

A Suggested Rewrite of a Major Movie

by Phillip W. Weiss

In a scene from the movie *Four Christmases*, Brad, played by Vince Vaughn tells Kate, played by Reese Witherspoon who couldn't look more appealing, that he does not want to get married. Brad says that because he wants to avoid going through the trauma of a failed marriage such as his father had. Well, that did not go well for Brad. He gave the brush off to a woman who was of the highest quality female, a woman who could meet another man at the drop of the hat, a woman who needs him a thousand-times less than he needs her, a woman who at the snap of her finger or a quick telephone call could have another man catering to her every need, including sexual needs. Anyway, Brad comes to his senses and in some contrived dialogue indicates to Kate that he wants to get married, and the next scene Kate is lying in a hospital bed with a new baby and with Brad at her side.

In real life, after his brush off Kate, she would have told Brad to get lost, get out and go away. She would have already been in contact with other men and would have told Brad that she can't trust him or given him some other lame and shallow reason for why she can't see him anymore. She may have told Brad that she has to think about things, that she is making other plans, or that she has to take care of her sick mother. Then next scene would be Brad walking down the street running into Kate who is with another man. The meeting would be

awkward, old feelings would stir, and Kate and Brad would stare at each other while the other man stands there becoming upset and enraged. Then Brad notices that Kate is wearing a huge diamond studded engagement ring, and the moment passes. He congratulates Kate and her fiancé on their upcoming marriage, they part, and Brad goes into a nearby bar where he gets drunk, meets a nice young lady who happens to be a prostitute, takes the whore to a hotel where he passes out and gets rolled while Kate tells her fiancé that she wants to fuck and get pregnant and get married as soon as possible and that he better not say no, and means it.

Five years later, Brad again runs into Kate who is accompanied by two children. Kate has gained thirty-five pounds, and her natural beauty is already fading. The two kids are demanding. Brad is still single. He tells Kate that he is engaged to be married. Now he is ready for marriage. Kate congratulates Brad, they go their separate ways, and that's the way the movie ends. Life goes on and time brings change. Brad wonders what he ever saw in Kate and Kate wonders why she ever wasted her time with a loser like Brad.