

IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT
(Columbia, 1934)

5 page transcript
For educational
purposes only

Fade In

EXT. MIAMI BEACH HARBOR - DAY
A docked yacht.

EXT. MAIN DECK OF THE YACHT - DAY
ALEXANDER ANDREWS, 50's, in yachting clothes, paces as he
discusses his concerns with the CAPTAIN, 50's.

ANDREWS

A hunger strike. Eh? How long has
this been going on?

CAPTAIN

She hasn't had a thing yesterday or
today.

ANDREWS

Sending her meals up to her
regularly?

CAPTAIN

Yes, Sir.

ANDREWS

Why don't you jam it down her
throat?

CAPTAIN

Well, it's not as simple as all
that, Mr. Andrews.

ANDREWS

Aw-- I'll talk to her myself. Have
some food brought up to her.

CAPTAIN

Yes, Sir.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE YACHT BEDROOM
THREE STEWARDS listen at the door.

ELLIE (O.S.)
I'm not going to eat a thing until
you let me off this boat.

INT. YACHT BEDROOM
ELLIE ANDREWS, 20's, in an elegant long robe, turns away
from her father.

ANDREWS
Aw. Come now. You know I'll
have my way.

ELLIE
Not this time, you won't. I'm
already married to him.

ANDREWS
But you're never going to live
under the same roof with him.
Now, I'll see to that.

ELLIE
Can't you get it through your
head that King and I are married.
Definitely, legally, actually
married. It's over. It's
finished. There's not a thing you
can do about it. I'm over 21 and
so is he.

ANDREWS
Would it interest you to know
that while you've been onboard,
I've been making arrangements to
have your marriage annulled?

ELLIE
Annulled. I'll have something to
say about that. And so will
King.

ANDREWS
I expect him to.

A KNOCK at the door. Andrews opens the door. Two of the stewards enter with trays of food.

ANDREWS

Ah. The vittles. Come in.
Come in.

ELLIE

(to the stewards)
I thought I told you not to bring
any food in here.

ANDREWS

Now, wait a minute. This isn't
for you.

(to the stewards)
Put it down right here.

The stewards obey and back out of the room. Andrews sits down and smells the food. He eats as they talk.

ELLIE

Smart, aren't you?
So subtle.

ANDREWS

Strategy, my dear.

ELLIE

I suppose it was strategy sending
those gorillas down to drag me
away from the justice of the
peace. Your idea of strategy is
to use a lead pipe.

ANDREWS

I've won a lot of arguments with
a lead pipe.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE YACHT BEDROOM
The three stewards listen at the door.

ELLIE (O.S.)

Outside of the fact that you
don't like him, you haven't got a
thing against him.

BACK TO SCENE

ANDREWS

He's a fake, Ellie.

ELLIE

He's one of the best fliers in
the country.

ANDREWS

He's no good and you know it.
You only married him, because I
told you not to.

ELLIE

You've been telling me what *not*
to do ever since I can remember.

ANDREWS

That's because you've always been
a stubborn idiot.

ELLIE

I come from a long line of
stubborn idiots.

ANDREWS

Well, don't shout so. You may
work up an appetite.

ELLIE

I'll shout if I want to. I'll
scream if I want to.

ANDREWS

Alright. Scream.

ELLIE

If you don't let me off this
boat, I'll break every piece of
furniture in this room.

Andrews stands and points his meat-filled fork at Ellie.

ANDREWS

Have a nice piece of juicy
steak. You don't have to eat
it. Just smell it. It's a
poem.

In one strong swoop, Ellie flings the fork from her
father's hand to the other side of the room. Without
skipping a beat, she knocks the entire tray of food
crashing to the floor.

SLAP! Across Ellie's cheek.

Andrews pulls back, horrified by what he's done.

Ellie runs from the room.

ANDREWS

Ellie!

EXT. MAIN DECK OF THE YACHT - DAY

ANDREWS (O.S.)

Ellie! Ellie!

Ellie bursts onto the deck, runs to the side of the ship,
and dives into the water.