

**ACT ONE**  
**SCENE 7**

HART'S OFFICE.

BOB ENRIGHT celebrates his promotion with HART and the other men.

HART

To Bob!

*(VIOLET enters.)*

VIOLET

You gave that promotion to Bob Enright instead of me?

*(The men start to exit.)*

I trained him for godsake!

HART

Now, Violet, don't fly off the handle. The company feels—

VIOLET

The company, *bullshit!* It's your decision. Just tell me why!

HART

He's got a family to support.

VIOLET

And I don't?

HART

My hands are tied. Clients prefer to deal with a male in that position.

VIOLET

Oh, so it's the old boy's club.

HART

Hey, I'm still the boss here,

*(as he sits in his chair)*

I'm not going to sit here and take this!

*(The chair jerks back again, annoying him.)*

*He presses the intercom button.)*

Doralee, get in here, dammit! I told you six weeks ago to get this chair fixed! Violet, get back to work.

VIOLET

I'm going, but before I do, I have one more thing to say. Don't you ever refer to me as your 'girl' again. I am no girl. I am a woman. W-O-M-Y-N! I am not your wife, your mother—

*(DORALEE comes in.)*

**(VIOLET)**

*(pointing at DORALEE)*

Or even your mistress.

**DORALEE**

What?!

**VIOLET**

I am your employee and I expect to be treated equally, with a little dignity and a little respect!

**DORALEE**

What do you mean, mistress?

**VIOLET**

Oh, come off it, Doralee. Everyone knows you and Mr. Hart are having an affair.

**DORALEE**

An affair! Who's been saying that?

**VIOLET**

Who's been saying that? HE has.

*(VIOLET stalks out as HART backs away from a furious DORALEE.)*

**DORALEE**

WHAT!

**HART**

Now, don't get upset.

**DORALEE**

You've been telling everyone I'm sleeping with you! That explains why everyone's been treating me like some dime store floozy! They all think I'm banging the boss!

**HART**

Now wait a minute. I can explain.

**DORALEE**

And you love it, don't you. It gives you some sort of cheap thrill, like knocking over pencils and picking up papers.

**HART**

You're getting all excited.

**DORALEE**

I've put up with your grabbing and chasing me around the desk cause I need this job, but this is the last straw! I've got a gun out there in my purse and up to now I've been forgiving and forgetting cause that's the way I was brought up but I swear, if you say another word about me, I'll get that gun of mine