

**I'LL BE SEEING YOU**

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**A Ten-Minute Play  
by  
Donald Loftus**

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## I'LL BE SEEING YOU

### Cast of Characters

**JENNY: AGE: 18** A 1940's waitress at the Trolley Diner in a small American town. SHE is sweet, kind and flirtatious. Lots of boys are interested in her, but SHE is devoted to JOEY. SHE tries to stay strong, but SHE is very worried about JOEY, as HE is about to go off to war for the first time.

**JOEY: AGE: 18** A brand new U.S. Army recruit at the beginning of the U.S. involvement in World War II. HE is about to ship off to Europe for the first time. HE is proud to serve his country and excited about his upcoming adventure, but HE is also looking for some reassurances from JENNY, the girl HE loves. HE wants to make certain that SHE is going to wait for him to return.

**SETTING:** The Trolley Diner in a small American town. There is a lunch counter with stools and a jukebox.

**AT RISE:** *JENNY, wearing an apron and a waitress uniform, is behind the counter. JOEY, wearing a U.S. Army uniform, is seated at the counter. Rosemary Clooney's, "I'LL BE SEEING YOU" is heard coming from the jukebox.*

**TIME:** November 15, 1943 10 AM

**JENNY**

Wheat, white or rye?

**JOEY**

Don't change the subject, Jenny!

**JENNY**

I'm not, Joey! Your choice of toast... that is the subject!

**JOEY**

Come on! What will it be?

**JENNY**

That's what I am trying to determine here.

**JOEY**

So, what then?

**JENNY**

Exactly! What? Wheat, white or rye?

**JOEY**

No, I mean *who* will it be?

**JENNY**

Who???

**JOEY**

Yes, who? Bob Peters...that panty-waisted, sissy boy with the bad skin and breath to match... or me?

**JENNY**

When you put it that way...who could resist Bob Peters?

**JOEY**

*(Whining)*

JENNY!

**JENNY**

*(Imitating HIM)*

JOEY!

**JOEY**

Time is running out. I need to know your answer.

**JENNY**

Ugh! Where's the fire? You don't ship off for three days!

**JOEY**

Just tell me straight!

**JENNY**

So much pressure!

**JOEY**

This can't be this hard! Is it gonna be Peters or me?

**JENNY**

Eenie, meenie, miney, moe... Oops! I need to fill the sugar bowls.

*(SHE begins to fill the sugar bowls)*

**JOEY**

And I need an answer! I'm sure Peters does too, so he can get on with his plans, as pathetic as those plans may be.

**JENNY**

You think you're the only two fish in the sea?

**JOEY**

What!?! What are you sayin' Jenny?

**JENNY**

How do you know I don't have a whole troupe of Army recruits asking for me to wait for them?

**JOEY**

Jeepers! Do you!?!

**JENNY**

And there are the other wings of the Armed Forces too, you know.

**JOEY**

How do you mean?

**JENNY**

The Navy...The Air Force... The Marines...

**JOEY**

The Marines!?!

**JENNY**

Yeah! You've heard of them, right?

*(JENNY refills the salt and pepper shakers)*

**JOEY**

Well do you!?!

**JENNY**

Do I what?

*(SHE bats her eyelashes at him teasingly)*

**JOEY**

Do you have a whole troupe of these other guys?

**JENNY**

You are particularly cute when you get all worked up!

**JOEY**

Am I competing with more than just Peters?

**JENNY**

*(Angrily)*

Well of course you are not!

**JOEY**

Well geez...

**JENNY**

What do you take me for anyway!

**JOEY**

Don't get all sore! I just thought for a minute...

**JENNY**

Don't get sore!?!?! That's the problem with you boys!

**JOEY**

What is?

**JENNY**

You're always thinking.

**JOEY**

Well sure but...

**JENNY**

Well, Joey, I have been thinking too!

**JOEY**

You have?

**JENNY**

Well sure I have!

**JOEY**

About what?

**JENNY**

I've been thinking about you and all those fascinating European fräuleins over there with their high cheek bones and their dangling cigarettes and sultry bar room songs.

**JOEY**

No, the fräuleins are in Germany. I'm going to be in somewhere called Palermo.

**JENNY**

That's not the point!

**JOEY**

Aww, Baby, you shouldn't give them a second thought.

**JENNY**

Ha! How can I not!?!

**JOEY**

You are the only one I care for.

**JENNY**

Oh, sure! You say that sitting here...

**JOEY**

No, I could never...

**JENNY**

But once you get over there and see what's available...

**JOEY**

No really...

**JENNY**

I see how you stare at the movie screen when that Dietrich woman is up there!

*(JENNY begins to cry)*

What are we girls back here supposed to do while you are over there... cavorting?

**JOEY**

Cavorting!?! No, there will be no cavorting..

**JENNY**

What are we supposed to think?

**JOEY**

Oh, please don't cry Jenny...

**JENNY**

*(Shooing him away)*

Leave me be!

**JOEY**

Oh, you know I hate to see you cry.

**JENNY**

I can't help it.

**JOEY**

But at least you are crying for me and not that Peters guy.

**JENNY**

Joey, tell me it's going to be all right.

**JOEY**

Well, sure it is, Baby Doll.

**JENNY**

Tell me you're going to come home to me, okay?

**JOEY**

Of course, I am.

**JENNY**

Tell me you are going to come home to me in one piece..

**JOEY**

I will...I swear...

**JENNY**

And without an Ingrid or a Helga hanging off your arm.

**JOEY**

Scout's honor, Jenny. I will. And as for Helga, she doesn't stand a chance with me...not with you waiting here for me.

**JENNY**

Are you sure?

**JOEY**

Abso-positively! You've gotta believe me!

**JENNY**

I do believe you Joey.

**JOEY**

And you've gotta trust me!

**JENNY**

I do trust you.

**JOEY**

And when I come home, we'll get married...

**JENNY**

Yes?

**JOEY**

And I'll get a job...

**JENNY**

You should probably get the job first...

**JOEY**

Oh, all right, job first and then marriage.

**JENNY**

And we'll start a family, right?

**JOEY**

Well sure...

**JENNY**

We'll have children?

**JOEY**

Sure! We'll have dozens of them.

**JENNY**

Oh my!

**JOEY**

And we'll get a house.



**JENNY**

Nothing too fancy...but cozy.

**JOEY**

And we'll invite your folks over on Sundays.

**JENNY**

And I'll make curtains for the windows...

**JOEY**

I'll build a white picket fence all around the yard...

**JENNY**

I'll plant rose bushes... lots and lots of rose bushes.

**JOEY**

And we'll have a mailbox with our name on it.

**JENNY**

Yeah?

**JOEY**

"The Woods Family" it will say in big red letters.

**JENNY**

Oh yes!!!

**JOEY**

And at Christmastime, I'll make plywood cutouts of Santa Claus and his reindeer for the front lawn...with the jigsaw the kids bought me for Father's Day.

**JENNY**

Oh, that would be grand!

**JOEY**

We'll light the whole street with our Christmas display. People will come from miles around to see it!

**JENNY**

And we'll have a big star on our door so that the world never forgets how brave you were when you went off to war.

**JOEY**

Yeah? You think I'm brave?

**JENNY**

Well, of course I do! And as sad as I am to see you go...that's how proud I am of my man in uniform. My hero!

**JOEY**

I'm glad to hear you say that Jenny. I'm glad your proud of me.

**JENNY**

Well, of course I am.

*(After a beat)*

And Joey, when we do all this...when we have the home and the kids and the mailbox, you must promise that you will never ever leave me again.

**JOEY**

But why would...

**JENNY**

I know you have no choice today...but you have to promise... once you come back from this war... from then on... we will always be together, no matter what.

**JOEY**

Well of course, Honey. Of course, we will always be together. I won't ever leave you again. Ever.

**JENNY**

I love you Joey Wood.

**JOEY**

I love you too Jenny Mae.

*(Rosemary Clooney's "I'LL BE SEEING YOU" is heard as the lights fall)*

**(BLACKOUT)**

**(END OF PLAY)**