.

Maggur Le lanqas jien.

Denise Nahseb li ahjar immur.

Maggur Iva mela mur isa.

Denise Immur meta inti tmur ukoll.

Maggur Meta jien immur ?

Denise Iva meta tmur fuq. Biex tiltaqa ma dak li trid tiltaqa.

Maggur Da zgur biex niltaqa ma dak li ghandi niltaqa. Il-vjagg it-tajjeb mela u narak il-Gimgha. Mhux se tkun hawn qabel il-Gimgha filghaxija hux ?

Denise (Puzzled) Le da zgur le le. Bhas-soltu.

Maggur (Relieved) Tajjeb.

Denise Tajjeb.

Maggur Iva il-vjagg it-tajjeb.

He goes out UL. Still puzzled, Denise shuts the door behind him and puts the Yale catch on, locking it. She then goes out of the front door, making sure that it is properly shut, and goes off up the area steps. We hear the car door slam and the car engine start.

The Major starts to rattle the UL door violently. He cannot open it.

Maggur (Off) Ix-xjafek imsakkar.

Denise comes running down the area steps, in through the front door, grabs her evening bag from the bed. The phone rings. She answers it.

Denise Hello ? ... iva jiena Denise ... u kemm qed jiddispijacini.... eh niringrazzjak tal-offerta. Nahseb taghmilli tajjeb li niehu gimgha off. Nispera li jghaddilek malajr, M'sieur Laugenie. Au revoir. (She dials a number. Then puts a coin in the box). Hello, Paul ... Iva jien Denise. Isma nista naccetta l-inviti li ghamiltli ? ... Iva ghandi gimgha off. Il-boss tieghi ma jiflahx ... Iva nahseb li nista nkun Highgate sal-ghaxra u nofs. Ara ghandi xi affarijiet x'nixtri imbaghad nigi... Iva nahseb nafha it-triq. Narak mela, bye.

She puts the receiver down and goes out of the front door. We hear her drive off.

Immediately the Major runs down the area steps, carrying two large plastic dustbin bags, one pink and one blue. He produced a door key and lets himself in. He takes out of the blue bag a pair of boxing gloves. He takes off the chest of drawers a can of hair lacquer and one or two toiletries, which he puts in the pink bag. He leaves the bags on the floor and goes to the cupboard, takes out the clothes and goes out UL.

He returns immediately with a duvet, pillow and pair of men's pyjamas. He takes Teddy off the bed and plonks him in a chair. He then strips the pretty flowered duvet and matching pillow off the bed and the neatly folded nightdress, which he puts inside the zippered Teddy. He substitutes the striped duvet and matching pillow and pyjamas. He takes the rejected bedding out UL and returns with three chest drawers piled one on top of the other. He takes the three drawers out of the chest and substitutes the three he has just brought in. He goes out UL with the other drawers and returns with the man's clothes, which he hangs in the cupboard.

We hear a high-powered motor bike approaching.

The Major reacts and hurriedly picks up both plastic bags and races into the bathroom. We hear him opening cupboards, etc. He reappears.

The motor bike stops outside.

The Major frantically dashes into the kitchen. Again we hear banging and crashing. He comes rushing out, still carrying both bags.

At that moment David Clarke comes down the area steps. He is in his late twenties and a keen athlete. He is dressed in motor-cycling gear, crash helmet etc. He lets himself in with a key.

The Major suddenly notices Teddy in the chair, and picks him up and puts him on the bed as David, carrying a small valise, enters.

David Bongu Maggur. X'inti taghmel fil-flat tieghi ?

Maggur Ah sur-Clarke. Qed nara li kollox huwa nadif.

David Niringrazzjak imma ma nahsibx li kellek ghalfejn. Kollox hallejt sew meta tlaqt il-Gimgha mhux hekk ?

Maggur Da zgur kollox f'postu bhas-soltu. Hwejjeg fil-gwardarobba, qomos fil-kxaxen, Teddy fuq is-sodda. Hi !

David Dak x'inhu jaghmel hemm ? Dak mhux tieghi.

Maggur Le dak ... tieghi.

David Tieghek ?

Maggur Iva.

David Imma x'inti taghmel b'teddy bear ? Nahseb li kbir wisq ghal dawk l-affarijiet mhux hekk ?

Maggur U da zgur. Ili li qtajthom is-snin.

David Allura min fejn gie ?

Maggur Eh ... erbahtu. Ir-raffle tal-ghaqda pensjonanti tal-Army. Kont qed nahseb se naghmel bih ... nixtieq intih lil xi hadd ... imma ma nafx lil min.

David Jekk se tnehhieh niehdu jien ghall-gharusa. Brenda joghgbuha il-soft toys. Niringrazzjak hafna.

Maggur (Weakly) M'hemmx innix.

David (About to take the Teddy) Tista tpoggih fuq is-sodda ? Ghandi jdejjja kollha 'grease'. Il-mutur waqafli fil-motorway. Kienet xita qliel. Ixxarbuli il-plugs u spiccajt anki jien imxarrab. Ahjar niehu shower qabel ma mmur il-Qorti.

Maggur Iva da zgur. Il-kamra tal-banju lesta.

David X'jigifieri lesta ?

Maggur Irrid nghid. Kien hemm xi problemi fil-kanen fil-weekend. U issa lesti, tajbin.

David Tajjeb. (He starts to take off his leathers. He wears a black jacket and pinstripe trousers underneath).

- Maggur Kellek weekend tajjeb ?
- David Iva tajjeb hafna grazzi. Kelli glieda tajba.
- Maggur X'inhi ? Thobb tiggieled ?
- David Da zgur li nhobb niggieled. Jiena boxer amateur.
- Maggur Eh iva, ghalhekk kien hemm l-ingwanti. Missni indunajt meta erfajthom.
- David Erfajthom ?
- Maggur Eh ... iva ... ghax ... jiena nhobb il-boxing ukoll. U kont qed nara x'tip ta' ngwanti tuza.
- David Eh veru ?
- Maggur Iva, kont niggieled fl-Army. Kienu jghiduli Buxton il-Bestja.
- David Mela xi darba irridu naghmlu glieda jiena u int. (He shapes up and shadow boxes)
- Maggur (Backing away) Issa ghadha hafna zmien u daqxejn iebes.
- David Ma jimpurtax, toqghodx tinkwieta. Mhux se nweggak. Ha nghidlek x'naghmlu. Nhar il-Gimgha hemm Tournament tajjeb Albert Hall. Ghandi biljett zejjed. Ghax ma tigix mieghi.
- Maggur Il-Gimgha le ma nistax. Inkun imhabbat hafna. Irrid nizbarazza il-flat.
- David Tizbarazza l-flat ?
- Maggur Iva nibdel il-lozor.
- David Ma jimpurtax. Tiehom lili u nibdilhom jien il-lozor.
- Maggur Stenna fitit. Jigifieri se tibqa hawn il-Gimgha filghaxija.
- David Jiddependi. La mhux se tigi inti nipprova nipperswedi lil Brenda biex tigi hi. Imbaghad peress li jkun sar il-hin m'ghandniex ghalfejn ma nibqghux hawn it-tnejn li ahna.
- Maggur M'ghandekx ghalfejn tipperswadiha lil Brenda. Nigi mieghek jien.

David Tajjeb. Biex inkun onest, Brenda ma tantx tiehu gost ... fil fatt tobghod tigi mieghi, allavolja jien u hi hekk iltqajna.

Maggur Jigifieri Brenda tiggieled ukoll ?

David Le da zgur li le. Kien hemm il-finals fil-Midlands Boxing Club. Missierha ipprezentali it-tazza tar-rebbieha. Huwa l-kap tal-Avukati tad-distrett tieghi. Is-sena l-ohra kont champion tad-distrett tieghi.

Maggur Nawguralek.

David Grazi. U issa Brenda l-gharusa tieghi.

Maggur Nerga nawguralek. U prosit, ideja tajba li tgharrast mat-tifla tal-principal tieghek. Jiena hekk ghamilt. Kien il-General tieghi. Imma ma tantx spiccajt tajjeb ghax harbitli mal-assistent tieghi u jiena spiccajt irtirat.

David Jiddispjacini.

Maggur Anki jien. U kien l-akbar habib tieghi ukoll.

David Ghaliex ma tajtux xi daqtejn.

Maggur Ma stajtx ghaliex kien siehbi. Dawn l-affarijiet ma jsirux.

David Iva imma anki li jehodlok il-mara ma jsirux.

Maggur Iva veru. Imma Elizabeth kienet daqxejn dicenti mieghi almenu. Hallitni noqghod fid-dar ghalkemm inhallas il-kera. Issa saret taghha ghaliex hallihiela missierha wahda li miet bl-accident.

David Xi gralu ?

Maggur Kielu kukkudrill.

David Fl-Afrika ?

Maggur sakra. Le, fiz-Zoo ta' Londra. Tant kien xorob brandy li l-kukkudrill dam gimgha fis-

David Hi xi storja ta dwejjajq.

- Maggur x'tagħmel. Iva, imma ma rridx noqghod iddejpek bil-problemi tieghi ghax nahseb li ghandek
- David Iva. Irrid nibda naqra xi kawzi godda. Ghandi attentat ta qtil u serq. Daqxejn ta' dwejjajq imma ma nistax ingorr.
- Maggur Imma inti xorta tiehu gost tmur ghand il-hbieb fil-weekends hux hekk ?
- David Iva, imma dik se tieqaf issa ghaliex ghandi lil Brenda.
- Maggur Le, ma tistax ma tmurx... irrid nghid ma tistax thallieha izommok milli tmur.
- David Iva, imma Brenda l-gharusa tieghi, u missierha l-principal tieghi.
- Maggur Ma toghbokx Londra fil-weekend ... post tassew ikrah, storbjuż wisq. Ikun hemm hafna nies minn barra Londra.
- David Iva imma jibda jkolli lil Brenda.
- Maggur Mhux hawn imma. Irrid nghid mhux se joghgobha hawnhekk. Nahseb li imdorrija f'postijiet hafna ahjar minn hawn. Mela dik se joghgobha post bhal dan.
- David Ma jimpurtax malajr inkunu nafu ghaliex illejla gejjja hawn biex issajjarli.
- Maggur Mela allura se jkolli nghidilha fuq l-umditja' u l-grieden u l-insetti li hawn.
- David Imma lili qatt ma ghidtli bihom dawn.
- Maggur Le. Johorgu biss fil-weekend, ghaliex ma jkun hawn hadd u kollox ikun kwiet.
- David Imma inti ghadek kif ghidtli li Londra storbjuza wisq fil-weekends.
- Maggur Iva. Minhabba l-grieden u l-insetti. Huma jagħmlu l-istorbju.
- David F'dak il-kaz il-veru ghandek wicc ta.
- Maggur Wicc ?
- David Iva talli izzommli daqshekk kera ghal post mimli insetti.
- Maggur Iva imma fil-weekends biss ... inti ma tkunx hawn fil-weekend.

- David Jista jkun li nibda inkun hawn. Irrid nahsibha sew.
- Maggur Iva taf. Ahsibha sew ... sew hafna. Ma rridekx taghmel xi haga li jiddispjacini ... eh irrid nghid li jiddispjacik.
- David Ha nghidlek xi haga li qed jiddispjacini.
- Maggur X'inhi ?
- David Li qed inhallas daqshekk kera ghall-post infestat. Nahseb li ahjar iggib xi hadd fil-weekend.
- Maggur Diga ghandi xi hadd fil-weekend ... dik il-problema. Jigifieri diga ghandi lil xi hadd gej fil-weekend minhabba l-problema. Imma se tigini hafna flus u jien m'ghandix flus. Ghalhekk tista ttini l-flus tal-kera ?
- David Imma jien diga tajtek l-flus il-gimgha l-ohra qabel ma bdejt toqghod hawn.
- Maggur Iva naf. Jiena qed nitolbok il-kera ta' xahar iehor.
- David Imma dik ma rridx inhallasha qabel tlett gimghat ohra. U jien mhux se jkolli izjed flus qabel ma nithallas ta xogholi. U jekk ma nibdix ix-xoghol anki dawk il-flus nitlef. (He goes towards the bathroom).
- Maggur Iva, thallnix inzommok. (He goes towards the door UL)
- David (Indicating the plastic bags) Tinsiex tohrog l-iskart.
- Maggur Iva halli fidejja.

He goes UL.

David takes off his jacket and chucks it on the bed. He goes into the bathroom, switches on the light and shuts the door.

We hear a motor car approach and stop outside.

The Major rushes in UL, looks off out of the window. His worst fears confirmed, he hastily shoves the motor-bike leathers under the bed, takes David's jacket off the chair and throws it into the kitchen. Stuffs the boxing gloves into one of the drawers and picks up the motor-cycle helmet as Denise lets herself in from outside. She carries a plastic bag of groceries and her handbag.

Denise (Surprised) Maggur ! X'inti taghmel hawn ?

Maggur Kellna emergenza. Kelli ninzel.

Denise Emergenza ? Mhux qed nifhem. Ghalfejn qieghed hawn.

Maggur Ghalfejn qieghed hawn, qieghed hawn.... qieghed hawn ... hawn hsara fil-wires.

Denise X'wires ?

Maggur Wires tad-dawl.

Denise U xi gralhom ?

Maggur Overload.

Denise Hi x'wahda din.... overload jista jikkaguna hruq.

Maggur Iva ? Da zgur li jista. U jien ghalhekk inzilt hawn isfel minhabba l-hruq. Ghaliex jista jinqala wiehed minn mument ghall-iehor.

Denise Ma ghandniex hin x'nahlu mela.

The Major rushes to the front door and holds it open for her. She follows him, but instead of going out of the door, she switches off the main electricity switch, which is on the wall by the door.

Maggur X'ghamilt ?

Denise Kollox sew issa, tfejt il-main. Il-wires ma jistax ikollhom overload.

David (Off, from the bathroom) Hej ! X'inhu jigri ?

Denise Hemm ragel fil-kamra tal-banju tieghi.

Maggur Iva veru.

He rushes to the bathroom door, which has started to open. He pulls it shut.

Oqghod hemm, tohrogx.

David (Off) Mar id-dawl.

- Maggur Mar id-dawl.
- Denise Da zgur li mar id-dawl. Tfejt jien.
- Maggur Da zgur li mar id-dawl. Tfitu hi.
- Denise X'inti taghmel fil-kamra tal-banju tieghi ?
- David (Off) Ma nistax nara ix-shower.
- Denise X'jigifieri ma jistax jara x-shower ?
- Maggur Irid jghid ma jistax jara fejn hi x-shower, ghaliex hu l-plumber.
- Denise Imma inti ma ghidtx li problema kienet fil-wires ?
- Maggur Iva hekk hu.
- Denise Allura ghalfejn ghibt l-plumber ?
- Maggur Imma dik hi. L-ilma dahal fil-wires. Allura ghibt l-plumber biex johrog l-ilma min gol-wires. Meta l-ilma ikun barra mil-wires ingib l-electrician biex jirringa l-wires.
- Denise Eh iva taghmel sens.
- Maggur Eh iva ? Almenu.
- David (Off) Meta se tixghelu d-dawl. Ma nistax nara x'jien naghmel.
- Denise Ahjar tbexxaq daqxejn il-bieb biex jara ... ma jistax jara x'inhu jaghmel.
- Maggur Iva (He starts to open the door, then quickly slams it again). Ma nistax. M'ghandux hwejjeg.
- Denise M'ghandux hwejjeg ? Mela x'tip ta' plumber hu dan ?
- Maggur Plumber bla hwejjeg, imma jahdem bil-galbu. Hemm tant ilma hemm gew li kellu jnehhi l-hwejjeg. Ma ridx li jxarrabhom.
- David (Off) Tista tghidli x'ix-xjafek qed jigri ?

Denise Ahjar thallini nidhol inkellmu daqxejn.

Maggur Le ma tistax. Ghax ragel misthi. (To David) Zomm wahda, dalwaqt inkun mieghek. (To Denise) Int mur fil-keina u jiena ngeghlu jilbes.

Denise Fejn huma l-hwejjeg tieghu ? Ma jidhrux.

Maggur Le qeghdin taht is-sodda.

Denise Taht is-sodda ?

Maggur Iva ghax ghidtlu biex ma jnittnux il-post. Hu daqxejn traskurat kultant.

Denise Imma inti ghadek kif ghidt li jahdem bil-galbu.

Maggur Iva, jahdem bil-galbu imma meta jinza daqxejn traskurat. Issa idhol fil-keina u stenna hemmhekk.

Denise Kollox sew mela, imma ddumx.

She goes into the kitchen.

Maggur Thabbilx rasek ingeghlu jilbes malajr. (He closes the kitchen door behind her)

David, with a bath towel round his waits, comes out of the bathroom.

David X'inhu jigri u inti x'inti taghmel fil-flat tieghi ?

Maggur Emergenza. Il-wiring u l-ilma. Hemm l-ilma fil-wiring imma toqghodx tinkwieta. Kelli l-electrician u sewwa kollox. Ragel tajjeb hafna. Ha nixghel l-elettriku nerga. (He goes to the main electricity switch and switches it on)

Denise (Off) Lahaq libes ?

David Hemm mara fil-keina tieghi.

Maggur Eh iva veru.

David Min hi u x'inhi taghmel hemm ?

Maggur Dik ... dik ... l-electrician.

- David Imma inti ghidt li l-electrician huwa ragel.
- Maggur Iva ... iva ... hekk hu ... imma din il-mara tieghu. Tigi tara xoghlu wara li jljesti ghax hu daqxejn haddiem fjakk.
- David Imma inti ghidtli li ragel tajjeb hafna ?
- Maggur Iva ragel tajjeb hafna imma bhala haddiem hu daqxejn fjakk.
- Denise (Off) Ejja ghaggel ghax irrid inkellem lil-plumber.
- David X'plumber ?
- Maggur Trid tkellem lilek ... irrid nghid lil-Mr. Plummer, l-electrician, hekk jismu. U hi Mrs. Plummer. (He calls off to the kitchen) Dalwaqt mieghek Miss Palmer.
- David Ghalfejn sejjahtilha Miss. Palmer.
- Maggur Ghalieix hekk kien jisimha xebba, qabel ma izzewget lil Mr. Plummer u saret Mrs. Plummer.
- Denise (Off) Iva ghaggel, ghax ghandi x'naghamel.
- David Nahseb li ahjar immur inkellimha (He goes towards the kitchen door)
- Maggur Le, ma tistax, ghax m'ghandekx hwejjeg. Ma tistax tarak hekk.
- David Imma jiena dicenti kif jien, ma nahsibx li se tgerger.
- Maggur Hi le imma r-ragel taghha iva. Tghidx kemm hu ghajjur u kultant daqxejn vjolenti.
- David (Shaping up) Ma jimpurtax naf kif niddefendi ruhi.
- Maggur Le, le ma tistax taqbad ittih ... ghax ... ghax ... ghandu qalbu daqxejn dghajfa.
- David Qalbu dghajfa ?
- Maggur Iva u ma tridx li jkollok il-mewt tieghek fuq il-kuxjenza tieghek hux ?
- Denise (Off) Iva ejja ghaggel.

Maggur Iva, ghaggel ... u hu shower, halli tkun tista tohrog u tara x-xoghol.

David Nispera li din mhux se tigri ta spiss (He goes to the bathroom door)

Maggur Iva anki jien.

The kitchen door starts to open.

Ejja ghaggel (He bundles David off into the bathroom)

David exits into the bathroom. The Major shuts the door. Denise, carrying David's black jacket enters from the kitchen.

Denise Fejn hu l-plumber ?

Maggur Telaq. Baghttu 'l hemm.

Denise Minghajr il-gakketta (She holds it up)

Maggur Heq jiena ghidtlek li daqxejn traskurat biex jinza. Traskurat ukoll biex jilbes.

Denise (Crossing to the bed) Insomma forsi jerga jigi ghalihom (She puts the jacket on the bed, feels something with her foot, bends down and pulls out the leathers) Ticcajta hux traskurat. Nahseb li lanqas ghandu xejn fuqu.

Maggur Le, dawk mhumiex il-hwejjeg tal-plumber, dawk ta' ... dawk ta' ... ta' ... tar-ragel li kien joqghod hawn qabel. Nahseb li nesihom hawn.

Denise Imma ghalfejn kien izomm hwejjeg mahmugin taht is-sodda ?

Maggur Dik hi, kien mahmug. Ghalhekk hlist minnu ghax kien mahmug u kellu idejat strambi hafna.

Denise Nista nahseb.

Maggur Iva, kien mahmug u trid tara n-nies li kien igib hawn.

Denise Ma tantx jidher li kien xi hadd li nixtieq niltaqa mieghu.

Maggur Iva thabbilx rasek, mhux se tiltaqa mieghu. Imma inti mhux ahjar tmur issa ?

Denise Imma ma rridx nitlaq issa.

- Maggur Iva ghaliex, se titef l-ajruplan.
- Denise Imma mhux se naqbad ajruplan.
- Maggur Imma tigix tghidli li se tmur Brussels bil-vapur ghax qatt ma tasal.
- Denise Le mhux sejra Brussels xejn.
- Maggur X'jigifieri mhu sejra Brussels xejn ?
- Denise Le din il-gimgha almenu.
- Maggur Imma ma tistax toqghod hawn, matul il-gimgha.
- Denise U ghaliex le ?
- Maggur Ghax inti qatt ma taghmel hekk. Ghadek ma tafx x'nies ikun hawn matul il-gimgha. Hawnhekk ikun bin-nies. Irrid nghid Londra tkun bin-nies. Hafna nies.
- Denise Iva veru. It-traffiku dalghodu kien tal-genn. Taf kemm domt biex sibt parking.
- Maggur Tghidlix li qeghdt il-karozza quddiem il-bieb hux ?
- Denise Iva bhas-soltu.
- Maggur Iva imma fil-weekend. Inti m'ghandekx permess ... jigbruhilek tafx ... u issa l-
agħar hin. Dejjem jigu fil-hin ezatt.
- Denise U x'hin ezatt ?
- Maggur X'hin hu issa ?
- Denise (Looking at her watch) Id-disa w nofs neqsin hamsa.
- Maggur Ezattament fid-disa w nofs neqsin hamsa jigu. Isa ressaq il-karozza qabel ma jkun
tard wisq.
- Denise Se jkolli nirriskja. Nahseb li ghandi ffit minuti cans.
- Maggur (Glancing at the bathroom) Iva nahseb li ghandek ffit minuti, basta il-minuti ikunu
qosra.

- Denise Mela skuzani halli nilbes. (She starts to go towards the cupboard)
- Maggur Iva da zgur (He realizes, and then rushes between her and the cupboard) Da zgur li le !
- Denise Da zgur li le xiex ?
- Maggur Da zgur li ma tistax turriskja.
- Denise Mela ghamilli pjacir u ressaqili inti (She smiles sweetly and hands him her car keys from her handbag)
- Maggur (Looking at the bathroom door again) Ma nistax ... ma nistax insuq.
- Denise Ma tistax issuq ?
- Maggur Iva ghandi l-licenzja sospiza.
- Denise Allura issa se naghmel ?
- Maggur Ara issa qed niftakar. Hemm xi parking meters xi zewg toroq 'il boghod minn hawn. Almenu ittini ghaxar minuti ... tiehu ghaxar minuti.
- Denise Mela ahjar naghmel hekk. Liema triq ?
- Maggur Ma nistax niftakar ezatt imma jekk toqghod issuq flit mad-dawra malajr issibhom.
- Denise Imma hekk indum siegha.
- Maggur Tajjeb ...
- Denise Tajjeb ?
- Maggur Tajjeb ... li titlaq issa mela. Ghax malajr jirmunkawhom.
- Denise Kollox sew mela.
- Maggur Iva ghaggel, imma meta tkun bil-karozza tghaggilx. Hu l-hin tieghek. Suq bil-mod minhabba l-pulizija.

Denise goes out of the front door, up the area steps. Immediately the Major dashes to the cupboard and goes inside. At this moment Denise comes down the area steps again and comes into the flat.

Denise (As she enters) Maggur, inti m'ghandekx xi ... (She sees he isn't there)

The Major shoots out of the cupboard and closes the door behind him.

X'inti taghmel fil-gwardarobba tieghi ?

Maggur Kont se nnehhi il-hwejjeg.

Denise Tnehhi il-hwejjeg tieghi ?

Maggur Le mhux tieghek, tieghu.

Denise Tieghu ?

Maggur Ta' dak li kien joqghod hawn qabel. Ghidt forsi halla xi hwejjeg warajh hawn gew ukoll minbarra taht is-sodda.

Denise Imma hemm gew m'hemmx hwejjeg tieghu.

Maggur Iva naf ... issa. Naf ezatt x'hemm hemm gew. Inti diga ressaqt il-karozza.

Denise Da zgur li le. Ghandi bzonn xi zghar ghal-meter.

Maggur zghar. Eh dak kollox (He fishes in his pockets and looks at his small change) M'ghandix

Denise Mela m'hemmx ghalfejn inressaqha il-karozza allura.

Maggur Le ma tistax, stenna... stenna. Ghandi ideja.

He dashes into the bathroom and reappears almost immediately with David's trousers. He takes out coins from a pocket.

Ha, hawn xi haga zghar (He gives them to her)

Denise Dawk ta' min huma ?

Maggur X'inhu ? ...eh ... tal-plumber.

Denise Imma ma nistax niehu l-flus tal-plumber.

Maggur Iva tista. Intihomlu lira jien. (He takes a pound coin out of his pocket) Ara lira. (He puts it into the trouser pocket) Ejja ghaggel isa.

Denise runs out and up the area steps. The Major takes the pound out again as David, wearing his dressing-gown, comes out of the bathroom.

David Isma din xi ideja tieghek, tehodli l-qalziet. U qed tisraqli l-flus ukoll (He takes the trousers)

Maggur Le, kull ma ghamilt hadtlek xi zghar u qeghdtlek lira shiha.

David Iva imma stajt tistaqsini qabel.

Maggur Ma kelliex hin. Kienet urgenti. Minhabba l-meter.

David X'meter ?

Maggur X'meter ? Il-meter tal-gass. Ma ridtx li jispicca l-gas waqt li qed tiehu shower u jispicca il-mishun.

David Imma il-gass mhux bil-meter.

Maggur Eh le ? Mela ghalhekk ma setghux jidhlu iz-zghar.

David Mela tista tiehu l-lira lira (He takes it out of the trouser pocket and gives it to the Major)

Maggur Eh grazzi hafna.

David U tista ttini iz-zghar lira (He holds out his hand)

Maggur Eh ... eh... m'ghandhomx ghandi.

David (Surprised) U ghaliex le ?

Maggur Eh... meta ... eh ... meta ma dahlux fil-meter tal-gas ... eh... jiena ... eh (He looks around) ... eh ... jiena tfajthom fit-telephone.

David U ghaliex ?

Maggur Eh... eh ... cempilt. Iva. Cempilt lil Gas Board ... biex jigu u jaghmluli meter tal-gass. Hsibt li ikun ahjar hekk.

David U iva m'hemmx hin noqghodu niddiskutuha issa. Irrid nilbes biex immur ix-xoghol.

He looks at the Major expecting him to leave. The Major doesn't take the hint.

Maggur Iva li kont minnek nghaggel kemm jista jkun.

David Jekk ma jimpurtax ... ?

Maggur Ma jimpurtax xiex ?

David Jekk ma jimpurtax titlaq halli nilbes.

Maggur Eh iva da zgur (He starts to go UL) LE ! Ma tistax tilbes hawnhekk.

David Ghaliex le ? Mhux l-flat tieghi hawn. (He starts to get clean clothes from the chest and cupboard)

Maggur Le dalwaqt tigi issa. Tkun hawn minn hawn u flit iehor. Kemm marret tressaq il-karozza.

David Min ?

Maggur It-tfajla irrid nghid il-mara li tigi tnaddaf. Malajr tiehu xokk tarak mhux liebes. Kellha hajja kwieta hafna u tibza hafna mill-irgiel. Kienet soru taf int. U allura ahjar tilbes fil-kamra tal-banju.

David U iva ghidilha tibda mill-kamra tal-banju l-ewwel u jiena nilbes hawn.

Maggur Ma nistax nghidilha hekk. Ma tiehux ordnijiet minn ghandi. Lanqas mil-Madre ma kienet tisma. Ghalhekk kellha titlaq mil-kunvent.

David Tidher daqxejn difficli l-mara.

Maggur Iva difficli, anzi impossibli. Imma ma nistax nitlifha. Ghalhekk se jkollok tilbes fil-kamra tal-banju.

David Kollox sew. Zewg minuti kollox.

Maggur Zewg minuti ? Imma f'zewg minuti mhux se nlahhaq inzarrma.

David Izzarma xiex ?

Maggur Eh...eh... l-ghamara. Ghaliex tinsisti li qabel ma tibda tnaddaf inressaq l-ghamara kollha. Ghaliex fil-kunvent ghallmuha li 'L-Indafa qiesa Qdusija'.

David Imma m'hemmx ghalfejn tressaq kollox.

Maggur Da zgur li hemm. Jekk tinduna titlaq u inkwilina tajba.

David Inkwilina ? Imma inti m'ghidtlieq li hi s-seftura ?

Maggur Iva hi s-seftura u inkwilina ukoll. Toqghod fuq fl-attic. Meta keccewha mil-kunvent ma kellha imkien fejn tmur u allura hallejtha toqghod fl-attic. Isa ghaggel u idhol hemm gew (Indicating the bathroom) Dalwaqt tkun hawn.

David Mhux se ndum ma nlesti.

Maggur Le, le ghaggel biex tidhol imma tghaggi!x biex tohrog. Ahjar iddum daqxejn u meta tohrog tidher tajjeb mhux hekk ?

David Iva, iva, ghax il-principal dejjem iridna nidher smart allavolja ma jkollix il-Qorti.

He goes into the bathroom with his clothes.

The Major goes to the cupboard, takes out David's clothes and goes off UL accidentally dropping a tie near the cupboard.

David comes out of the bathroom, still in his dressing-gown, goes to the cupboard, stops with his hand on the knob, sees the tie on the floor, picks it up.

Ah, dik hi. Nahseb li waqatli.

He goes back into the bathroom and shuts the door, just as the Major struggles on UL carrying two drawers, with Denise's clothes from the cupboard draped over the top. He puts the drawers down, hangs her clothes in the cupboard, then removes the bottom two drawers from the chest and replaces them with the drawers containing Denise's clothes. He then takes David's two drawers off UL.

David comes out of the bathroom, now wearing his trousers and carrying his dressing-gown, which he hangs on the hook on the back of the door UL. He then goes to the chest, opens the top drawer, takes out a pair of socks, leaves the drawer open and goes out to the bathroom.

The Major returns carrying the third drawer of Denise's clothes. He reacts to the open drawer and looks towards the bathroom, puzzled. He changes over the top drawers and then goes to the door UL with David's drawer. He sees David's dressing-gown hanging on the back of the door. He tucks the drawer under his arm, collects the dressing-gown and goes off, shutting the door behind him.

Denise comes down the are steps, carrying her case, and lets herself into the flat. She goes to the cupboard and takes out casual clothes. She is starting to undress when the Major comes in carrying her negligé.

Maggur Ah !

Denise Ah ! Stajt habbat almenu.

Maggur Ma kontx naf li diga gejt.

Denise X'inti taghmel bin-neglige tieghi ?

Maggur Eh mela din tieghek ? Lanqas indunajt li din tieghek. Hsiebtha tal-iehor.

Denise L-iehor jigifieri dak li kien joqghod hawn qabel ?

Maggur Iva ezatt.

Denise Imma tghidlix li kellu neglige' ta' ?

Maggur Iva. Jiena ghidtlek li kellu idejat strambi hux. Ghalhekk hlist minnu.

Denise Insomma dik tieghi mhux tieghu. U dik tiswa hafna flus. Gdida fjammana, qatt ma lbistha.

Maggur Qed niehu gost li huma tieghek. Ghax m'ghandiex ghalfejn nohodhomlu lura. (He hangs the negligé' on the UL door).

Denise Nispera li se ttih dawk il-hwejjeg. (She indicates the leathers on the floor)

Maggur (Gathering them up) Iva, hekk se naghmel.

- Denise Mela jekk ma jimpurtax nibda inbiddel.
- Maggur Iva... iva mela le. Le ma tistax, mhux hawn gew.
- Denise U ghaliex le, mhux tieghi hawn.
- Maggur Iva hekk hu imma l-plumber rega gej.
- Denise Imma dak se jkun fil-kamra tal-banju.
- Maggur Diga qieghed ... irrid nghid diga qieghed l-affarijiet tieghu hemm. Imma il-problema mhux hemmhekk imma hawnhekk, taht l-art. Se jkollu jaqla l-art kollha.
- Denise Mela haga tajba li mhux se nkun hawn ghal xi zmien.
- Maggur Anki jien.
- Denise Mela mmur u nbiddel fil-kamra tal-banju. (She picks up her clothes and goes towards the bathroom)
- Maggur Le ma tistax, mimlija.
- Denise Mimlija ?
- Maggur Iva mimlija ilma. Il-bicca aghar milli hsibt. Se jkollok tbiddel fil-keina.
- Denise Heq m'hemmx x'tagħmel mela. Imma hekk mhux tajjeb taf.
- Maggur Le lanqas ghalija. Irrid nghid mhux tajjeb xejn.
- Denise Mela jekk se thaffer l-art ahjar niehu l-hwejjeg biex ma jithammgux.
- Maggur Halli fidejja. Xorta kont se naghmilha jien.
- Denise Grazzi. Nahseb li l-ahjar li tnehi mal-ewwel il-kxaxen.
- Maggur Iva hekk hu. Ideja tajba. Hadt dak kollu li ridt minnhom.
- Denise Iva grazzi.
- Maggur Mela ha naghmilha issa stess.

↓

Denise goes to the kitchen, taking her clothes with her. The Major takes the drawers out, and takes them off UL. David comes out of the bathroom, now fully dressed. He goes to the chest of drawers and reacts. The Major returns, carrying three drawers (David's)

David X'inti taghmel bil-kxaxen tieghi ?

Maggur Il-kxaxen tieghek ? Eh iva, l-kxaxen tieghek.

David Fejn kont sejjer bihom ?

Maggur Kont sejjer il barra ghaliex l-plumber se jaqla l-art u marritx li jithammgulek.

David Mela ghalfejn gibthom lura ?

Maggur Ghax hsibt li ghandek bzonn xi haga minnhom.

David Iva fil-fatt. Ghandi bzonn maktur.

Maggur F'idejk. ↓

David takes a handkerchief out of the top drawer.

David Grazzi. Tista terga tehodhom.

Maggur Grazzi. Nahseb li sejjer ix-xoghol issa hux ?

He takes the drawers out UL and returns immediately.

David Iva hekk se naghmel. Ghandi xi telefonati x'nehles l-ewwel. Forsi ghandi xi nofs siegha u mbaghad nitlaq.

Maggur Nofs siegha !

David Iva m'ghandix ghagglja. L-ewwel naghmel tazza kafe' imbaghad incempel. (He starts towards the kitchen)

Maggur Le ma tistax.

David Da zgur li nista. Naf naghmel tazza kafe' ghalija nnifsi.

Maggur Le ma tistax ghax m'hemmx ilma. Il-plumber ghalaq il-main.

- David Tajjub mela, niehu tazza halib.
- Maggur Ma tistax lanqas. Qata l-halib. Meta ntefa l-elettriku l-fridge ntfet u l-halib telaq. U inti ahjar titlaq ukoll.
- David Iva kif nispicca nara xi karti li ghandi nitlaq.
- Maggur Imma m'hemmx hin. Eh bilhaqq kellek telefonata.
- David Allura ghax m'ghidtlax qabel ?
- Maggur Ghaliex issa hsibt fiha. Insejtha kont u ftakart fiha issa. Il-principal tieghek irid jarak l-Qorti issa.
- David Issa ?
- Maggur Iva, dak il-hin kien issa. Issa ghadde.
- David Humphrey Bennett irid jarani issa.
- Maggur Ma taniex ismu.
- David Allura kif taf li kien hu ?
- Maggur Ghax hekk instema u kieku stess semma lil gharusa tieghek.
- David Semma lil Brenda ?
- Maggur Dak isimha ? Iva semmieha kemm il darba.
- David Irid jarani minhabba Brenda ?
- Maggur Iva, ghalhekk irid jarak. Biex ikellmek fuq Brenda.
- David Nispera li ma nqala xejn.
- Maggur Nahseb li nqala ghax il-hin kollu jghidli, Brenda u problema u int.
- David Imma din haga serja. Issa se naqbad naghmel u nghidlu.
- Maggur Ma jimpurtax issa tahseb xi haga fit-triq. Jiena hekk naghmel meta ikolli hafna pressjoni fuqi. Nivvinta xi haga. Tiskanta kemm nivvinta affarijiet meta jkolli bzonn.

- David Ma nafx se naqbad nivvinta imma.
- Maggur U issa tahseb f'xi haga. Imma missierha irrabjat ghax beda jghid li Brenda hija l-unika tifla tieghu.
- David Imma hi ghandha erba ohra huta bniet.
- Maggur Iva imma hija l-unika tifla tieghu li ghandha problema kbira.
- David Mela ma nahsibx li nista mmur quddiemu.
- Maggur Iva se jkollok ghax dalwaqt tohrog mil-kcina.
- David Brenda qeghdha fil-kcina ?
- Maggur (Realizing his mistake) Irrid nghid qeghdha fil-kcina tad-dar taghha ghax missierha tefaghha hemmhekk sakemm jigi imbaghad x'hin jasal jifaghha 'l barra mid-dar.
- David Mela ahjar immur u nzommu milli jkeccieha. Nispera li ma jgieghlnix intihielu.

He goes off up the area steps. Denise enters from the kitchen. She has changed her outfit and carries her other clothes.

- Denise Dak min kien ?
- Maggur Eh ... dak ... il...il-plumber. Ghadu kif lesta.
- Denise Jigifieri trid tghid li qala l-art, irranga l-kanen, pogga l-art f'postha f'zewg minuti. Le mhux possibli.
- Maggur Da zgur le mhux possibli. Konna fortunati li ma kellu jaghmel xejn minn dan. Kien kollu zball. Kienet id-dar ta ma genbna mhux din.
- Denise Kien jidher libes smart ghal plumber. Bil-gakketta u ingravata.
- Maggur Iva hu daqxejn eccentricu kultant. Minghalih li huwa ir-re tal-plumbers. Fil-fatt ghalhekk induna li l-problema ma kenitx hawn, imma l-ohra.
- Denise Ejja almenu. Issa tista iggibli l-hwejjeg tieghi lura jekk joghgbok.
- Maggur Iva mela le bil-qalb kollha.

He goes out UL. Denise hangs her suit up in the cupboard and comes back into the room. The phone rings. She answers it.

Denise Hello ? ... Min ? ... skuzani Brenda, imma m'hawn hadd David hawnhekk. Nahseb li ghandek wrong number ...iva dak hu n-numru imma nista nassigurak li m'hawnx David hawn.

The Major enters with Denise's drawers.

(Into the phone) Stenna ffit. Maggur, hawn xi hadd jismu Brenda li qed tinsisti li hawn xi hadd David joqghod hawn. Inti taf xi haga fuqu ?

Maggur (Alarmed) David ? Iva, dak li ghidtlek li kien joqghod hawn.

Denise Eh iva (Into the phone) Jiddispjacini Brenda, imma il-Maggur kellu jkecci l-gharus stramb 'l barra ... eh ma qallekx ? Iva, spicca barra ghax il-hin kollu jilbes negligé ta' mara u kellu kumpanija hazina ... eh le ma temminx... ara tkellem mal-Maggur inti stess.

She hands the receiver to the Major, who takes it with great reluctance.

Maggur Eh ... eh ... hello, Brenda ... le qatt ma ltqajna ... David... iva ... le da zgur li le ... ma tarax imma mhux qiegħed hawn issa. Hareg u mar ghand missierek ... kien hemm xi haga personali ... Iva ahjar incempillu hemm. Ciao Brenda. (He puts the receiver down)

Denise Ghadha tahseb li ghadu joqghod hawn.

Maggur Ovjament li ghadu ma qallix.

Denise Imma x'wicc ghandu ^{da} ta David. Nispera li ma niltaqax mieghu. Imma insomma ma nahsibx li se terga tarah.

Maggur Le mhux qabel is-sitta ... meta nohodlu l-hwejjeg lura.

Denise Joqghod vicin.

Maggur Joqghod vicin izzejjed.

Denise Ahjar immur issa ha niltaqa mal-habib.

She puts her suitcase on the bed, opens it and takes out a dress. During the following she swaps the dress for another from the cupboard.

Maggur Xi habib antik tieghek ?

Denise Le, iltqajna darba. Konna party is-Sibt. Xi haga li ghandha x'taqsam mal-muzika. Wara d-divorzju tieghi iddecidejt li rrid nohrog izjed ta spiss.

Maggur Nahseb li weggajt inti minhabba dan id-divorzju.

Denise Ghal bidu iva imma wara ghaddieli kollox.

Maggur Iva imma nahseb li halla xi rikordju. Dawn l-affarijiet hekk jaghmlu kultant. Jien nimmissja lil Elizabeth.

Denise Imma mhux sew li ghamlu.

Maggur Iva hekk hu. Imma xorta hi xi haga ta dwejjaq li titef lil martek u l-akbar habib tieghek fl-istess gurnata.

Denise Imissek tohrog izjed u tiltaqa ma izjed nies bhal ma naghmel jien.

Maggur Imma jien kbir wisq. U kieku stess ma nafx ebda mara li hi zghira.

Denise Imma inti m'intix kbir. Ghadek fl-aqwa tieghek.

Maggur Iva u bla xoghol u minghajr flus.

Denise Ha nghidlek x'naghmlu. Meta nigi lura minn Highgate, niehdok tiekol u noqghodu nibku flimkien.

Maggur Imma mhux sew li nhallik tohrogni niekol.

Denise Imma inti m'ghandekx irbit, bhali.

Maggur Le mhux hekk ridt nghid. Jigifieri mhux sew li thallasli inti.

Denise Ghaliex le ? Jiena nahdem u ghandi paga tajba.

Maggur Imma mhux dak il-punt. Ma nistax.

Denise Kollox sew mela, inhallik thallas int.

Maggur Imma bhalissa il-finanzi huma daqxejn baxxi.

Denise Ma jimpurtax. Xi haga nirrangaw bejnietna. Imma irridu nohorgu xi wahda minn dawn il-granet.

Maggur Ideja sabiha Miss. Palmer. Nahseb li niehu gost.

Denise Ma tantx se niehdu gost jekk toqghod nghajjatli Miss. Palmer. Jien Denise u inti ...

Maggur U jiena Alan.

Denise Kollox sew Alan. Mela meta nigi lura nohorgu wahda u noqghodu nitkellmu daqxejn. (She closes the suitcase)

Maggur Nispera li tiehu gost go Highgate.

Denise Iva imbaghad nghidlek kollox is-Sibt.

Maggur Kollox sew.

Denise picks up her handbag and the suitcase.

Halli fidejja.

Denise Le m'hemmx ghalfejn.

Maggur Imma ninsisti (He takes the suitcase from her) Xorta hiereg jien. Nahseb li nqatta l-gurnata iz-Zoo.

Denise Mela ejja ha nwasslek. Minn hemm se nghaddi.

Maggur Grazzi.

They start to go.

Denise Taf li l-ahhar persuna li garrli l-bagalji kien missieri.

Maggur Daqshekk xih hux.

Denise Le ma rridtx nghid hekk. Inti hafna snin izghar minn missieri.

Maggur La qed tghidli hekk, inhossni hafna izghar.

He holds the door open for her. She goes out, followed by him. They go up the area steps together as the curtain falls.

29 1332 4219

TA' TAHT FUQ

IT-TIENI ATT

It is 5.00 p.m. of the same day.

The door UL opens and Ronald comes in, followed by Elizabeth. Ronald Smythe is in his mid thirties, good-looking, smartly dressed - a bit too smartly. He is every inch a con-man. Elizabeth Smythe is in her mid-forties and strikingly good-looking. She is also very well dressed in the height of fashion. They both wear smart top coats. Elizabeth switches on the main lights.

Ronald Il-ahwa Elizabeth, hawn il-kobor mhux hazin.

Elizabeth Iva, dar kbira Ronald. Wara t-te indawrek ^{inkompli} wahda maghha.

Ronald Nahseb li mhux se niehu te. Jifthu fil-hamsa u nofs. Ghandna biss nofs siegha.

Elizabeth Kont nahseb li wara l-ikel ta nofs-in-nhar hadt bizzejjed.

Ronald Mhux zewg pinet birra kull ma hadt. Issa wasal il-hin ghal ftit gin. Ma nahsibx li hawn xi hadd biex jaghmilli xi grokk hux ?

Elizabeth Da zgur li m'hawnx. Meta il-papa' kien ghadu haj kellna sefturi. Imma insomma, Alan nahseb li zamm il-post nadif mhux hazin. Apparti minn dak l-imbarazz li hemm barra. Issa nghidlu biex inehhihom.

Ronald Allura din l-ghorfa ta Alan ?

Elizabeth (Smiling) Ghorfa. Ma tantx stajt inkeccih minn hawn hux ? Wara kollox inti tafu daqsi it-testment tal-papa' ^{daddy}

Ronald (Seeing the teddy bear on the bed) Jaqaw ergajna sirna tfal jew ?

Elizabeth X'jigifieri ?

Ronald (Pointing to the teddy) Dak hemm, it-teddy bear.

Elizabeth Qatt ma rajtu dak. Sa fejn naf jien qatt ma raqad ma teddy bear. Forsi qed ihossu wahdu minghajri.

Ronald Nahseb li mhux hekk. Dak qed jitlaq minn mohhu. Ma nahsibx li tajjeb li jibqa hawn la m'ghadux f'sensih.

Elizabeth U ma tarax. Kieku stess qed ihallas il-kera.

Ronald Hekka vera. Qieghed xagħrejn lura. Għandna bzonn f'it flus bħalissa. Eh u indunajt li t-telephone ta fuq mhux qed jaħdem. Nahseb li ma hallasx il-kont lanqas.

Elizabeth U tkunx iblah Ronald. Alan m'għandux bzonn it-telephone ta fuq. Dak juza il-payphone ta hawn isfel.

Ronald Imma mhux sew. Se jkollu nħallas it-telefonati mal-ewwel bil-payphone. Imnalla cempilt il-manager tal-bank tiegħek dalghodu mill-airport.

Elizabeth U x'għidtlu ?

Ronald Għidtlu biex ibiegħ izjed shares lura.

Elizabeth Ma tantx baqa nahseb ?

Ronald Iva fil-fatt l-aħħar elf.

Elizabeth Habat tajjeb li sibt dak il-job f'Saudi Arabia.

Sit on bed.

Ronald U mhux problema għalik. Jiena irrid noqghod indur bit-tractors fid-dezert.

Elizabeth Kien imissek ma għamiltx dak li għamilt u keccewk mill-Army. Kieku ma tridx tmur Saudi Arabia.

Ronald Ma kienx tort tiegħi. Kull ma għamilt kien li ssellift f'it flus mill-account tar-Regina. Kont se nroddhom lura.

Elizabeth Da zgur. Jiena nafha u inti tafha imma il-Qorti Marzjali ma kienux jafu.

Ronald Imma x'ridni naghmel ? F'daqqa wahda imtlejt b'ħafna spejjes. Imma veru għandu wiccu jith dak Alan biex jiffak 'il barra mid-dar.

Elizabeth Mhux hu keccieni. Jiena tlaqt.

Ronald Hallik titlaq, mhux l-istess. U allura hassejtni obligat li naghmel haga dicenti u nizzewgek.

Elizabeth Grazzi. U inti għidtlu li thobbni.

Ronald Imħabba haga u zwieg haga ohra. Ma kellekx għalfejn titilqu.

Elizabeth Ma stajt inkompli nidħaq bih izjed.

Ronald Kieku jiena hekk kont naghmel. Lanqas haqq il-qata li tajtni meta sibtek fuq l-ghadba tal-bieb tieghi bil-bagalji.

Elizabeth M'hemmx ghalfejn tibqa sejjer biha. Xi stajt naghmel ?

Ronald Stajt tibqa ma Alan.

Elizabeth Imma imbaghad ma kontx nista nibqa mieghek.

Ronald U iva kont nigi infittxek meta nigi lura d-dar bil-leave.

Elizabeth Eh sabiha din. X'tahseb li jien, xi refugu ghat-truppi li jmorru jiggieldu. 'Ghamel suldat kuntent - jista jkun mejjet ghada'.

Ronald U issa m'hemmx x'taghmel. Kollu ghalxejn li noqghodu nitkellmu fil-vojt. U ma nahsibx li sejjer Saudi Arabia taf. Qisni brid mill-ideja issa.

Elizabeth Imma trid tmur. Diga qatghulna il-biljetti. Se nkunu fuq l-ajruplan tad-disa ta' ghada filghodu trid jew ma tridx. Imissek tiringrazzja 'l Alla li se jhalluni nigi mieghek.

Ronald Imma inti zgur li ma tistax tbieghha din id-dar ?

Elizabeth Ma tafx li ma nistax. Inti t-testment taf xi jghid.

Ronald Injorant. Dejjem ghidt li ma kellux melh go mohhu.

Elizabeth Toqghodx titkellem hekk fuq il-Papa'. Tinsiex li hu kien General u inti simplici Kaptan.

Ronald M'ghandekx ghalfejn toqghod tajjarni issa. Diga qed inbati kif jien.

Elizabeth Isma hej, jiena qed inbati ukoll taf. Il-kont li kelli go Harrods waqfuhuli.

Ronald Kien imissek hallastu.

Elizabeth Biex ridtni inhallsu ?

Ronald Bil-flus li tak Alan. X'ghamilt bihom ?

Elizabeth Mhux inti infaqthom.

Ronald Heq, ragel irid jghix hux. L-affarijiet bazici tridhom.

Elizabeth Ix-xorb, l-imhattri u t-tfajliet mhux affarijiet bazici.

Ronald Tfajliet ? Nahseb li qed tesagera issa.

turn away feamijj

Elizabeth Taghmilx ta bir-ruhek li ma nafx fuq Sandy li tahdem in-NAAFI.

Ronald X'ghandek x'taqsam hi ? Nahseb li kulhadd jaf fuqha.

Elizabeth U jafu ukoll fuqek. Ghandek ghalfejn thossok fortunat li ma qalix li l-baby li kellek kien tieghek.

Ronald Ghalhekk gieghltha tizzewweg lil Kapural - dak li ridet hi.

Elizabeth U ma tiftakarx meta qbattek mat-tifla tal-Quartermaster fl-istores.

Ronald Kienet qed tghini nghodd il-gvieret.

Elizabeth Eh iva. U tghoddu il-gvieret meta t-tnejn kontu taht wahda minnhom. U n-neputija tas-surgent. Il-hin kollu taqbdilha 'l hawn u 'l hemm.

Ronald Ridt inkun daqqejn socevoli hux. U kieku stess nofsiha Taljana. Dawk ihobbu affarijiet bhal dawn.

Elizabeth U anki inti mid-dehra.

Ronald Isma jekk se toqghod taqbad mieghi se mmur l-Infantry Club.

Elizabeth Inma inti m'intix membru.

Ronald Inma Jack Featherstone huwa.

Elizabeth Mhux sejjer tiltaqa mieghu hux ? *seriou*

Ronald Ghaliex le. Mhux ragel sew. Se jdahhalni shab f'wahda mil-progetti tieghu u naghmel hafna flus. U ma jkollix ghalfejn immur Saudi Arabia.

Elizabeth L-unika persuna li se taghmel hafna flus hija Jack Featherstone. Inma insomma ma jista jehodok xejn la m'ghandek xejn mhux hekk.

Ronald Ma jridx flus min ghandi. Sempliciment irid parir finanzjarju.

Elizabeth Nahseb li inti l-ahhar persuna li tista taghti pariri finanzjarji.

Ronald Ma ghandix ghalfejn noqghod nisma dawn l-affarijiet. Narak izjed tard.

Elizabeth Jekk tkun ghadek f'sikktek.

Ronald Eh xorta se jkolli bzonn xi zghar ghat-taxi u affarijiet ohra.

Elizabeth looks in her purse.

Elizabeth Ghoxrin lira kull ma ghandi.

Ronald Biss. Insomma ikolli nghaddi b'dawk m'hemmx x'tagħmel. (He takes the money and stuffs it in his pocket).

Elizabeth Iddumx ghax irridu iabattlu il-bagalji ghad.

Ronald Ghid lil Alan jghinek. Dak tajjeb ghal dawn l-affarijiet. Ciao.

He goes out of the front door and up the area steps.

Elizabeth gets a letter out of her handbag, looks at it, goes to the phone and dials a number. After a moment she puts a coin into the box.

Elizabeth Hallo, hemmhekk l-ufficju ta Humphrey Bennett ? ... Eh mela inti Humphrey ... Elizabeth Smythe hawn ... Iva nahseb li qbadt fuq il-linja privata tieghek. Iroevajt l-ittra tieghek ... Da zgur li nlux qed incempel minn coin box go Kowloon. Qeghdin id-dar. Iva lura l-Ingilterra. Le, le mhux fuq leave. Ronald m'ghadux fl-Army. Kien hemm daqxeju ta problemi zghar. Eh da zgur ghax inti ma ltqajt ma Ronald lux. Stramba kif ma ltqajt ma l-ebda raiz-zewg irgiel tieghi lux ... Iva qeghdin id-dar ... Il-flat ? Iva minn hemm qed inkellmek ... da zgur li tista tikrih jekk trid. Le m'hemmx problema. Ma kontx naf li kont qed flitex akkomodazzjoni... Eh fihntek, ghal meta tibqa tahdem tard ... Iva mela le, Humphrey ... Ghaliex ma tghaddix wahda u ttiħ daqqa t'ghajn, qabel ma mmorru Saudi Arabia ghada. Iva imbagħad iddeciedi jekk tridux jew le. U nahseb li flett mitt lira fix-xahar tajjeb. Sewwa wisq, mela narak xi kwarta ohra, Ciao Humphrey.

She puts the phone down and looks around the flat to see if it needs tidying up. She picks up the teddy, examines it, sees the zip at the back, undoes it and pulls out Denise's very feminine night-dress. The phone rings, she drops the nightie on the bed, and still holding the teddy, goes to the phone and lifts the receiver.

Hallo ? X'inhu ? Fejn il-xiex jien ? ... Le, le m'ghandekx ghalfejn tirrepeti, smajtek l-ewwel darba ... Le jien mhux Denise ... Le m'iniex il-habiba taghha ... le ma nafx fejn qiegħdha. Fil-fatt lanqas naf min hi... nahseb li qbadt numru hazin ... da zgur li mhux geġja Highgate miegħeku halliżna.

She slams the receiver down. Then she looks around the room, drops the teddy in the chair R and goes to the bathroom door, opens it, switches on the light and looks in. Satisfied, she closes the door and goes out to the kitchen, switching on the light.

The Major comes down the area steps, jauntily, and lets himself into the flat, closing the door behind him. He is carrying a zoo catalogue. He goes to the chest and opens a drawer.

Elizabeth enters from the kitchen.

Elizabeth Eh mela inti hawn ?

The Major slams the drawer shut and spins round.

Maggur Ah, Elizabeth ! Inti x'ix-xjafek qed tagħmel hawn ?

Elizabeth Gejna lura.

Maggur Gejna ?

Elizabeth Ronald u jien ovvjament.

Maggur Imma sitt shur ilu baġtuh Hong Kong għal sentejn. Tgħidliex li gie lura.

Elizabeth Le. M'ghadux fl-Army issa. STV

Maggur M'ghadux fl-Army. Imma kien ihobbha tant. Jaqaw hallas biex johrog.

Elizabeth Il-flux għandhom x'jaqsmu imma mhux kif qed tgħid. Kellna daqxejn ta problema. Għalhekk geġja lura.

Maggur It-tnejn li intom ?

Elizabeth Iva imma se nitilqu lejn Saudi Arabia għada filgħodu. Ronald sab impieg hemmhekk.

Maggur Eh kollox sew mela. Imma stenna f'it hej. Jiena fejn se norqod illejla ?

- Elizabeth Mhux hawn isfel, kif kont qed taghmel s'issa.
- Maggur Eh iva, hekk hu hux.
- Elizabeth Wahdek. ?
- Maggur Wahdi ovvja. M'hawn hadd izjed hawn. (Anxiously) Inti ma rajt lil hadd hawn hux ?
- Elizabeth ~~Le~~ No
- Maggur Tajjeb mela.
- Elizabeth Teddy biss.
- Maggur Teddy min ?
- Elizabeth (Pointing to the bear) Teddy bear. Dak it-Teddy.
- Maggur Eh iva Teddy. Miskin Teddy. Iva jien u hu biss hawn.
- Elizabeth U min minnkom jilbes in-nightie ?
- Maggur Nightie ? Jiena dejjem nilbes il-pigama. Taf li dejjem pigama ilbist.
- Elizabeth Allura din ta min hi ? (She holds up the nightie)
- Maggur Dik ... dik ta' ... eh ... eh
- Elizabeth Eh ta min ?
- Maggur Iva, le ma nafx ta min hi.
- Elizabeth Sibtha go Teddy.
- Maggur Eh iva ? Rajtu li rqaq daqxejn f'daqqa wahda.
- Elizabeth X'kienet qed taghmel hemm ?
- Maggur Ma nafx x'kienet qed taghmel hemm. Iva naf. Kienet hemmhekk il hin kollu.
- Elizabeth Il-hin kollu ?

Maggur Iva ghax ha nghidlek. Erbaht lil Teddy f'raffle. U peress li ir-raffle kienet' għall-oggetti 'second-hand', allura in-nightdress kienet tat-tfajla li kellha dan it-teddy bear.

Elizabeth Nahseb li possibli. Basta mhux qed iddahhal xi skoss tfajliet. Ara ma nkunx naf li qed thalli xi tfajliet jigu hawn.

Maggur Lanqas biss nahsibha din il-bicca xogħol. Inti ... eh ... ma sibtx xi affarijiet ohra hux?

Elizabeth Le, xi hwejjeg li hemm barra 'l bieb. (She indicates the door UL)

Maggur Eh dawk il-hwejjeg (Anxiously, he can't remember which they are) Eh ... x'tip ta' hwejjeg?

Elizabeth Mhux hwejjeg normali. Almenu ma jidher li hemm xejn stramb fihom.

Maggur Mela jekk huma normali, dawk tieghi.

Elizabeth Mela issa forsi tista thallasni tal-kera. Tinsiex li qiegħed xaghrejn lura. *up.*

Maggur Bhalissa ninsab daqxejn magħfus. Ifihmi m'ghandix xogħol.

Elizabeth Anki ahna ninsabu magħfusin. Għalhekk jekk ma tistax thallasni, insib lil xi hadd iehor u nikrijulu. Mhux diffiċli biex insib lil xi hadd.

Maggur Iva dejjem hekk kien. Irrid nghid dejjem kien flat sabih. Nahseb li mhux se ssib diffikulta biex tikrih.

Elizabeth Qed niehu gost li tahsibha hekk. Għaliex jaf ikollok twarrab. Se jkolli immur nixtri ghax lanqas għandna x'nieklu. (She closes the door UL without seeing the neglige on the back of the door). *She looks*

Maggur (Seeing it and reacting in horror) Ah!

Elizabeth X'gara?

Maggur (Clutching his face) Le xejn, wega zghira. Inhossha minn zmien għall-iehor. Ahjar tghaggel u tmur tixtri isa.

Elizabeth Għaliex nghaggel?

Maggur Qabel ma jispiccalhom l-ikel. Dejjem hekk nhar ta Tnejn.

Elizabeth Iva veru.

Maggur Isa mela mur (He ushers her to the front door and opens it) Ma jmurx ma ssib xejn.

Elizabeth Eh il-handbag (She starts to turn back)

Maggur Ha ngibu jien.

Elizabeth Mela tahseb li miniex kapaci ingibu jien. (She goes to the bed and picks up her handbag)

The Major runs behind her to the negligé, whips it off the door and stuffs it up his cardigan.

X'inti taghmel ?

Maggur Xejn.

Elizabeth Xi libejt ?

Maggur Eh ... xi haga li ma tistax tara.

Elizabeth Ghaliex ma nistax naraha ?

Maggur Ghax ma tistax. Sigriet.

Elizabeth Sigriet ? Jigifieri sorpriza ?

Maggur Iva sorpriza ghalik.

Elizabeth Eh sorpriza, ghalija ? Ahh x'gost. Taf li nhobbbhom is-sorprizi. Urini.

Maggur Ma nistax, ma nistax. Ghax nahseb li tirrabja.

Elizabeth Ghaliex ghandi nirrabja ? Qatt ma nirrabja ma min jixtrili xi haga.

Maggur Ghax daqxejn ghalja.

Elizabeth Imma inti taf li inhobbbhom l-affarijiet ghaljin. U ejja ha uara. Ma nistax nissaporti.

- Maggur Kollox sew jekk trid tista tara bicca. (He pulls out the negligé and holds it up).
- Elizabeth Imma il veru sabiha (She takes it) Kemm inti tal-gemm. Ha mmur u nippruva malajr.
- Maggur Le ma tistax tehodha.
- Elizabeth Ghaliex le ? Ghadek kif tajtli.
- Maggur Imma mhux suppost li tehodha ghaliex ... ghaliex ... ghaliex kienet mertuġha għall-birthday tieghek.
- Elizabeth Imma il-birthday tieghi baqalu sitt xhur.
- Maggur Appuntu. Ghalhekk ma nistax intiehek issa.
- Elizabeth Insomma issa tajtielili. Alan il veru qed niehu gost. Ma kontx naf li se tibqa ittini rigali wara li isseparajna.
- Maggur Ma kontx behsiebni.
- Elizabeth Imma ma stajtix tissaporti hux. Inti gentili hafna Alan. Tonfoq dawk il-flus kollha fuqi. Li kieku kont naf ma kontx noqghod indejkek għal-kera. Nahseb li infaqt kemxa mhux hazin hux ?
- Maggur Hi x'wahda din ! Se jkolli inpoggiha ... eh ... inpoggihom lura.
- Elizabeth Xi tpoggi lura ?
- Maggur Il-flus li nfaqt. Ghax dawk kienu tal-kera.
- Elizabeth Ma jimpurtax tista thallasni meta jkollok. Eh issa qed minduna. Da zgur. In-nightdress li kien hemm go Teddy.
- Maggur Eh allura ?
- Elizabeth Dik taqbel ma din. Kemm jilhaqlek Alan ruhi. Inti hbejtha go Teddy biex ma nsibix (She picks up the nightdress from the bed)
- Maggur Mhux se tiehu dik ukoll ?

Elizabeth Heq, inkella nibqa b'nofs is-set. Ma tistax ikollok wahda minghajr l-ohra. Ilu hafna ma jkolli daqshekk surprizi.

Maggur Kienet daqxejn ta surpriza anki ghalija. Nahseb li kelli bizzejjed surprizi ghal gurnata wahda.

David comes down the area steps carrying a holdall, which contains his barrister's gown etc. He is dressed as before, and is now very angry.

The Major sees him, shuts the front door and bolts it. David puts his key in the door and finds he cannot open it.

Elizabeth Ghalfejn sabbat il-bieb u sakkartu ? Min kien ?

Maggur Il-plumber.

David starts to bang on the door.

David (Outside the door) Iftah il-bieb, Maggur.

Elizabeth Jidher irrabjat mhux hazin.

Maggur Irrabjat mhux hazin ? Dak qiesu barri bir-rawa f'halqu. Ghalhekk sakkart il-bieb.

Elizabeth Se jkollok thallih jidhol.

Maggur Sakemm hawn int mhux se nhallih.

Elizabeth U ghaliex ?

David (Outside) Iftahli. Qed nordnalek biex tiftahli issa.

Elizabeth Nahseb li rrabjat hafna issa.

Maggur U da zgur li hu. Minhabba fik, ghax inti mara. Dak hekk jagħmel meta jara mara. Ma jistax ghalihom.

Elizabeth Ha ncempel il-pulizija.

Maggur Le ma tarax. Issa jikwieta kif inti titlaq.

David (Outside) Se nifqa il-bieb gewwa.

Maggur U gej, gej.

Elizabeth X'ridikolagni. Ghalfejn tqabbad nies bhal dawn. Imissek taghmel xi haga. Dak imissek ittellghu il-Qorti.

Maggur U minn daqshekk dejjem hemm ikun. Imma plumber tajjed hafna. Ja sew xi jrid isir.

Elizabeth Heq tajjed imma nispera ma jdumx hawn.

Maggur Issa nehles minnu kemm jista jkun malajr. Inti mur fuq u pprova in-nightie.

Elizabeth U zgur li mmur. Tghid mhux se noqghod hawn. Ma nafx kif thallih jidhol hawn gew.

Maggur Minhabba li ghandi bzonn il-flus.

Elizabeth X'inhu ?

Maggur Irrid nghid ghax peress li ghandi bzonn il-flus u hu ma tantx jieh u ta xoghlu qabbadt lili. Issa isa mur u ddumx (He opens the door UL and ushers her off)

Elizabeth exits.

He closes the door, crosses to the front door and opens it. David bursts in.

David Eh bzajt minni hux. Mhux ta b'xejn sakkart il-bieb. Nahseb li ghandi bzonn intik xi daqtejn ta pomm.

Maggur U ghalfejn dan ? Mela jien ghamilt xi haga.

David Kelli nitlob mahfra lil missier Brenda talli qabbadtha tqila. *teigta*

Maggur U sew ghamilt. Ma tantx kienet xi haga sabiha li ghamilt hekk.

David Imma jien ma ghamilt xejn.

Maggur U allura ghalfejn tlabt mahfra.

David Ghaliex inti ghidli li hu jaf. Ghidli li kelliemt u fuq it-telephone.

- Maggur (Ruefully) Eh jien iva issa qed niftakar.
- David Imma inti qatt ma kelliémtu hux ?
- Maggur Eh le ? Forsi kien 'wrong number' mela.
- David Ma ghandekx ghagglja biex tghidli. Issa il-hsara saret.
- Maggur Da zgur li saret issa. Mhux minhabba fik li Brenda tqila.
- David Le.
- Maggur Imma inti hekk ghidt.
- David Le inti ghidt hekk.
- Maggur U jien kif tridni inkun naf jekk kienx toró tieghek jew le.
- David Ezattament ghax ma stajtx u ma kellekx ghalfejn tindahal. Ammettejt ghal xi haga li ma ghamiltx u minn ghand bniedem bhal Humphrey Bennett ma tantx tistemma li tiehu xi gustizzja.
- Maggur Jigifieri inti innocenti minn dan kollu ?
- David Le mhux ghal kollox. Imma Brenda tahti ukoll.
- Maggur Ma jimpurtax, ^{trigta} xorta qabbadha tqila.
- David Imma kemm se ndum nghidlek li ma taggathex jien. ^{heighex}
- Maggur Ghalfejn ma ghidtx hekk lil missierha.
- David Hekk ippruvajt imma ma bediex jisma. Tant kien irrabjat li hadli l-karti tefghani 'il barra mill-ufficju u qalli li ma nistax inkellem lil Brenda qatt izjed.
- Maggur Miskina Brenda. Issa se ssib ruha omm mhux mizzewga.
- David Imma kemm il darba se nghidlek. Brenda mhux tqila. Almenu hekk nahseb.
- Maggur Imma m'intiex zgur.

David Ma nistax inkun zgur ghax lil Brenda ma kellimthiex. U issa mhux se nkun nistax
U dan kollu minhabba fik.

Maggur Minhabba fiha. Ara li jien m'iniex il-missier taf. Lanqas biss qatt iltqajt magħha
ahseb u ara.

David U mhux se tiltaqa magħha qatt. Tista tibqa zgur. Jiena se nitlaq minn hawn.

Maggur Se titlaq ?

David Iva. Grazzi għalik se jkolli mmur lura il-Midlands u nara x'nista nsib hemmhekk.

Maggur U fik-xhin sejjer ?

David Ma tarax il-mument li nitlaq hux ?

Maggur U le ma tarax. Tridni nghinek tippakja ?

David Mhux sejjer qabel filghodu. Issa jekk ma jimpurtax se nbiddel f'xi haga izjed
komda (He goes towards the cupboard)

Maggur (Panicking) LE. Ma kontx naghmel hekk kieku jien. Tidher pulit hafna kif
/ (He gets between David and the cupboard)

David Imma ma nistax noqghod hawn b'dawn il-hwejjeg.

Maggur Le veru, ghax ma tmurx mixja bilhom.

David U għalfejn immur mixja ?

Maggur Bies tinsa fit lil Brenda.

David Lil Brenda diga insejtha. Ma jimpurtaniex izjed. Se mmur inbidel (He
/ determinedly to the cupboard door. He is about to open it)

Maggur LE, tharixx gewwa.

David U ghaliex le ?

Maggur Ghaliex il-hwejjeg li hemm gewwa mhumieq tiegħek.

David Jigifieri inti qed tghid li sraqthom ?

- Maggur Le, il-hwejjeg tieghek mhux hemm gew. Jiena naf li le.
- David Jigifieri xi hadd seraq il-hwejjeg tieghi ?
- Maggur Le, imma mhumiex hemm gew.
- David U allura fejn qeghdin ? X'ghamilt bihom ?
- Maggur Eh jiena eh... hadthom ghand il-cleaners.
- David U ghalfejn ? Kienu ghadhom kif inhasslu.
- Maggur Ma kontx naf hux. Imma deheru daqxejn mahmugin ghalija.
- David Ghalfejn qghadt tmiss il-hwejjeg tieghi ?
- Maggur Bilfors kelli naghmel hekk. Minhabba il-plumber. Ghamel stragi shiha u ghalhekk kelli niehu l-hwejjeg tieghek biex jinhaslu.
- David Imma mhux qed nara stragi hawn.
- Maggur Le ghax nadfet kollox is-seftura. Ghidtlek fuqha s-seftura li ghandi ?
- David Dik li kienet soru ?
- Maggur Iva dik hi. Ara inti mur fil-kamra tal-banju u inza l-hwejjeg u jiena ngib il-hwejjeg tieghek minn barra ... irrid ngid minn barra ghand il-cleaners.
- David Imma ghalfejn ghandi immur fil-kamra tal-banju biex ninza ?
- Maggur Biex inkun nista niehu lilhom ukoll ghand il-cleaners.
- David Imma mhumiex mahmugin, m'ghandhomx ghalfejn imorru ghand il-cleaners.
- Maggur Ghandhom offerta specjali. Thallas ta' tlieta u jnaddfulek erba lbiesi. U jiena ghadni tajthom tlieta biss.
- David Kollox sew mela. Halli nilbes id-dressing gown.
- Maggur Ma tistax, hadtha ghand il-cleaners ukoll.

David Mela allura noqghod hawn b'ta' taht.

Maggur Le ma tistax ghax gejjja is-seftura. Tinsiex x'ghidtlek li tibza mill-irgiel speċjalment b'ta taht.

David Imma inti ghidli li kienet soru, kif qatt rat irgiel b'ta taht ?

Maggur Ghax hdejn il-kunvent kien hemm monasteru u l-hajt taghom kien baxx hafna.

David Kollox sew mela. Immur niehu s-shower li tlift dalghodu.

He goes into the bathroom and shuts the door. The Major goes towards the cupboard. The phone rings. He quickly goes to it and picks up the receiver.

Maggur Hello ? ... Brenda! ... Le mhux hawn. Hareg. Iva veru ... le tigix hawn Brenda. Le ma tistax ... Brenda ... Brenda !

David opens the bathroom door and pokes his head out.

David Brenda ghidt ?

The Major slams down the receiver.

Maggur Le, kont qed nispjega fejn hi l-venda.

David Eh fhimt.

He closes the bathroom door as he retreats inside. The Major crosses to the cupboard then remembers something. He goes over to the phone, takes the receiver off the hook and then returns to the cupboard. David opens the bathroom door and holds out his pinstripe trousers and black jacket.

David Maggur, il-hwejjeg.

Maggur Iva se ngibhom. Eh, issa fhimtek (He takes the clothes)

David goes back into the bathroom, closing the door again. The Major puts the jacket and trousers ~~into the cupboard~~^{all}. He emerges from the cupboard bringing out an armful of Denise's clothes. As he does so, Humphrey Bennett QC comes down the area steps. Humphrey is a burly, overbearing man in his mid-fifties. He is dressed in black jacket and pinstripes, bowler hat, etc. He knocks on the door.

The Major freezes, then, reluctant to answer the knock, he creeps up towards the door UL.
Humphrey peers through the window and sees him.

Humphrey Hello, qed tismani. Mhux qed tismani ?

The Major reluctantly goes over to the door and opens it.

Humphrey (As he enters) Elizabeth ?

Maggur Le, Alan.

Humphrey Le mhux int bahnan. Mrs. Smythe.

Maggur Eh Elizabeth.

Humphrey Iva hekk hu. Inti daqxejn xih ghal-Kaptan.

Maggur Jiena minix Kaptan, jiena Maggur.

Humphrey Insomma lanqas inti zgħir daqshekk xorta. Jiena Humphrey Bennett. Gejt minhabba l-flat.

Maggur Humphrey Bennett ? Mela inti il-principal ta' David Clarke.

Humphrey Għamilli pjaċir u ssemmiehx dak l-isem. Gab misthija kbira fil-familja. Approfitta izzejjed mil-gentilezza tiegħi u għallhekk keċċejtu.

Maggur Iva naf. Għax għamel lil bintek tqila hux hekk ?

Humphrey Inti taf ukoll ? Nahseb li Londra kollha taf. U inti min qallek ?

Maggur David qalli stess.

Humphrey Ja bicca ta' xejn li hu. Ma kienx kument li irrovina lil binti issa irid iħammeg ukoll isimha. Meta narah aqta x'nagħmillu. Fejn qiegħed ?

Maggur Qiegħed hemm ... gol Midlands.

Humphrey Eh iva mar lura l-Midlands. Ahjar għalih. Issa fejn hu l-flat li suppost nara.

Maggur Dan hu. Imma Elizabeth ma qaltli xejn fuqek.

Humphrey Cemplitli xi kwarta ilu. U jiena staqsejtha jekk tafx b'xi akkomodazzjoni. Jiena habib antik ta missierha, il-General.

Maggur Le, ma kontx naf.

Humphrey Mhux se ddawarni u turini l-flat ?

Maggur Iva da zgur (He puts the clothes on the bed)

Humphrey Elizabeth qaltli li l-flat huwa vojti.

Maggur Iva hekk hu.

Humphrey Allura dawk ta min huma ?

Maggur Dawk ta mara.

Humphrey Naf. ~~N~~ista nara li huma hwejjeg ta' mara.

Maggur Iva kont se nehhihom. Mhux se tghid li Elizabeth hux ?

Humphrey X'inlu ? Eh fhimtek. Le le tista toqghod fuqi. Ma nghid xejn. Jiena nallohom certi affarijiet.

Maggur Le mhux kif qed tahseb taf.

Humphrey Le, da zgur. Mhux kulhadd hekk jghid meta inxomnu xi gurdien. Elizabeth taf b'dawn l-affarijiet ?

Maggur Le, le, ma taf b'xejn.

Humphrey Thabbilx rasek, mhux se tisma xejn min ghandi. (He crosses to the bathroom door) Hawn x'hawn, il-kcina ?

Maggur Le, il-kamra tal-banju.

Humphrey (Trying the door) Imsakkar. Hemm xi hadd nahseb.

Maggur Hekk jidher hux.

Humphrey Jaqaw qed tistahba hemm gew, ja xadin ?

- Maggur Tistahba ?
- Humphrey Jaqaw ragel hemm. Ma kontx naf li
- Maggur Le, le mhux ragel hemm.
- Humphrey Le, hsibtu jien. Mela jiddispjacini li tellifftek. Ara l-flat joghobni u se niehdu.
- Maggur Le ma tistax. Diga hemm xi hadd hawn.
- Humphrey Ma ridtx infisser niehdu issa stess. Niehdu minn ghada.
- Maggur Ma tistax lanqas. Diga ittieded.
- Humphrey U x'inti tghid. Meta kellimt lil Elizabeth issa fuq it-telephone hi qaltli li nista niehdu zgur. Ara ahjar nitkellem maghha l-ewwel.
- Maggur Le ma tistax. Telqet. Harget.
- Humphrey Mela nistemma sakemm tigi lura.
- Maggur Mhux gejjja lura. Harget ... marret Saudi Arabia.
- Humphrey Imma hi qalet li sejra ghada mhux illum.
- Maggur Iva, imma l-flight ta ghada gie kancellat u marret ma dak ta illum.
- Humphrey (Surprised) U inti m'intiex sejjer maghha ?
- Maggur Le, ma tridniex.
- Humphrey Keccietek eh ?
- Maggur Iva sfortunatament.
- Humphrey Allura ma nistax niehu l-flat ?
- Maggur Le jiddispjacini.
- Humphrey Hasra. Kien il veru jghodd ghalija hawn. Tlett mitt lira fix-xahar mhux b'xejn ta imma biex nuzah darba jew darbtejn matul il-gimgha kien tajjed ghalija.

- Maggur Matul il-gimgha. Jigifieri ma tridux ghal weekends ?
- Humphrey Le, da zgur li le. Fil-weekends ikolli noqghod mal-mara. Mhux bizzejjed.
- Maggur Iva nahseb li ragel ghandu jaqdi d-dmirijiet tieghu fil-weekends.
- Humphrey Hekk hu. *Familias super omnes*. Ma taqbilx mieghi ?
- Maggur Ma nafx. Ghax ma fhimtekx.
- Humphrey Il-familja qabel kollox. Imma fil-weekends biss.
- Maggur Mela f'dak il-kaz nista naqdik.
- Humphrey Ma fhimtekx taf.
- Maggur Il-persuna li kriet dan il-flat ma hallietx deposit. U allura legalment mhux tieghu.
- Humphrey Iva naqbel. *Nihil securitas est*. Mhux hekk ?
- Maggur Eh ... le.
- Humphrey Ghaliex le ?
- Maggur Ghax ma nafx x'jigifieri.
- Humphrey (Taking out his wallet) Jigifieri li se ntik kera ta' xabar bil quddiem u allura l-flat sar tieghi (He gives the Major the money) Tlett mitt lira.
- Maggur Grazzi hafna.
- Humphrey Tista ttini ricevuta ghada filghodu. Nigi ngib l-affarijiet tieghi xi l-ghaxra jien u sejjer l-ufficju.
- Maggur Kollox issib lest.
- Humphrey Tajjed. Nispera nista noqghod fuq id-~~discrezzjoni tiegħi~~ ^{li} u hadd ma jsir jaf fuq dan il-flat hux hekk ? Taf inti ragel fil-pozizzjoni tieghi.
- Maggur Halli fidejja. Naf x'jigifieri.

Humphrey Eh inti tifhimni mal-ewwel habib tieghi. (Indicating the kitchen) Allura hawnhekk il-kecina.

Maggur Iva.

Humphrey Jimporta jekk naraha ?

Maggur Lanqas xejn.

Humphrey goes into the kitchen, leaving the door open, as David comes out of the bathroom with a towel round him.

David (Impatiently) Il-hwejjeg gibhomli jew ?

Maggur Iva kont sejjer.

Elizabeth (Off UL) Alan, inti isfel qieghed ?

Maggur Isa ghaggel, is-seitura. Idhol il gewwa. (He pushes David back into the bathroom)

David exits. The Major shuts the door. As he does so, Humphrey comes out of the kitchen.

Humphrey Nahseb li dan il-post huwa perfett ghalija.

The Major goes to the front door and holds it open.

Maggur Mela allura issa rajtu u lilek narak ghada ... (He suddenly sees Denise coming down the area steps.

(Hastily shutting the door) Hi bil-haqq. Ghadek ma rajtx il-fire escape, tigi bzonnu f'kaz ta emergenza.

He dashes downstage and bundles Humphrey into the kitchen, following him in, and shutting the door behind him. At this moment, Denise opens the front door and enters, carrying her suitcase and handbag. She puts it on the bed and sees her clothes.

Denise X'il nnijel qed jaghmlu hawn dawn ?

She picks up the clothes and goes into the cupboard with them. The door UL opens and Elizabeth comes in wearing the night-dress and negligee.

Elizabeth X'jidhirlek Alan ? Hi mela telaq.

She goes out of the UL door, leaving it open. The Major comes out of the kitchen, shutting the door behind him.

Maggur Jiddispjacini Denise

He sees the door UL open, and dashes out of it. Denise comes out of the cupboard, carrying one or two clothes which she hasn't yet hung up.

Denise Alan ?

She sees that no-one is there, and goes back into the cupboard. The Major runs in from UL carrying David's black jacket and pinstripes. He opens the bathroom door and throws them inside.

Maggur Ghandek il-hwejjeg. (He shuts the door as Denise comes out of the cupboard again.)

Denise Eh hawn int.

Maggur Ma tistax tibqa hawn.

Elizabeth comes in through the door UL.

Elizabeth X'jidhirlek Alan ? (She does a twirl)

Denise Dik in-nightdress tieghi.

David comes out of the bathroom, holding his black jacket and pinstripes.

David Ma ridhomx dawn. (He sees Elizabeth) Hi x'wahda din.

Elizabeth Il-plumber il-mignun.

David Is-soru l-imqarjba.

He runs back into the bathroom and Elizabeth runs off UL* as Humphrey comes out of the kitchen. He hears the bathroom door slam and then sees Denise.

Humphrey (To the Major) Il-marelli. Tnejn f'daqqa. Kif tlahhaq Maggur.

The curtain falls

**TA' TAHT
FUQ**

IT-TIELET ATT

The same. The action is continuous.

Humphrey Ma tahsibx li ghandek izjed milli tiflah hawnhekk siehbi.

Maggur Le, le, mhux kif qed tahsbu.

Denise Kienet libsa in-neglige tieghi.

Humphrey Min ? Dik tal-kamra tal-banju ?

Denise Le, dik ta' fuq.

Humphrey Issa ahjar ghax tlieta ghandek. Ghidli haga kif tlahhaq ?

Maggur Kultant hi daqxejn konfusa.

Denise Tista tghidli x'inhu jigri ?

Humphrey Anki jien ghandi kurzita. (Confidentially to the Major) U lanqas ilek hafna li izzewwig. Kif jirnexxilek ma tinqabadx ?

Maggur (Surprised) Imma jien mhux mizzewweg.

Humphrey (Looking at Denise; aside to the Major) Eh issa fhimt. Sewwa taghmel ma tizzewwigx, b'hekk ma jistghux jirrikattawk.

Denise Meta tispicaw titkellmu fil-widnejn forsi ttuni xi spjegazzjoni. Maggur min hu dan ir-ragel ?

Humphrey Thabbilx rasek ghalija. Jiena m'ghandi x'naqsam xejn mal-bicca xoghol li hemm bejnitkom imma forsi xi darba nista niehu sehem. (To the Major) Issa naf ghaliex fl-Army kulhadd huwa daqshekk fuq tieghu. Mhux ta b'xejn jghidulhom professjonali.

He goes out of the front door, and off up the area steps.

Denise Issa tista tghidli x'ix-xjafek qed jigri fil-flat tieghi ? Maggur. Gejt lura hawn u sibt ragel nofsu imnezza fil-kamra tal-banju, ragel bla ebda skruplu hawnhekk u mara tar-racanc libsa n-night-dress tieghi.

Maggur M'hemm xejn tar-racanc dwar Elizabeth.

Denise Eh iva jaqaw int u hi

- Maggur Jiena u hi xejn. Dik l-ex mara tieghi.
- Denise Allura ghalfejn tajt il-hwejjeg tieghi lil ex mara tieghek ?
- Maggur Dawk mhux tieghek. Jista jkun li jixbhu lil tieghek imma nista nassigurak li m'humiex.
- Denise Allura tieghi fejn qeghdin ?
- Maggur Eh ... qeghdin ... eh ... hadthom ghand il-cleaners.
- Denise X'inhu ! Imma dawk suppost li tahsilhom biss bl-idejn fl-ilma fitel. Dawk se tirrovinhom. Kienu godda fjamanti.
- Maggur Iva, ghalhekk kont irrabjat mal-plumber wara li ghamel herba shiha hawn. Tiftakar kont ghidtlek fuq il-plumber ?
- Denise Iva. Fejn hu ? Irrid inkellmu.
- Maggur Ma tistax ghax telaq.
- Denise Mela xi hadd irid ihallas ghalihom. Dak is-set swieli mitejn u hamsin lira.
- Maggur Eh iva ? Mhux ta b'xejn kienet se ttir meta tajthomla. Ara issa ingibhom lura minn ghandha ... min ghand il-mara li tahdem ghand il-cleaners u jekk ikun hemm xi haga hazina filhom ghandek il-kelma tieghi li naghtik il-flus jiena stess. Ghandi diga l-flus hawnhekk ara. (He brings out the money he got from Humphrey, and shows it to her)
- Denise Eh insomma hekk ahjar mix-xejn. Eh u bilhaqq ghaliex il-hwejjeg tieghi kienu kollha imxerredin fuq is-sodda ?
- Maggur Ghaliex kont qieghed nara jekk kienx hemm xi haga li rrid niehu ghand il-cleaners. Imma fortunatament kollox sew.
- Denise U dak ir-ragel li kien hemm fil-kamra tal-banju. Dak minn fejn gie ?
- Maggur Eh ... eh ... dak gie minn ... fuq.
- Denise Minn fuq ?

Maggur Iva. Ghax ha nghidlek. Meta l-plumber irranga il-kanen t'hawn isfel kellu jaqla ukoll xi kanen li hemm fuq, ghax taf inti daqxejn antiki. U allura ghidt lil dak li joqghod fuq biex jinzel jiehu banju hawn isfel.

Denise Dak joqghod fuq ?

Maggur Eh ... iva.

Denise Mela allura dak joqghod mal ex-mara tieghek.

Maggur Iva hekk nahseb.

Denise Mela allura dak ir-ragel il-gdid taghha.

Maggur Iva hekk jigi hux.

Denise Mela dak il-habib tieghek.

Maggur Iva ? Eh iva hekk hu.

Denise Allura kif stajt thallih jidhol hawn gew wara li ghamillek dak li ghamillek ?

Maggur Iva naf imma id-dar mhux tieghi. Tal-ex-mara tieghi.

Denise Imma meta krejtli l-flat inti ghidtli li din id-dar tieghek.

Maggur Bilfors hekk kelli nghidlek ghax kelli bzonn il-flus. Meta tlaqt mill-Army ma stajtx insib xoghol. Ma kellix sold u fuq kollox Elizabeth giegheltni inhallas ghal manutenzjoni tad-dar jiena u barra minn hekk inticha ukoll ir-renta. Ma kontx naf x'naqbad naghmel.

Denise Tidher mara daqxejn kattiva hux ?

Maggur U le mhux daqs kemm tidher.

Denise Inti dak li ghandek, Alan. Qalbek tajba wisq. Imissek thalli lilha u lir-ragel taghha fidejja u nurihom.

Maggur Le jekk joghgbok, taghmilx hekk. M'hemmx ghalfejn u kieku stess m'hemmx hin ghax dawk sejrin Saudi Arabia ghada.

Denise U mela se tehles minnhom allura.

Maggur Nixtieq li nehles minnhom imma nibqa fuq nota tajba. Ghalhekk jekk ma jimpurtax tghid xejn lil Elizabeth li krejtlek dan il-flat.

Denise Heq jekk hekk trid.

Maggur Iva hekk irrid. Kieku tista toqghod go lukanda imqar għall-llum biss nibqa nafulek u b'hekk ma jkunux jafu x'ghamilt. Inhallas jien ovvjament. Ma kontx se nistaqsik biex taghmel hekk li kieku mhux għal bzonn.

Denise Imma jiena nahseb li jmisssek tiqfilhom taf.

Maggur Qed tghid hekk ghax ma tafhomx. Ma tafx x'kapaci jaghmlu dawk it-tnejn. Jistghu ibieghu id-dar u jiena fejn immur imbagħad ?

Denise Le ma rridx narak imkecci mid-dar. Ma haqqekx Alan.

Maggur Allura ma jimpurtax jekk tmur flukanda ?

Denise Le, basta għal-lejl wiehed biss. U basta nista nerga lura hawn ghada.

Maggur Tista u ma tistax.

Denise X'jigifieri ?

Maggur Iva tista tigi lura u le ma tistax tigi lura hawn.

Denise X'inhu ! U ghaliex ?

Maggur Ghaliex Elizabeth krietu hawn. Imma kollox irrangajt, meta huma jitolqa lejn Saudi Arabia tista tiehu fuq kollu, minbarra il-kamra tiegħi ovvjament.

Denise Huma ? Jigifieri l-ex mara tiegħek u dak tal-kamra tal-banju ?

Maggur Eh... iva. Imma taf kemm hu sabih fuq hux.

Denise U kemm se tiswieli flus din il-bicca xogħol.

Maggur Xejn. Itrattajtek hazin wisq u għalhekk ma nistax nehodlok flus. Inti gentili wisq.

Denise Imma ma nistax ma nhallsek xejn.

Maggur Iva tista. Anzi ninsisti. Hekk irrid.

Denise Heq mela ma nistax nghid le. Ghamilt sew li gejt minn Highgate.

Maggur Eh kif kien Highgate bil-haqq ?

Denise Ikrah hafna. Xorb u rgjel.

Maggur Imma inti mhux hekk ridt ?

Denise Isma inti xi hsibt li jien ghid ?

Maggur (Embarrassed) U le mhux hekk ridt nghid ... nispera li ma hadtx ghalik.

Denise Le le ma hadt. Ma nisni qatt mort hemm. Imma ma tkun ^{meta} divorzjat, taghmel affarijiet li ma tahsibhomx.

Maggur Veru veru anki jien hekk ghamilt.

Denise Imma ma tantx jahdmu hux hekk ?

Maggur Le ma nahsibx.

David comes out of the bathroom, dressed in his black jacket and pinstripes.

David Hawn x'inhu jigri ? U din min hi u x'inhi taghmel hawn ?

Maggur Dik ... dik ...

Denise In-neputija tieghu.

Maggur Eh iva in-neputija tieghi (Realizing) X'inhu ?

Denise Ziju mhux ahjar imorru l-lukanda.

Maggur X'lukanda ?

Denise Fejn se noqghod illejla.

Maggur Eh dik il-lukanda (He picks up her suitcase from the bed)

David Minuta wahda. Irrid inkellmek lilek.

Maggur Mhux quddiem in-neputija.

David Ma jimputaniex minn neputija. Jiena ghandi x'naqsam mieghek biss. Imissek tisthi bl-agir tieghek.

Denise Ajma minn qed jitkellem. Wara li ghamilt li kellek taghmel mal-ohra.

David Eh qallek ukoll. Ara x'se nghidlek temmen xejn milli qallek. Mhu veru xejn.

Denise Anzi qabez ghalik. Hareg ta ragel mieghek. Izjed ma tmur lejn Saudi Arabia malajr izjed jaqbel ghal kulhadd.

David X'ix-xjafek immur naghmel Saudi Arabia ?

Maggur Eh taf kemm hu sabih hemm hux. Tista toqghod barra fix-xemx.

Denise Eh mela l-ideja kienet tal-mara tieghek ?

Maggur Hemm ...

David Mara tieghi ? Imma jiena lanqas biss jien mizzewweg.

Denise Mela allura inti aghar milli hsibt. Ma kellekx id-dicenza li tizzewwigha almenu.

Maggur Le ghax hu ...

David U m'ghandi l-ebda intenzjoni li naghmel hekk. U lanqas kieku irrid missierha ma jhalliniex.

The phone rings. All three go towards the phone. The Major gets there first

Maggur Halluh fidejja. (He picks up the receiver) Hello ... hello, Brenda. (To David) Brenda.

David (Grabbing the phone) Hello, Brenda, jiena David. Irridek tghidli, inti tqila ? ... iva Brenda ghaliex qed taghmel hekk. Staqsejtek biss. Fejn qieghdha ? Waterloo ? Niltaqa mieghek hemm ? ... iva kollox sew, mela narak meta tigi hawn. (He puts the receiver down)

Maggur Gejja hawn ?

David Iva, gejja hawn biex naqtghu din il-kwistjoni darba ghal dejjem. Ghadek ma tafx kemm hi irrabjata.

Denise Imissa mihiex.

David Tahseb li mhux se tahfirli qatt.

Maggur U iva issa tara kif tahfirlek. Mur ixtrilha bukkett fjuri.

Denise Eh, waqa l-ghass. Intom l-irgiel tippruvaw issolvi l-problemi kollha b'bukkett fjuri.

David Forsi mihiex ideja tajba wara kollox.

Maggur Da zgur li hi. Brenda wisq probabli tigi hawn b'xi tuzzana ward.

David Heq, forsi HI idejja tajba mela.

Maggur Iva isa mur qabel ma jispicawlhom. Hemm wiehed tal-fjuri tajjeb f'Bond Street.

David Imma hemm il boghod wisq.

Maggur Mhux meta tkun taf it-triq imma. Isa mur ghaggel.

David goes out and up the area steps.

Denise X'vilta ghandek tghid. Ma kienx kuntent li jahrab mal-ex-mara tieghek issa ghamel lil din Brenda tqila ukoll.

Maggur Iva hekk hu. Imma issa ejja ghaggel halli nsibulek lukanda qabel ma tinsel hawn Elizabeth.

Denise Imma l-affarijiet tieghi.....

Maggur Thabbilx rasek ghalihom dawk. Ghandi habta kif niehu hsieb il-hwejjeg ta haddiehor. Inti nehhi l-hwejjeg mill-gwardarobba.

Denise Kollox sew.

She goes into the cupboard. The Major goes off UL, brings on the three drawers containing David's clothes and swaps them for the three in the chest.

Denise comes out of the cupboard with an armful of her clothes.

X'inti taghmel ?

Maggur Qed inpoggi hwejjgu hawn gew.

Denise Hwejjgu ?

Maggur Eh ... iva ... tal-inkwilin il gdid. Poggi dawk hemm barra. Hekk armarju iehor fejn tista tqieghdom. L-affarijiet tieghu qeghdin hemmhekk. ^

Denise goes off UL carrying her clothes. The Major completes the changeover of the drawers. Denise returns with David's clothes, which she hangs in the cupboard. The Major goes off UL with the drawers. Whilst this is going on, they speak the following.

Denise Ghandek kollox organizzat tajjeb hawn.

Maggur Iva hekk trid taghmel meta tkun tikri il-postijiet.

Denise Nahseb li l-inkwilin il gdid xi avukat.

Maggur Iva hekk hu. Kif taf ?

Denise (Holding up a wig) Il-parrokka. ~~Toga~~ TOGA

Maggur Eh iva da zgur.

He picks up the drawers containing Denise's clothes and goes off UL.

Denise Nahseb li ahjar tintroducih ma Brenda, ghax jista jkun li jkollha ttella lil dan li ghadu kif hareg il-qorti.

She goes into the cupboard. The Major returns.

Maggur U ghaliex itellghu l-qorti.

Denise (Coming out) Talli ghamilha tqila.

Maggur Eh ghalhekk. Le ma nahsibx li se jaslu sa hemmhekk. Xi haga tghidli li ma hi tqila xejn. Tajjeb. Immorru ? (He picks up her suitcase)

Denise Iva (She picks up her handbag)

Maggur Tlaqqina mela.

They make for the front door, as Elizabeth, now properly dressed, enters UL. ~~✗~~

Elizabeth Alan, fejn sejjer ?

Maggur Ah Elizabeth ! Se niehu lil Denise il-lukanda.

Elizabeth U din min hi ?

Maggur Eh din ... in-neputija tieghi, hux hekk ruhi ?

Denise Iva zi. Jiena n-neputija tieghek.

Maggur It-tifla ta ohti.

Elizabeth Imma inti tifel uniku.

Maggur Ezattament.

Elizabeth Allura kif tista tkun it-tifla ta ohtok.

Maggur Jiena ma ghidtlekx it-tifla ta ohti, imma it-tifla ta Hawkley.

Elizabeth (To Denise) Eh iva inti it-tifla ta Hawkley, l-avukat ta Alan ?

Maggur Iva hekk hu. It-tifla tieghu. Mhux ezattament in-neputija tieghi, imma tant nirrispetta li nghidilha hekk.

Elizabeth Hi xi hlew. Niftakar meta inti kont daqshekk. Inbdilt mhux hazin imma.

Denise Iva u kbirt issa.

Elizabeth U kellek xagharek fl-ahmar ukoll.

Denise Iva dejqitni u zbajtu.

Elizabeth Jiddispjacini ghal-missierek.

Denise Iva miskin hallina zghir.

Elizabeth Hallina ? Imma dak baghtuh il-habs.

Maggur Iva iva da zgur li l-habs qieghek. Imma ma thobbx titkellem fuq hekk ghax jaqbadha swied ta qalb.

Elizabeth Ghadni ma fhimtx ezattament ghaliex baghtuh il-habs imma. Allura x'ghamel hu.

Maggur Kien avukat.

Elizabeth Mhux x'ghamel bhala xoghol, imma ghal xiex wehel.

Denise Eh ...

Maggur Heba l-kotba.

Denise Iva imbaghad haraqhom.

Elizabeth X'ihu ?

Maggur Ipprova jahraq l-evidenza u nqabad.

Elizabeth U kemm wehel ?

Denise } (Together) {Hames snin.
Maggur } {Tlett snin.

Elizabeth Hamsa jew tlieta ?

Maggur It-tnejn. Kif jiskonta wahda tibda l-ohra.

Elizabeth Miskin. Allura fejn qiegħed ?

Denise } (Together) {Dartmoor.
Maggur } {Wormwood.

Maggur Eh ... kien Wormwood. imma imbaghad baghtuh Dartmoor, ghaliex ... ghaliex ...

Denise Ghax ma ghogbux hemmhekk.

Elizabeth Ma ghogbux ?

Maggur Le ma ghogbux hemm, ghalhekk ipprova jahrab kemm il-darba. U imbaghad baghtuh Dartmoor.

Elizabeth Meta tmur tarah f'Dartmoor sellili ghalih.

Denise Iva mela le.

Elizabeth Alan, dak il-mignun għadu fil-kamra tal-banju ?

Maggur Le telaq.

class do b/em door

- Elizabeth Niringrazzja 'l Alla mela. Nispera li ma jigi qatt lura.
- Maggur Anki jien.
- Denise Ma nehodhiex bi kbira li qed tghid hekk, wara li ghamillek dak kollu. Ghadek sejjer Saudi Arabia mieghu ?
- ^{? Elizabeth -}
Maggur Mal-plumber ?
- Maggur Mihiex sejra Saudi Arabia mal-plumber.
- Denise Le. Ridt nghid l-iehor.
- Elizabeth Da zgur li sejra. Wara kollox dak zewgi.
- Denise Zewgek ? Imma inti ghidtli li mhumiex mizzewgin. ...
- Maggur Le, ma nahsibx ...
- Elizabeth Mhux mizzewgin ? U inti ghalfejn ghidtilha hekk ?
- Denise Nahseb li naf (To the Major) Tghid nghidulha ?
- Maggur (Baffled) X'nghidulha ?
- Denise Dwar Brenda ?
- Elizabeth Brenda ? Min hi Brenda ? *up*
- Maggur Xi hadd li ma tafx.
- Denise Imma xorta nahseb li ghandna nghidulha. Qieghdha fit-triqtha hawn go taxi, u zewgek ghamilha tqila.
- Elizabeth X'inhu, ghamilha tqila go taxi ?
- Maggur (Desperate) Le mhux hekk gara. Kien kollu zball.
- Elizabeth Zball ? Hekk nahseb. Rega ghamilha. U dan wara li wehdni li kien se ~~jaqta~~ kollox wara li nizzewgu.
- Denise Ovjament li ghadu sejjer biha. Mela allura min dejjem kien hekk.

Elizabeth Iva hekk kien. Imissni ndunajt ta x'kien, wara li harab ma mara ta haddiehor.

Denise U min kienet ?

Elizabeth Jiena.

Maggur U iva almenu kellu id-dicenza li ghamel kif suppost.

Elizabeth U xi trid tghid biha din ?

Maggur Ridt nghid li almenu izzewwgek hux.

Elizabeth Eh iva ? Almenu. Allura issa se jaghmel li suppost ma Brenda u jizzewwigha ukol ?

Maggur Le ma nahsibx li se jaghmel hekk. Fil-fatt nista niggarantixxi li le.

Elizabeth U kif tafu dan int ?

Maggur Ghax jiena nafu sew lir Ronald. Dak ragel sew. Imma ghandu daqxejn xi punti debboli.

Elizabeth Iva xi tuzzana punti debboli fix-xahar. U Brenda, issa izejjed. Imma jiena naghmililu ghax ma mmurx Saudi Arabia mieghu. Jiena nibqa hawn.

Maggur X'inhu ? Le inti **TRID** tmur mieghu. Ghax wehdtu issa. Ara ha nkellmu jiena u tara kif jigi f'sensieh. Xi tghid Denise ?

Denise Eh... iva. Inti mur. U halli liz-ziju jiehu hsibu.

Maggur X'ziju ?

Denise Inti.

Maggur Eh iva. Issa inkellmu jien u tara kif jisma minni.

Elizabeth Imma hadd ma jisma minnek Alan. Dak li ghandek inti. Twajjeb wisq. Inti mintix bhal Ronald. Inti ma tafx tigdeb ghax tinqabad mal-ewwel.

Denise Iva iz-ziju dejjem jghid il-verita.

Maggur U insomma forsi mhux dejjem.

Elizabeth Qed tara diga qed tigdeb. Tinqabad mal-ewwel.

Maggur U iva forsi qed nikber issa hux.

Elizabeth (To Denise) Imma ghidli, Denise, Uncle Alan qal li se jiehdok go lukanda ?

Denise Iva hekk qalli.

Elizabeth Jiddispijacini li m'ghandix post fuq, ghax kieku kont nghidlek toqghod maghna.

Denise Nirringrazzjak xorta wahda.

Elizabeth Imma jekk trid qabel ma tmur tista titla tiehu drink u noqghodu nitkellmu fuq il-passat.

Maggur Imma forsi ma tridx titkellem fuq il-passat. Lanqas biss tifhmu l-passat hi.

Denise Le zi, ma jimpurtax. Fil-fatt niehu gost kieku.

Maggur Ma nahsibx taf. Forsi diga insejtu l-passat.

Elizabeth Alan, ghax ghandek il-memorja qasira inti ma jfissirx li kulhadd bhalek.

Maggur Nahseb li ghandi l-memorja hafna ahjar minn ta certi nies.

Elizabeth Heq per ezempju ftakart biex tnehhi hwejjgek ?

Maggur Hemm (He looks quickly in the drawer) Le. Imma mhux ghax insejt.

Elizabeth Mela ejja u ehlishom (She goes towards the door UL. To Denise) Ghandi tant mistoqqisijiet x'naghmillek ruhi qalbi.

Maggur (Panic-stricken) Mela ha nigi mieghek.

Elizabeth U ghaliex ?

Maggur Ghax forsi tinsa xi haga.

Denise Tinkwietax ziju. Min hawn u min hemm nirranga.

Elizabeth Mela ejja ha mmorru. Ha ngiblek il-bagalja.

Denise Grazzi.

Elizabeth Nistghu immorru minn hawn (She opens the UL door)

Denise passes her and goes off.

Maggur Ha ngorrha jien (He picks up Denise's suitcase)

Elizabeth Le halliha fidejja. Inti ma tridx tizbarazza l-hwejjeg, mela insejt ?

| She takes Denise's case from the Major and goes out UL.

| Maggur Imma jien ... le ghax ... (Resignedly he takes off his jacket and hangs it behind the door UL. He goes to the cupboard and starts to take out David's clothes)

| David is seen coming down the area steps.

| The Major takes a large bundle of clothes out UL. As he disappears David enters through the front door, carrying a large bouquet of flowers. The Major returns immediately.

| He does not see David and goes to the chest of drawers and starts to scoop up David's clothes. He is half-way through this operation when he catches sight of David. He quickly puts the clothes back and starts to smooth them out.

Maggur Kamla. Hsibt li smajt il-kamla fil-kxaxen. U mhux tajjeb li jkollok il-kamla ghax igermulek il-hwejjeg kollha.

David Imma il-kamla ma jieklux in-nylon.

Maggur Ezattament. Kienu qed jaghmlu hafna storbju ghax kienu frustrati li sabu nylon biss u jiena smajthom.

David Tidher daqxejn esagerata il-bicca. Imma insomma gibthom il-hwejjeg min ghand il-cleaners. (He puts the flowers down on the bed)

Maggur Iva.

| David goes to the cupboard and opens it, to find it empty.

David Imma hawnhekk vojt.

Maggur Iva naf. Ghax ergajt hadthom lura. Ma ghamlux bicca xoghol tajba.

David Imma irridhom issa. Qatt ma ghidtlek biex tehodhom u issa ghandi bzonnhom. Mur u gibhom issa stess.

Maggur Iva minuta issa ingibhom. Nahseb li lesti ghax dawk huma express cleaners u jghagglu.

He goes out UL and returns immediately with clothes.

maucun Eh ghidtlek li dawk express. Diga lesti ghax kont naf li tridhom malajr (He puts the clothes on the bed)

David Ara tahseb li se nhallsek taf.

Maggur Le lanqas qed nippretendi. Mhux it-tort tieghek li l-plumber ghamel herba shiha.

David Imma almenu jidher li naddaft tajjed hawnhekk.

Maggur Grazzi, grazzi hafna ... Le imma jien lanqas ghadni bdejt. Ara qed nistenna is-seftura tigi.

David Imma ma tistax tistenna sakemm inbidel? (He starts to sort out some clothes to wear)

Maggur Le ma tistax ghax dik meta tibda qiesa uragan. Xejn ma jzommha u tkaxxkar li ssib.

David Ma tistax tnaddaf waqt li jiena nilbes.

Maggur Da zgur li le. Ma tiftakarx li dik tibza mill-irgiel.

David Mela allura jigifieri li rrid immur fil-kamra tal-banju nerga.

Maggur Iva hekk l-ahjar. Ma rridx li tiehu ghalija u ma tigix izjed.

David Le ahjar le. Fejn hu z-zarbun ? (He has collected his clothes by now)

Maggur (Indicating UL) Hemm barra.

David U x'inhuma jaghmlu hemm barra ?

Maggur Ghax ha nghidlek. Hadthom ghand l-iskarpan biex nara hemmx bzonn idurhom dawra u hu qalli li m'hemmx ghalfejn allura gibthom lura. Ha ngibhomlok.

He goes out UL.

David Imma ghaliex ma tistax thalli l-affarijiet tieghi bi kwiethom jahasra ?

The Major returns with two pairs of shoes.

Maggur Inweghdek li ma nmisx xejn izjed.

David Grazzi.

He takes one pair of shoes from the Major and goes into the bathroom, shutting the door behind him.

The Major immediately hurls the other pair of shoes off UL, grabs the clothes and the bouquet off the bed and runs off UL with them, as Brenda comes down the area steps. She knocks on the front door.

The Major returns, goes to the chest and opens the drawer. Brenda knocks again, louder. The Major dithers, then goes to open the front door. Brenda walks in. Brenda Bennett is a pretty, well-groomed and well-dressed girl in her mid-twenties. _____

Brenda David Clarke hawn qieghed ?

Maggur Min iridu ?

Brenda Jiena Brenda Bennett.

Maggur Eh iva, qed jistennik. Mar sal-pub u qalli biex nghidlek biex tmur tiltaqa mieghu hemmhekk.

Brenda Liema pub ?

Maggur Eh... miniex zgur inma jekk idurhom kollha issibu zgur.

Brenda Mela jien ha noqghod indur il-pubs kollha infittxu. Jiena se noqghod hawn nistenna sakemm jigi.

Maggur Ma tistax toqghod hawn ghax dalwaqt tigi s-seftura.

Brenda Inti sid il-kerà, il-Maggur, dak li kellimt fuq it-telephone ?

Maggur Eh ... jiena x'ghidtlek ?

Brenda Inti ghidtlek biex ma nersaqx 'l hawn. Ghaliex ghidtlek hekk ?

Maggur Mhux jien ghidtlek hekk. Mhux jien. Jiena mhux il-Maggur.

Brenda Eh le ? Imma dik l-ingravit tal-army.

Maggur Iva ghax jiena kont fl-army imma mhux Maggur.

Brenda Mela min inti u x'inti taghmel fil-flat ta David ?

Maggur Jiena noqghod fuq. Noqghod mal-Maggur.

Brenda U x'jismek ?

Maggur Eh ... Smythe.

A tax horn honks impatiently outside.

Brenda Nahseb li ahjar inhallas lil tat-taxi.

Maggur Hekk nahseb jien ukoll.

She runs off and up the area steps.

The Major shuts the front door behind her, dashes to the chest and starts to take out the clothes as Elizabeth, wearing a pretty overall and headscarf and carrying a light-weight vacuum cleaner, enters UL.

Elizabeth Iva Alan ghadek ma nehhejthomx hwejjgek ?

Maggur Iva hekk qed naghmel. Ghax ma tigix xi nofs siegha ohra meta inkun lest ?

Elizabeth U tkunx ridikolu. Kompli ejja sakemm jiena nibda mill-kamra tal-banju.

Maggur LE ! Hemm xi hadd hemm gew.

Elizabeth Hemm xi hadd ? Min ?

Handwritten signature: Rendi

Maggur Il-plumber.

Elizabeth Rega gie ? Jiena hsibt li hlist minnu.

Maggur Iva hekk ghamilt imma rega gie biex jara li kollox sew. Ara issa nehles minnu sakemm inti tibda mill-keina.

| Brenda comes down the area steps.

Elizabeth U din id-darba ipprova ehles minnu darba ghal dejjem. Ma rridx nara mignun bhal dak idur ma saqajja (She goes towards the kitchen)

| There is a knock on the front door. The Major freezes.

enased Mhux sejjer tiftah ?

Maggur Le mhu hadd importanti.

Elizabeth U kif taf ?

Maggur Mill-mod kif habbat.

| There is another knock.

~~Elizabeth~~ =
Le, mhux qed nara min hemm. ? xorta mhux qed Nara min hemm.

Elizabeth Inti mignun jew xiex, Alan ? Mur iftah dak il-bieb.

Maggur Ahjar le.

Elizabeth Mela ha mmur jien (She goes to the front door)

Maggur Ahjar ma tmurx inti.

| Elizabeth opens the front door and Brenda walks in, carrying a suitcase.

Brenda Ah !

Elizabeth Nista nghinek f'xi haga ?

Brenda Le, kollox sew. Ma rridx intellfek.

Elizabeth Ma nahsibx li ltqajna jiena u int.

Brenda Le.

- Maggur Din Miss Bennett.
- Elizabeth Miss Bennett ?
- Maggur Taf int, it-tifla ta' Humphrey Bennett.
- Elizabeth Eh iva. Ghandi pjacir. Ma kontx naf li Humphrey ghandu tifla, insomma tfajla. Nahseb li gejt biex taghti titwila lil-flat hux /
- Brenda Iva, speci ta (To the Major) Din min hi ?
- Maggur Dik is-sinjura Smythe.
- Brenda (To Elizabeth) Eh jiddispjacini. Hsibtek is-seftura.
- Elizabeth Ma jimpurtax, libsa hekk, hekk qisni hux. ^{daddy} Il-papa' qieghed micghek ?
- Brenda Le. Sfortunatament jien u hu mhux qed nitkellmu.
- Elizabeth Eh jiddispjacini. Imma nahseb li jigi hux ?
- Brenda Ma nafx hekk nahseb.
- Elizabeth Ghax ghada filghodu jiena nitlaq.
- Brenda Mhux qed nifhem.
- Maggur Mrs. Smythe sejra Saudi Arabia ghada filghodu.
- Elizabeth Ma r-ragel tieghi.
- Brenda (To the Major) Eh nahseb li ghandkom tiehdu pjacir mela.
- Maggur Iva kulhadd se jiehu pjacir.
- Elizabeth Alan, mhux ahjar tghid lir-ragel li hemm fil-kamra tal-banju biex jitlaq.
- Maggur Le mhux ghalissa.
- Elizabeth Mela allura mhux ahjar taghmel xi haga fuqha il-bicca.
- Maggur Le ahjar inhalluha kif inhi ghalissa.

Brenda Hemm xi hadd fil-kamra tal-banju ?

Maggur Eh ... ghandna xi problemi fil-plumbing. Ghalhekk kulhadd qiegħed hawn isfel. Imma issa mhux ahjar immorru kollha fuq ?

Elizabeth Iva, ejja nitilghu u niehdu xi drink.

Brenda Grazzi xorta imma jiena nippreferi nistenna lil David.

Elizabeth David ?

Brenda Iva, l-gharus tieghi. Ir-ragel tiegħek qalli li mar sal-pub.

Elizabeth Ir-ragel tieghi ? Ma kontx naf li taf lir-ragel tieghi.

Brenda Ma kontx nafu s'issa.

Elizabeth Alan, ma ghidtlieq li Ronnie gie lura.

Maggur Ma kienx hemm għalfejn. Gie ta malajr u rega telaq ta malajr.

Elizabeth Imma jien ridt inkellmu.

Brenda Ma nistax nifhem kif David mar il-pub. Qatt ma naf li ihobb imur hemm.

David comes out of the bathroom, fully dressed in casual clothes. He is carrying the clothes he has taken off.

David Brenda !

Brenda ^{David}
~~Philip~~. Jiena hsibt li mort il-pub.

Maggur Anki jien. Qed tara kif kulhadd jista jiehu zball.

Elizabeth Skuzi, imma inti jismek Brenda ?

Brenda Iva hekk hu.

Maggur Mhux dik Brenda.

Brenda Xi Brenda ?

Maggur Dik li ghidt lil Elizabeth fuqha. Dik kienet Brenda ohra.

*Down to
A Chair*

Elizabeth Ejja almenu.

Brenda U Elizabeth min hi ?

Elizabeth Jiena Elizabeth. Inti lestejt mill-kamra tal-banju guvnot.

David Iva. Tista tkompli bit-tindif tieghek sinjura.

Elizabeth Ma ghandekx ghalfejn toqghod tghidli x'naghmel, grazzi hafna.

David tieghek. M'hemmx ghalfejn tibza minni. Mhux se nindahallek fix-xoghol tieghek.

Elizabeth Jaqbillek ghax pass falz u ncempel lil-pulizija.


Brenda Intom it-tnejn tafu lil xulxin ?

Maggur Iva u le.

Brenda X'jigifieri ?

Maggur Iva, jafu lil xulxin. Le, ma jafux lil xulxin hafna.

Brenda Mela allura ma tafx li David huwa l-gharus tiegħi ?

Elizabeth L-gharus tieghek ? Jiddispjacini hafna. 

Brenda (Puzzled) Skuzi ?

Elizabeth Wara li ghamel dak kollu ? Imissek taf x'tip ta ragel hu.

David Wara li ghamilt xiex ?

Maggur Taf x'ghamilt. Inti stess ghidtli fuqha.

David Imma jiena ghidtlek li mhux jien ghamiltha. Kien kollu zball.

Brenda Mela ghalfejn ghidt lil papà li jiena tqila ?

David Jiena m'ghidtx lil missierek xejn min dan. (Pointing to the Major)
Dan qallu.

Elizabeth Ghalfejn ghidt hekk, Alan ?

Maggur Mhux jien (Pointing to David) Dan kien.

Brenda Ghalfejn ghamilt hekk ? Ma kienx hemm ghalxiex tmur tghidlu.

Elizabeth Imma sigriet bhal dan ma tantx stajt tahbih hux.

Maggur Kien jaqbel li qal lil kulhadd issa, ghax xorta wahda kienu se jkunu jafu illum jew ghada.

Brenda Imma m'iniex. Kien kollu zball.

Elizabeth Iva kollha hekk jghidu. ~~down~~

David Milli jidher jiena l-ahhar li sirt naf. Stajt almenu tghidli.

Brenda Ghalfejn ghandi nigdiblek ?

David Jiena naf. Imma b'hekk twegga izjed.

Brenda David ruhi jiena ma nafx fuq xiex qed titkellem imma nahseb li xi haga bhal din ahjar nitkellmuha fil-privat.

Maggur Iva nahseb li ahjar.

up Elizabeth Iva, nahseb li hekk izjed tistghu issolvu l-problemi ta bejnitkom. Harrods ghadhom kif gabu xi lingerie gdida. Ha nghidlek x'se naghmlu. Intom oqghodu hawn isfel biex titkellmu u ahna, Alan, inhalluhom wahedhom.

Maggur Iva, ma narax ghalfejn le.

Elizabeth Jekk tridu xi haga ghajtu.

| She goes out UL

Maggur (To David) Mhux se jkollok bzonn terga tbiddel hux ?

David Le ghaliex ?

Maggur Le ghal xejn. Tidher tajjeb kif inti.

| He goes out UL shutting the door behind him.

Brenda Trid tkun veru vili biex tghid lil kulhadd li jiena tqila meta miniex.

Leave her here.

David Eh mintiex ?

Brenda Da zgur li le. Xi hsibt ni stupida ?

David Missierek hekk jahseb li int.

Brenda Xiex stupida ?

David Le tqila.

Brenda Mhux bilfors jekk inti ghidtlu hekk.

David Imma jiena hsibt li veru tqila. Il-Maggur hekk qal.

Brenda Sid il-kera. Ma ghandha x'taqsam xejn mieghu. Kif tridu jkun jaf ?

David Hu qal li missierek cempel li inti kont f'xi bicca inkwiet.

Brenda U inti hsibt li kont f'dak it-tip ta inkwiet.

David Xi tridni nahseb jekk mhux hekk ?

Brenda Kwazi kull haga ohra minbarra dik.

David Li kiek u mhux ghal Maggur ma kontx nahseb hekk. Imma hu deher daqshekk zgur minna l-bicca xoghol.

Brenda Meia allura kienet kollha invenzjoni tieghu.

David Hekk qed tidher issa.

Brenda Indunajt jiena. Mil-ewwel hsibt li hemm xi haga stramba fih dak ir-ragel. Nahseb li hemm xi haga tinten fin-nofs.

David Iva veru, illum il-hin kollu jaghmel affarijiet daqxejn strambi.

Brenda Imbaghad meta cempilt l-ewwel irrisponditni tfajla u qaltli li inti thobb tilbes hwejjeg ta mara u li kecciek minn hawn.

David X'inh u ? Hemm xi haga stramba hafna hawnhekk. Taf li il-hin kollu jisraqli l-hwejjeg.

Brenda Nahseb li daqxejn imcaqlaq jien.

David Ma nafx imma min issa il quddiem se nibda noqghod attent ghalih. Mhux se navdah izjed. Ghallinqas hadt il-hwejjeg lura. (He opens the cupboard door and looks in) Ara daqxejn ! Regghu mhumiex hawn. Le, le ara issa daqshekk. (He goes to the UL door and opens it)

The Major, who has been listening outside the door, almost falls in.

David Tista tghidli x'inti taghmel ?

Maggur Eh... jiena.... eh hsibt li joghgbuk dawn (He produces the bouquet. David takes it)

David X'ergajt ghamilt bil-hwejjeg tieghi. Minghalija ghidtlek biex thallihom hemm (He points to the cupboard)

Maggur Hi ara x'wahda din. U jiena hsibt li ghidli 'Nehhihom minn hemm'. Tinkwetax ha mmur ingibhom issa stess.

He goes out of the UL door and returns immediately with the clothes, which he dumps in David's arms.

Maggur Hawn ara.

He quickly goes out UL and shuts the door.

Brenda Xi hlew hux, gablek il-fjuri.

David Ma gabli xejn. Dawn ghalik (He puts the clothes on the bed)

Brenda Insomma xi hlew ~~h~~tahom lilek biex inti intihom lili hux.

David Imma dawn mhux tieghu imma tieghi. Gibthom jien biex intihom lilek.

Brenda Mela allura ghalfejn tajthom lili ?

David Ma tajthomlux. Ara qtajt qalbi nispjega. Hawn ha dawn tieghek. (He gives them to her)

Brenda Hi x'sorpriza sabiha qalbi. Il-veru sbieh. Issa jiena ghandi sorpriza ghalik.

David Eh iva ?

Brenda (Picking up her suitcase) Din.

Elizabeth switches the cleaner off. |

Elizabeth M'hemmx ghalfejn tghajjat daqshekk, Alan. X'ghidt ?

Maggur Fejn qeghdin ?

Elizabeth Mhux hawn. Jiena inzilt biex nistaqsihom jekk nistax incempel u indunajt li telqu.

Maggur Hi stramba. Ghax hu qalli li se jibqa.

Elizabeth Ghalfejn ghandhom joqghodi hawn. Mid-dehra irrangaw kollox u telqu flimkien.

Maggur Ha nghidlek qed niehu gost li ghamlu hekk taf.

Elizabeth Iva, anki jien. Niehu gost nara koppji ferhanin. Ahna wkoll konna ferhanin darba Alan hux ?

Maggur Iva mhux hazin.

Elizabeth Kollu tort ta Ronnie. Li kieku kont naf nofs l-affarijiet li naf issa fuqu mhux talli ma kont nizzewgu imma lanqas nahrab mieghu. Ghadek ma tafx min xiex ghaddejt Alan.

Maggur Le ma nafx.

Elizabeth Dik Brenda, jew xi xjafek hi, mhux l-ewwel wahda taf.

Maggur Ma kontx nehodha daqshekk kontrieh kieku kont jien. Wara kollox Brenda mhux veru tqila.

Elizabeth Teh^mmnux. Qed tara Alan dik l-problema tieghek. Inti dejjem tahseb li kulhadd ta l-affarijiet tieghu. Jiena nafu sew lil Ronnie. Jekk mhux it-tfajliet l-imhat^rri u jekk mhux l-imhat^rri x-xorb.

| Ronald enters UL rather the worse for drink. ?

Ronald Hello Alan, siehbi. Qed niehu gost nerga narak. Ma tistax tislifni hamsin lira hux ? Naf cert li hemm kelb se jirbah illejla.

Maggur (To Elizabeth) Almenu m'ghandux tfajla mieghu.

Elizabeth Ronald ! Min hi Brenda ?

Ronald Brenda ? Ma naf lil hadd Brenda jien.

Elizabeth Mela ~~ha~~ ngeddidlek il-memorja. Probabilment zghira, kwazi certament gustuza u definitivament tqila. Tahseb li issa taf fuq min qed nitkellem.

Ronald Le, imma l-ewwel zewg affarijiet li ghidtli jogħgħbuni.

Elizabeth Ma tistax tghaddi minghajrhom hux. Jaqaw din xi ohra minn tieghek ?

Ronald Ma nafx fuq xiex qed titkellem ruhi. Inti taf siehbi ?

Maggur Jiena ma nafx min hi Brenda imma naf zgur li mhux tqila.

Elizabeth U inti kif taf jekk lanqas biss qatt iltqajt magħha ?

Maggur Hekk bit-telepatija.

Elizabeth Inti zomm it-telepatija għalik. Ronald ejja halli nkomplu din il-konversazzjoni fil-privat fuq. U la nkunu fuq tista tpoggi l-affarijiet tieghek fl-ispere bedroom għax hemm se torqod illejla (She goes UL.)

Maggur Imma is-sodda li hemm fl-ispere bedroom nuzà jien.

Ronald Ma jimpurtax jiena norqod hawn isfel.

Elizabeth Le m'intiex. Inti se torqod fuq. U ~~Ma~~ Hal-art.

She goes out UL.

Ronald Il veru mara iebsa.

Maggur U l-art fuq izjed iebes għaliex nehhitu t-tapit.

Ronald Isma ma tistax tghamilli tazza kafe hux ? Nahseb li għandi bzonn wahda.

Maggur Mela le, arani sejjer.

He goes into the kitchen.

Ronald Issa nitla fuq. Jien illejla għal hawn isfel. (He makes sure he is unobserved and quickly goes to the phone. He takes out his pocket address book, finds the number he wants, lifts the receiver and dials) Hello ...

hemmhekk l-International Secretarial School jekk joghgbok ? Eh iva nixtieq xi hadd biex tghamillha ta' segretarja ghal xi fitit zmien... Eh mhux dan in-numru ? Tista tatiehuli mela ? Minuta ha ngib pinna. (He looks round, sees Alan's jacket hanging on the back of the door, fishes into the inside pocket and finds a pen and the \$300. He goes back to the phone with both) Tajjeb, ghidli ... (He writes the number down in his book, putting his money in his pocket in order to give himself a free hand) Grazzi. (He disconnects the call, then dials the number. After a moment, he inserts a coin) International Secretarial School ? Iva jiena Ronald Smythe. Jekk joghgbok ghandi bzonn ta' segretarja ghal xi fitit gimghat ... forsi tistghu tibghatu wahda ... eh illum stess ... da zgur li tajjeb. Iva mela ... Twelve-A Mortimer Crescent, Lancaster Gate. Kollox sew mela grazzi. Sahha.

He puts down the receiver. He goes towards the door UL, thinks better of it and goes out through the front door and off up the area steps.

The Major comes back from the kitchen with a cup of coffee.

Maggur Hawn ghandek il-kafe Ah! Dak fejn hu ?

He puts the coffee mug down on the chest, and sees the key, which he picks up. He then opens the drawers and is surprised to find them empty. He goes to the cupboard, looks in and is again surprised to see no clothes. He goes back to the chest and picks up the key again, as Denise enters UL.

Denise Eh hawn qiegħed, Alan. Isma għandna bzonn nġħagglu u nsib lukanda għalija għal-lejla taf.

Maggur M'hemmx għalfejn. L-affarijiet imbidli. Telaq u ha kollox miegħu, u halla c-cavetta warajh.

Denise Min telaq ? Inti m'ghidtx li l-flat vojti.

Maggur Iva issa vojti ... Irrid nġħid li issa telaq l-plumber u ha l-ghodda miegħu u halla c-cavetta li kont tajtu.

Denise Jigifieri hadd mhu se jorqod hawn illejla u nista niehu l-flat kollu għalija ?

Maggur Iva. U biex niccelebraw se niehdok barra għal-ikel.

Denise Le, le jien se noffri din id-darba.

Maggur Le ma tarax, ma ridtx naf. Akkwistajt fitit flus u se noffri jien (He touches his pocket)

Denise Jaqaw akkwistajthom minn fuq xi zieme! ?

Maggur Le izjed nista nghid li akkwistajthom minn fuq hmar.

Denise Kollox sew mela. Tlaqna ?

Maggur Iva, kemm ingib il-gakketta. (He goes and takes his jacket off the peg from behind the door UL) Tlaqna !

Denise Mela le.

They go out of the front door and up the area steps, as Elizabeth and Humphrey come in UL. Humphrey is carrying a small overnight case.

Elizabeth Tkun trid xi haga, Humphrey, ghajjatli. Jien se nkun fuq.

Humphrey Diga kilt illejla imma ma nghidx le ghal xi zewg bajdiet ghal breakfast.

Elizabeth Kollox sew issa innizzillek tnejn.

Humphrey Grazi. Tista tpoqgihom fil-kcina. Se niehu banju u norqod kmieni ghax kelli gurnata iebsa illum.

Elizabeth Mela le. Taf fejn huma l-affarijiet hux hekk ?

Humphrey Iva thabbilx rasek ghalija, malajr nidra.

Elizabeth Hallejtek mela.

Humphrey Grazi u sahha Elizabeth.

Elizabeth ~~Sahha.~~ Bye

She goes out UL.

Humphrey puts his case on the bed and takes out flowered pyjamas and a silk dressing-gown. He closes the case and puts it down, upstage of the bed, so that it cannot be seen. After a moment his mobile phone rings.

Humphrey Hello ... iva jiena Humphrey ... Min ? Jacqueline ? ... Ma niftakrekx ta. ... Eh iva issa qed niftakar ... da zgur Jacqueline. Kif inti ? ... Jiena mhux hazin ... Krejt flat ... eh iva tista jekk trid ... illejla se nkun wahdi ... Iva jidher li hawnhekk hu daqxejn kwiet. Eh iva tbiddilt u mhux se narfek.

X'ghamilt ? Plastic surgery. Kellek incident ... Jiddispjacini. Iva mela le tista tghidli meta tkun hawn. Iva kollox sew x'hin trid ejja.... x'inhu ... eh iva Twelve-A Mortimer Crescent, Lancaster Gate. Narak illejla mela. Ciao.

He puts the receiver down, takes the pyjamas and dressing-gown and goes with them into the bathroom, shutting the door behind him.

David and Brenda come in through the front door.

Brenda Ma nafx xi gralu il-papa', nahseb li telaq id-dar. Issa immorru narawh ghada filghodu.

David Ma tantx qed niehu gost ta li se naghmlu hekk. Imma insomma sa ghada forsi jilhaq jghaddilu.

Brenda U le issa tara li wara raqda tajba kulhadd ikun ahjar.

David Ma nahsibx li se norqdu hafna illejla.

Brenda David !

David Irrid nghid li din hija sodda ta wiehed.

Brenda U issa tara kif nirrangaw.

David Ghandi guh ta ziemei. Inti bil-guh ukoll ?

Brenda Izjed minnek. Ghandek xi haga x'nieklu ?

David Nahseb li ghandi xi ftit bajd.

Brenda Mela ejja ha naghmlu froga kbira.

David Iva ideja tajba.

They go into the kitchen. As the door closes, the bathroom door opens and Humphrey comes out wearing his dressing-gown and carrying his black jacket and pinstripes, which he puts on the bed. He get his wash-bag out of his suitcase, leaves the case on the bed, and goes to the bathroom, shutting the door. The Major comes in through the front door and looks round the room for his money. He sees the clothes on the bed and is horror-struck. He looks about him. He hears the sounds of running water from the bathroom. He quickly goes to the bathroom door and knocks on it apprehensively) Sur Clarke ?

The running water stops. The door is opened by Humphrey.

Humphrey Xi trid ? Eh mela int.

Maggur X'inti taghmel hawn.

Humphrey Qed ninhasel. Xi tridni naghmel ?

Maggur Imma inti mhux ghada kellek tigi ?

Humphrey Iva naf, imma Elizabeth qaltli li nista nigi llum stess. U hekk ghamilt. Sahha.

Maggur (Weakly) Sahha.

Humphrey goes back in the bathroom and shuts the door in the Major's face. There is a noise from the kitchen.

David (Off) U x-xjafek ?

Brenda (Off) U ma gara xejn.

The Major in a moment of panic picks up the clothes and the suitcase and runs off UL, shutting the door behind him. David and Brenda come out of the kitchen.

David Xi hadd dahal gol kcina. Kont nahlef li dalghodu kelli nofs tuzzana bajd.

Brenda U ma gara xejn. Hawn xi hadd miftuh hawn dal hin.

David Iva hemm grocer Indjan kif iddur il-kantuniera. Jibqa miftuh salghaxra.

Brenda Ghad baqa hin.

David Tlaqna mela.

They go out of the front door and up the area steps. The Major comes on UL and just sees them disappearing up the area steps. He opens the chest of drawers and sees they are empty. He hurries to the cupboard and goes in to look around. The moment he is inside Elizabeth enters UL. She is carrying a box of eggs, which she takes immediately into the kitchen.

The Major comes out of the cupboard and shuts the door behind him. Elizabeth bangs a cabinet door shut in the kitchen. The Major looks at the kitchen, looks to the front door and back to the kitchen.

Maggur X'wahda din, gie lura ! (He goes to the kitchen and knocks on the door) Sur Clarke?

The door opens and Elizabeth pops out.

Elizabeth Alan ?

Maggur Elizabeth ?

Elizabeth Jaqaw kont qed taghmel xi haga fil-kecina ? Jiena hallejtha nadifa.

Maggur Iva, kont se naghmel xi haga ghal Humphrey ghax hsibt li kien bil-guh.

Elizabeth Imma m'ghandux guh ghax diga kiel.

Maggur Ma qalli xejn lili.

Elizabeth Wisq probabli ma qallekx ghax mhux affari tieghek. Issa se jkolli nerga innaddaf.

She goes into the kitchen and shuts the door behind her. The Major dithers, not knowing what to do. We see Jacqueline coming down the area steps. She knocks on the door. The Major reacts, and rushes to answer the door. Jacqueline enters. She is tall, sophisticated and attractive. She has a jacket and carries a small valise.

Jacqueline Hello, jiena Jacqueline.

Maggur Xi trid ?

Jacqueline Imbaghad niddiskutu r-rata izjed tard.

Maggur X'rata ?

Jacqueline Mhux skond ix-xoghol. L-ahjar li nitkellmu l-ewwel.

Maggur Imma jien m'ghandix xi nghidlek.

Jacqueline Allura ghalfejn gibtni hawn (She takes her jacket off and sits on the bed)

Maggur Ma tistax toqghod hemm. Ghandi lil ex-mara tieghi fil-kcina u dik mill-ewwel tahseb hazin.

Jacqueline Eh allura diga gibt ohra biex taghmel ix-xoghol.

Maggur X'xoghol hu jahasra. Ara idhol hemmhekk issa nispjegalek kollox. (He takes her to the cupboard and opens the door)

She goes into the cupboard with her valise.

The Major sees the jacket on the bed and throws it in after her and shuts the door, as Elizabeth comes out of the kitchen.

Elizabeth X'inti taghmel ?

Maggur Kont qed inpoggi xi haga fil-gwardarobba.

Elizabeth Xi haga ta Humphrey nahseb hux ?

Maggur Eh ma kontx naf. Mela ghalhekk allura.

Elizabeth Allura xiex ?

Maggur Ghalhekk poggejttha fil-gwardarobba.

Humphrey, now in his pyjamas and dressing-gown, comes out of the bathroom, carrying the rest of his clothes.

Humphrey X'inqala ?

Elizabeth Xejn. Poggejtlek il-bajd fil-kcina.

Humphrey Grazzi. Issa naghmel bela te u immur norqod. Nahseb li ghandi bzonn raqda minghajr **ma nigi disturbat** (He puts his things on the bed)

Elizabeth Iva mela le. Il-lejl it-tajjeb Humphrey.

Humphrey Il-lejl it-tajjeb.

He goes into the kitchen and shuts the door.

Elizabeth Ejja Alan.

Maggur Iva kemm nirranganu xi affarijiet u nigi.

Elizabeth Tantx iddum. Smajtu x'qallek.

| She goes out UL leaving the door open.

| The Major collects Humphrey's things from the bed, takes them off UL and returns, shutting the door behind him. He goes towards the cupboard as Denise comes down the area steps.

| He is about to open the cupboard door, when Denise enters.

Denise Eh mela hawn qieghed sur galantom.

Maggur Ah! Denise ! Nispera li ordnajt hux.

Denise Da zgur li le. Inti tehodni go restaurant, inpoggi bilqieghda u f'daqqa wahda taqbad u titlaq bla avviz. Spiccajt wahdi hemmhekk kulhadd ihares lejja.

Maggur Ma stajtx insib il-flus.

Denise Jekk ma ridtx tohrog missek ma staidintniex mill-ewwel.

Maggur Irrid nohrog imma bhalissa ma nistax. Ghandi xi haga fuq mohhi.

Denise Kollox sew, ara ejja ninsewha. Issa jekk ittini l-bagalja nista mmur norqod.

Maggur Ii-bagalja ? Nahseb li qieghdha mal-affarijiet l-ohra.

Denise X'affarijiet l-ohra ?

Maggur Mal-hwejjeg l-ohra jigifieri. Mur fil-kamra tal-banju ha ngibilek.

Denise Iva kif iggibili immur fil-kamra tal-banju.

Maggur Kollox sew arani sejjer.

| He goes out of the door UL.

| Denise takes off her coat and goes to the cupboard to hang it up. The Major comes in with her case.

7. Le !

But Denise opens the door and steps back in surprise.

Denise X'il-mniejel ?

(Jacqueline comes out; now dressed quite sexy.)

Jacqueline Hello, jiena Jacqueline. Nahseb li inti l-ex mara tieghu hux ?

Denise (To Alan) Mela allura ghalhekk hallejtni wahdi fir-restaurant. Naf ezattament x'ghandek f'mohhok.

Maggur Imma jiena ma nafx din xi trid.

Denise Tibzax nahseb li kemm hi^u kemm inti taf xi trid. (She goes to the door UL and holds it open) Il-lejl it-tajjeb.

Jacqueline Tistghu tghiduli x'inh^u jigri hawn^hkk, x'genn hawn. (Going UL)

Denise Nahseb li dalwaqt intielu fuq^h imniehru.

Jacqueline Ma nafx mhux qed nifhem.

She goes out UL

Maggur Imma Denise m'inti^{ex} ...

Denise Jiena le imma inti taf. Sahha.

The Major, helpless, goes out UL. Denise shuts the door and puts the catch on. She then picks up her case, puts it on the bed, takes out her nightie, dressing-gown, slippers and wash-bag and goes into the bathroom, shutting the door.

The Major and Jacqueline come down the area steps. The Major peeps through the window and, satisfied that the coast is clear, opens the front door. They enter.

Maggur Isa jaqbillek taqbad u titlaq issa stess.

Jacqueline Imma jiena ghadni gejja, mela ghalfejn ridtuni ?

Maggur Ara xorta wahda se nhallsek.

Jacqueline Imma hermm xi karti li rrid niehu hsieb jew xi ittri li rrid nikteb ?

Maggur Ma nafx, ghax dak li inti trid mhux qieghed hawn bhalissa.

Jacqueline Eh le, mela mhux inti s-sur Bennett ? Isma jista xi hadd jghidli x'inhu dal genn kollu. Mhux ta b'xejn ghandkom bzonn segretarja.

Maggur Kien kollu zball. Ghax meta inti gejt hu ma kienx hawn, jew almenu hekk hsibt jien. Fil-fatt hawn kien il-hin kollu imma jiena ma kontx naf, ghax li kiekku kont naf dak li qabel ma kontx hsibt li naf ma kontx nghidlek biex tmur fil-gwardarobba. (He hears a sound) Isa igri ghax gejt xi hadd. Idhol fil-gwardarobba erga. Isa ghaggel.

Jacqueline Ergajna.

Maggur Iva u ghaggel.

| She goes into the cupboard.

He shuts the door, tip-toes quickly to the kitchen door and listens, then to the bathroom door. He hears noises inside, runs to the cupboard and opens the door. He reacts.

Maggur Hi x'wahda din !

Jacqueline (Off) X'gara issa ?

| The Major goes in the cupboard and shuts the door. Denise, now in her dressing-gown, comes out of the bathroom, carrying her clothes. She puts them on the bed and goes into the kitchen.

| As she shuts the door, the Major staggers out of the cupboard. He sees David and Brenda coming down the steps. He grabs Denise's things off the bed and goes back into the cupboard. He does not realize he has failed to pick up Denise's underskirt.

| David and Brenda enter through the front door. Brenda carries a carrier bag of groceries.

| Brenda Ha naqbad naghmel mal-ewwel il-frejjeg. (She goes towards the kitchen door)

David Jiena se nitlahlah ffit, ghax inhossni daqxejn imdellek.

| Brenda stops with her hand on the kitchen door knob.

Brenda Kollox sew. Mela inti inhasel u lesti s-sodda u jiena mmur naghmel xi haga biex innaqqr.

David Iva ghamel hekk. Nispera li gabhomli l-hwejjeg dak.

Brenda (Looking round) Fejn hi l-bagalja tieghi ? (She puts the carrier bag down)

David Dak l-imbecilli rega hadha x'imkien. Ma jista jhalli xejn bi kwietu. Nahseb li poggieha fil-gwardarobba (He has his hand on the cupboard door knob, about to open it)

Brenda picks up Denise's underskirt from the bed.

Brenda Din il-libsas ta' taht tieghek ?

David X'inhu ? X'inti tghid ?

Brenda (Frostily) Heq, tieghi mihiex u jekk mhux tieghek ta min hi mela ?

David Kif ix-xjafek tridni inkun naf. Probabilment tal-Maggur. Dak il-hin kollu jhawwad fil-hwejjeg ghand il-cleaners. Ah ! Issa naf fejn huma l-hwejjeg taghna.

David goes out UL

David ? Ara daqxejn x'hawn. Hawn cupboard qiesu hanut tal-hwejjeg hawnhekk.

He enters with Brenda's case, which he hands to her, then goes out again.

Brenda Ghallinqas sibthom.

David enters with his pyjamas.

David Issa nirranga kollox filghodu. Ma nafx x'qed jigri imma nahseb li ghandu fmohhu xi haga dak il-Maggur.

Brenda Toqghodx thabbel rasek issa. (She goes towards the bathroom) Ghandi bzonn nahsel wahda snieni issa.

She goes in

David U jien ghandi bzonn ninhasel.

He goes into the bathroom and shuts the door.

Ronald enters UL and shuts the door. He carries a bottle of Scotch. He looks out of the window, then looks at his watch.

Ronald Hi daqxejn stramba li ghada ma gietx (He takes out a cheque from his pocket, looks at it, smiling broadly, kisses it and puts it back in his pocket. He sprawls on the bed, takes a large cigar out of his pocket and lights it. He puts the bottle on the bedside table)

Denise enters from the kitchen.

Ronald Eh mela diga gejt u x'kont qed taghmel hemm gew.

Denise Tista tghidli min ix-xjafek int ?

Ronald Jiena dak li baghat ghalik. Tista tghajjatli Ronnie.

Denise Nghajjatlek xi haga ohra jekk ma titlaqx minn hawn issa stess.

Ronald Inti daqxejn aggressiva lanqas biss nafek.

Denise U mintiex se tkun tafni. Inti sejjer jew se nghajjat ghall-ghajjut ?
(She goes to the door UL and opens it)

Ronald X'inhu ? (He gets up off the bed) Zomm wahda, zomm wahda. Inti mhux is-segretarja li baghtuk mill International Secretarial School.

Denise Kont se nghidlek min jien. Jiena noqghod hawn eh jiena n-neputija tal-Maggur.

Ronald Eh mela allura hadt xi zball. Jiddispjacini mela.

Denise Issa tista jekk joghgbok titlaq il barra ?

Ronald Iva mela le, arani sejjer.

He quickly goes out UL. Denise shuts the door and puts the catch down. She takes off her dressing-gown and gets into bed. She pulls the hanging switch above the bed and the main room lights go off. She lies down and puts her hand on the bedside lamp switch as David comes out of the bathroom and goes into the kitchen, taking the bag of groceries with him.

Denise sits up in bed, astonished. She switches on the main lights and gets out of bed. She puts on her dressing-gown, goes towards the kitchen.

The Major backs out of the cupboard.

Maggur Inti ibqa hemm.

Denise turns and sees him.

Denise Maggur

Maggur Ah ! (He quickly shuts the cupboard door) Hemm gurdien kien qed jattakani.

Denise Ah ! Thallihx johrog. Jiena immut jekk nara gurdien.

Maggur Tibzax mhux se nhalli xejn johrog min dik il-gwardarobba.

Denise U inti x'inti taghmel hawn ? Ma ghidtlekx biex titlaq.

Maggur Inma hallini nispjegalek l-ewwel. Ghax Elizabeth kriet dan il-flat illejla lil Humphrey Bennet. Ghalhekk tlaqtek wahdek fir-restaurant, ghalkemm jiena ma ridtx. Kont qed niprova nirranga l-affarijiet.

Denise Allura ghax m'ghidtlekx ?

Maggur Ma kienx hemm hin u issa izjed u izjed m'hemmhin. Se jkollok torqod fil-kamra tieghi fuq illejla. Tibzax jiena norqod mal-art.

Denise U ghaliex ? X'inhi l-problema ?

Maggur Ma tantx nista nispjegalek ghax daqxejn kumplikata.

Brenda in her dressing-gown, comes out of the bathroom.

Brenda Ah !

Maggur M'hemmhin. Missierek qieghed hawn.

Brenda Il-papa'.

Maggur Iva, qieghed fil-kcina.

Brenda Fejn hu David ?

Maggur (Pointing to the bathroom door) Hemm mhuhix. (He points to the kitchen door) Hemmhekk lanqas ... (Pointing to the cupboard) Hemm zgur li le. Nahseb li qieghed fuq. (He points to the door UL)

Brenda Ahjar insibu u navzah.

Maggur Biex ma jarax lil-missierek ?

Brenda Le biex ma jtihx xi daqqa ta ponn.

She runs off UL

Denise Dik x'inhi taghmel hawn ?

Maggur Issa nghidlek fuq. Isa gib hwejgek.

Denise Imma ma nafx fejn huma.

Maggur Jiena naf, ejja.

Denise Zomm wahda, it-toothbrush.

She runs into the bathroom. Humphrey enters UL.

Humphrey Ergajt inti !

Maggur Inti kont fil-keina !

Humphrey Le fuq, kont qed nipprova insib kitla. Li hemm fil-keina ma tahdimx. Lanqas temmen. M'hawnx ohra f'din id-dar.

Maggur Rajt lil xi hadd sakemm kont fuq.

Humphrey Da zgur. Elizabeth.

Denise comes out of the bathroom with her toothbrush.

Din min hi ?

Maggur Dik qieghdha mieghi.

Denise Jiena n-neputija tieghu.

Maggur Konna sejrjn.

Humphrey Eh iva. Jiena ukoll qed nistenna li xi hadd. Ma rajthiex hux ghal li jista jkun.

Maggur Le. Ejja Denise ha mmorru.

They go out UL. Humphrey goes into the bathroom and shuts the door. Jacqueline comes out of the cupboard and sits on the easy chair. Ronald looks in through the window, then quickly opens the front door and comes in.

Jacqueline Hello.

Ronald Ah ! Inti baghtuk l-agenzija ?

Jacqueline Iva hekk hu.

Ronald Tajjeb. Imma ili fit nistennik.

Jacqueline Qed niehu gost li xi hadd qed jaf biha. Kont bdejt nahseb li gejt fil-post il-hazin.

Ronald Le, le fil-post it-tajjeb gejt. (He sits on the rest of the armchair nearly on Jacqueline)

Elizabeth in her nightclothes, enters UL. She doesn't see them and goes towards the kitchen.

Ronald Mela issa ... eh x'ghidli li jismek bil-haqq ?

Elizabeth Ronald !

Ronald Hi Elizabeth !

He springs up from the armchair rest and rushes out UL.

Elizabeth RONALD ! Ejja hawn. Noqtlok jekk naqbdek.

She runs out after him.

Jacqueline looks resigned, and sits back on the armchair. David comes out of the kitchen, sees someone on the armchair and goes to kiss her head from the back assuming it is Brenda.

David Hawn qalbi.

The Major dashes in UL and goes towards the kitchen just as Brenda enters UL. She obviously sees him close to Jacqueline.

Brenda David x'inti taghmel ?

David Ghax kont se naqa.

Brenda Ma tistax toqghod hawn ghax hawn il-papa'.

David Missierek ! Ma jistax isibni hekk.

Maggur Da zgur li le. Mur ilbes.

David Nilbes hawn ?

Maggur Mur fil-gwardarobba. U anki inti idhol hemm gew Brenda.

Brenda Jiena ukoll ? U l-hwejjeg tieghi fejn huma ?

Maggur Issa ingibhomlok jiena. Isa idhlu. (They are both ushered into the cupboard)

The Major shuts the door and runs out UL.

Humphrey comes out of the bathroom and sees Jacqueline in the armchair.

Humphrey Ah, nahseb li inti Jacqueline hux. Veru li ma gharaftekx ta daqs kemm tbiddilt (He sits on the armchair rest)

Jacqueline Eh iva ?

Humphrey Iva mhux inti stess ghidtli.

The Major runs in UL followed by Denise.

Maggur M'hemmx hin x'nitilfu Brenda qieghdha hawn.

Humphrey Brenda hawn ? Fejn hi ? (He leaps off the armchair)

Maggur U anki David.

Jacqueline Brenda min hi ? Il-mara tieghek ?

Denise Aghar min hekk. It-tifla tieghu.

Maggur (To Humphrey) Isa igri fil-kamra tal-banju. Jiena ingiblek l-hwejjeg.

Humphrey dashes into the bathroom. Ronald runs in UL.

Ronald Se toqtolni.

He runs off into the kitchen.

Maggur (To Jacqueline) Isa, inti taht is-sodda. (To Denise) U inti gos-sodda.

Denise U inti ?

Maggur Issa nara. (He sits on the bed)

Elizabeth, brandishing a stick, enters UL.

Elizabeth Fejn hu dak ? Aqta kemm se ntih. (She sees the Major) X'inti taghmel fuq is-sodda ta Humphrey ?

Maggur Xejn, xejn, qed nistrieh daqxajn qabel ma mmur norqod. (Denise hides under the sheets)

Elizabeth Minn hemm fis-sodda hdejk Alan ?

Maggur Hadd, hadd.

Elizabeth pulls back the sheets, and Denise sits up.

Elizabeth X'inti taghmel fis-sodda ma zijuk ?

Denise Dan mhux iz-ziju.

Maggur Le, ahna t-tnejn hbieb, dak kollox.

Denise Iva, hbieb sew. Ahna mizzewwgin.

Elizabeth } (Together) X'inhu ?
Maggur }

Elizabeth (To the Major) Ghaliex ma ghidtlieq qabel ?

Maggur Ma kontx naf qabel, ghalhekk ma ghidtlekx.

Elizabeth Qabel xiex ? Meta izzewwigtu ?

Maggur Meta izzewwigna ?

Denise Illum. Imma konna se nzommuha sigriet.

There is a loud sneeze from Jacqueline under the bed.

Elizabeth Dik x'kienet ?

Maggur Eh dak sigriet iehor.

Elizabeth Hemm xi hadd taht is-sodda. Min hemm johrog issa.

Jacqueline appears from under the bed.

Xi mara ohra tieghek ?

Pushes Robert to Center Stage.

Maggur Le, dik mhux l-gharusa, dik il-bridesmaid.

Elizabeth Eh iva din l-istess wahda li Ronald ghoddu poggha fuqha.

Maggur Iva miskina, rat hafna illejla.

Elizabeth X'kont qed taghmlu inti u zewgi fuq dik il-pultruna.

Jacqueline Ghax kien se jiddettali ittra.

Elizabeth Allura poggha fuqek.

Maggur Taf inti kultant iz-zwieg idahhlulek certu idejat frasek.

Elizabeth Ma ghandux bzonn iz-zwieg Ronald biex jidhlulu certu idejat frasu. Imma insomma din x'inhi taghmel hawn ?

Maggur Ghax, ma kellix fejn tmur u allura qaghdet maghna waqt il-honeymoon.

Elizabeth F'dan il-flat ? Imma jien krejtu lil Humphrey hawnhekk.

Humphrey enters from the bathroom.

Humphrey Ghajjattuli ?

Elizabeth Tista tghidli x'inhuma jaghmlu hawn dawn it-tfajliet ?

Humphrey Nichad kollox. Qatt ma rajthom dawn.

Maggur Nahseb li ghadek ma ltqajtx ma marti.

Humphrey Da zgur li ltqajt ma Elizabeth.

Maggur Le, le mhux Elizabeth. Din.

Humphrey Jigifieri li diga tlaqt lil Elizabeth.

Maggur Le, hi telqet lili.

Elizabeth Ahna separati.

Humphrey Ma tantx dam iz-zwieg. Jiddispjacini Smythe.

Elizabeth Smythe ? Dak zewgi.

Humphrey Ridt tghid l-ex zewgek.

Elizabeth U dalwaqt hekk ikun la naqbd. Hemm xi wahda jisimha Brenda, spiccat tqila minhabba fih.

Humphrey X'inh ?! (To the Major) Mela allura mhux David kien imma inti. Dan b'liema dritt ghamiltiha hekk lit-tifla tieghi.

Denise X'ghamiltiha lit-tifla tieghu ?

Maggur Insomma il-bicca daqxejn imhawwda, imma kien kollu zball.

Humphrey U^{hekk} mhux jaqbillek tghid. Imissek tisthi xih bhalek.

Denise Veru imissek tisthi. Tista tikkonsidra liz-zwieg taghna spicca.

Maggur Imma mintiex tifhem. Jiena lanqas biss nafha lil Brenda. U nista nipprovaha din. (He goes to the cupboard and opens the door) Brenda, ohrog minn hemm u ghid lil missierek li inti m'intiex tqila.

Brenda comes out of the cupboard.

Brenda Papa'. x'inti taghmel hawn ?

Elizabeth Missierek kera dan il-flat min ghandi.

Humphrey Issa hallik min dan, x'kont qed taghmel fil-gwardarobba ?

Brenda (Pointing to the Major) Kont qed nistennieh biex itini l-hwejjeg.

Humphrey Mela allura veru li dan ghamlek tqila. Kont fil-gwardarobba mieghu (He points to the Major)

Brenda Le, mhux hu, David.

David comes out of the cupboard.

Humphrey Inti kont fil-gwardarobba ma dan ukoll ?

David Hello, Mr. Bennett.

Jacqueline Issa Mr. Bennett mhux ahjar tispjegali x'inhu jigri.

Humphrey X'jigifieri x'inhu jigri ? Mhux inti cempiltli u ghidtli li gejja hawnhekk biex tarani.

Jacqueline Jien ? Inti cempilt u ghidt li trid segretarja.

Maggur Brenda, issa nahseb ahjar tghid lil papa' il-verita. Li jien mhux il-missier tat-tarbija tieghek.

Brenda Da zgur li le.

Denise (Pleased) Veru Alan ?

Humphrey Allura min hu l-missier ?

Maggur (Pointing to David) Dan hu.

David Brenda, ghaliex m'ghidtlieq ?

Brenda Ghaliex miniex tqila.

Humphrey Nahseb li se tizzewwigha hux hekk ?

David Kieku ghandi job iva nizzewwigha.

Humphrey U ma tantx se jkollok job malajr taf.

Maggur Humphrey, il-mara tieghek taf biha din il-habiba ?

Brenda Iva, l-mama' tghidx kemm se tieghu gost tiltaqa maghha.

Humphrey Siehbi David, skuzani tan-nuqqas ta ftehim li kellna dalghodu. Tista tghid li ergajt ghandek l-istess job minn issa stess.

David Grazzi papa'.

Humphrey winces.

Maggur Prosit, nann !

Humphrey goes to speak, thinks better of it.

Elizabeth Ma nistax nifhem kif dawn in-nies kollha x'qed jaghmlu fil-flat tieghi.

David Imma hawn mhux tieghek. Tista tahseb li inti xi Madre Superjura imma kull ma int huwa is-seftura.

Elizabeth X'inhu ?

Maggur Nahseb li hemm xi zball zghir.

David Le m'hemmx. Inti ghidtli

Maggur Iva jiena ghidtlek biex toqghod attent u ma tinqabadx ma xi mara ta haddiehor. Tiftakar ghamiltlek favur ?

David Iva, issa qed niftakar.

Elizabeth Imma jiena mhux qed nifhem (To the Major) Imma dawn in-nies x'inhuma jaghmlu hawnhekk ?

Maggur Konna qeghdin niccelebraw it-tieg tieghi. Ghalhekk kien hawn Ronald ukoll.

Elizabeth Ronnie

Ronald comes out of the kitchen.

Ronald Ghajjatli qalbi.

Elizabeth Tista tghidli x'inti taghmel hawnhekk ?

Ronald Jiena mhux se nghid xejn qabel ma nitkellem ma avukat.

Humphrey Jekk trid il-parir ta avukat ghid li din hija Calumniae Litium jew Incognita Cause.

- Elizabeth U min hi din Brenda li spiccat tqila minhabba fik ?
- Humphrey X'inhu ?! Inti kont ?
- Brenda Imma papa' jiena miniex tqila.
- Humphrey U mnalla ghax b'rasu jdur li kieku.
- Ronald Allura x'inhhi din ic-celebrazzjoni ta Alan ?
- Maggur Iva ghax ghamilna daqxejn ta party (Indicating Denise) Din marti.
- Ronald Martek ? Imma jiena hsibt li dik in-neputija.
- Maggur Da zgur li le. X'tip ta ziju jien li kieku.
- Denise (To Elizabeth) U jiena hsibt li inti mizzewwgha lil dak (She points to David)
- Elizabeth Il-plumber ?
- David X'plumber plumber. Jien lanqas biss naf xejn fuq plumbing.
- Elizabeth Eh mela ghalhekk kecciek Alan.
- Brenda David, ma kontx naf li inti plumber ukoll.
- David Nemminx kelma li tghid dik. Dik keccewgha anki mill-kunvent.
- Elizabeth X'inhu ?
- David (Pointing to the Major) Dak hekk qalli. Qalli li inti toqghod fil-kamra ta fuq nett.
- Humphrey (To Elizabeth) U lili qalli li inti mizzewwgha lilu u li hu kien is-sur Smythe.
- Ronald Imma jiena Smythe. Lili qalli li martu hija n-neputija.
- Denise (To Philip) U lili qalli li inti hrabt ma martu.
- Elizabeth Le, le hu qal li dan il-plumber.
- Brenda U qal lil kulhadd li jiena tqila.

- Maggur Milli jidher ghidt hafna affarijiet jien illum.
- Jacqueline Lili ma qalli xejn.
- Elizabeth Alan, irrid spjegazzjoni. X'inhu jigri fid-dar tiegħi ?
- Maggur Insomma ...
- Ronald Din mhux darek.
- Elizabeth X'inhu ?
- Ronald Ma tiffakarx it-testment ta missierek ? Jekk Alan jerga jizzewweg id-dar tigi tiegħu.
- Maggur Jiena hsibt li joghbodni lili.
- Ronald Mhux daqskemm joghbod lili imma.
- Maggur Elizabeth, din veru ?
- Elizabeth Iva. Imma mhux suppost li kont taf qabel ma tizzewweg.
- Maggur Eh hekk tajjeb hafna.
- Denise Nahseb li kuntent li izzewwigna mela eh ?
- Maggur Nahseb li ideja tajba kienet.
- Elizabeth Ronald, issa ahna spiccajna bla dar. X'se naghmlu ?
- Maggur Issa nikrilkom hawnhekk. Ghandi habta kif nikri l-postijiet jien.
- Elizabeth Imma m'ghandniex flus.
- Ronald Imma jiena ghandi. Laghabt tlett mitt lira fuq kelb u erbaht. Hawnhekk ghandi cheque ta hmistax il-elf lira kollha ghalina qalbi. (He takes the cheque out of his pocket)
- Elizabeth Imma minn fejn ghibt it-tlett mitt lira ?
- Ronald Minn gol but ta Alan. Self zghir habib.
- Maggur Il-flus tal-kera. Dawk kienu l-flus tal-kera ta Humphrey.