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## GEORGE SEES STARS

George is the manager of the Happy Holiday Hotel. He is very excited because a famous TV star is going to stay in his hotel. But poor George makes a terrible mistake . . .

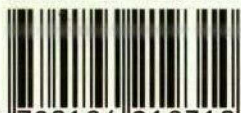
*Cover illustration by Simon Gurr*

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**1** Storylines

GEORGE SEES STARS



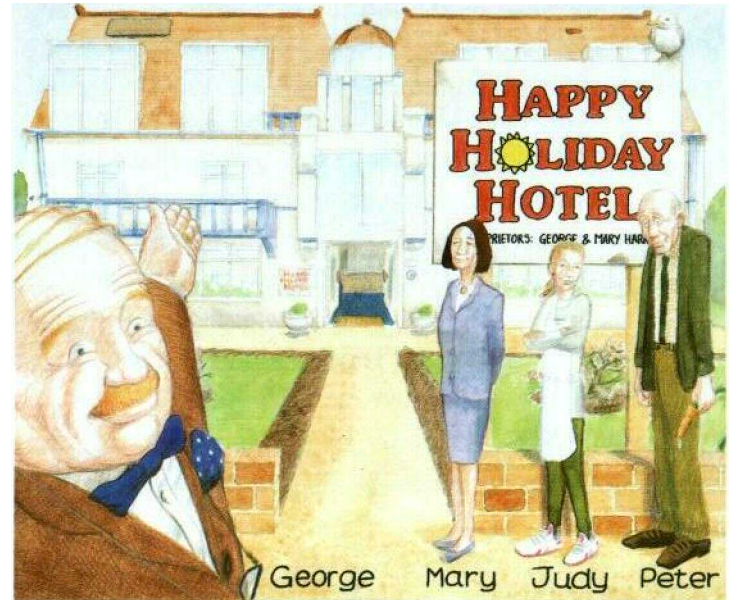
# George Sees Stars

Dave Couper

Storylines **1**

# George Sees Stars

The Happy Holiday Hotel is a small English hotel near the sea. These people work there:



**George** the hotel manager

**Mary** she helps George  
(*George and Mary are married.*)

**Judy** the cook

**Peter** an old man. He helps outside in the garden  
and carries the bags in the hotel.

## Scene 1 The telephone call

*(In the Happy Holiday Hotel. It is three o'clock. George is talking to Mary.)*

*(The telephone rings.)*

**George** Hello? Happy Holiday Hotel. George Harris here ... Yes, I *am* the manager... Tony who? Oh, Tony Madoc the TV star. You're Tony Madoc's secretary. I see ... Yes, that's fine ... You want a large room for Tony and he wants to see the sea. Right? Yes, yes, I know - Tony's very important. A TV star. Yes ... Fish, you say? Yes, that's easy. Right, then. Today ... Tony's coming today. Fine ... Goodbye, and thank you!



*(George puts down the telephone.)*

**George** Today ... Tony's coming today! Mary, listen! I've got good news!

**Mary** Don't shout George. What is it?

**George** Tony Madoc - you know, the television star - is coming to our hotel this afternoon!

**Mary** Who?

**George** Tony Madoc. He's famous! He's coming here at five o'clock today!

**Mary** He's a TV star, you say? Is he in *Neighbours*? I don't watch TV very much.

**George** *Neighbours*! Probably. He's going to have our best room and our best food. I'm going to look at the room now.

**Mary** Fine, George, but I'm busy. I'm going to the supermarket.

**George** Don't be silly, Mary. You can't go to the shops now. He is a famous man. Do you understand? An important person.

**Mary** Tony Madoc? I don't know him. Is he very rich?

**George** I don't know, Mary. But he's very important. I know that.

**Mary** Yes ... Well... I'm going to the shops now. See you later, George.

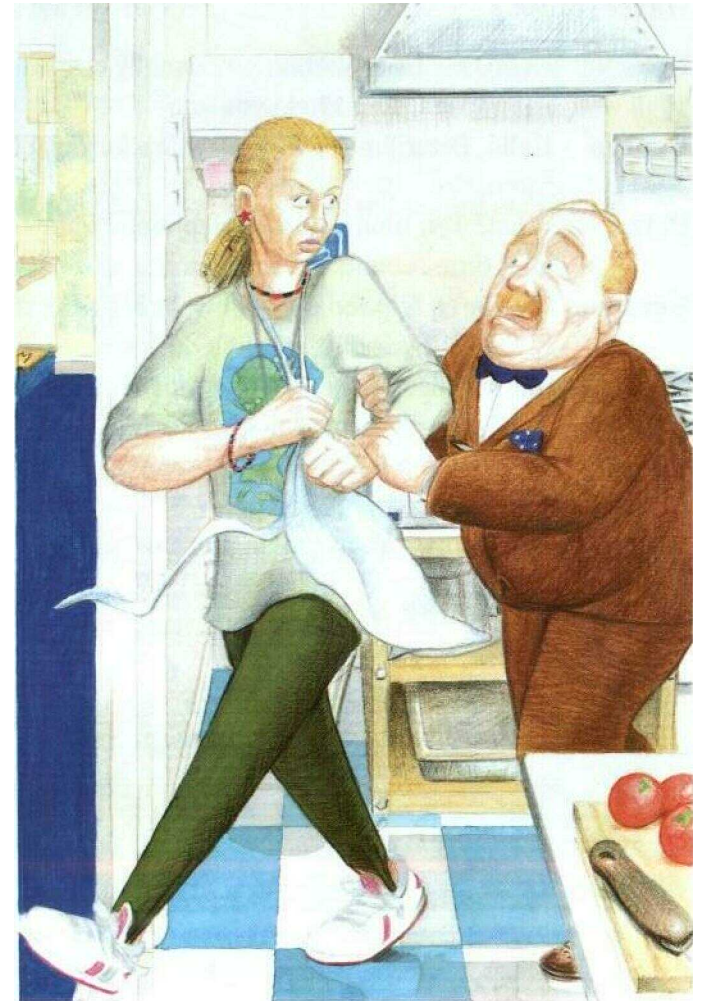
**George** But, Mary ... stop!

## Scene 2 Fish for dinner

*(In the kitchen.)*

- George** Good morning, Judy! We've got good news. Tony Madoc is coming today. The famous TV star.
- Judy** Tony who? I don't think I know the name . . . I don't like TV. I like reading. Tony Madoc . . . ?
- George** That's right, Tony Madoc. Now what have you got for dinner? Have you got any fish? He likes fish, his secretary says.
- Judy** No, I haven't got any fish today, Mr Harris. Sorry. I've got some chicken.
- George** No. He wants fish. Can you buy some?
- Judy** Oh no, Mr Harris! I never buy fish on Thursdays. I always buy chicken.
- George** Well, his secretary says fish, not chicken. Right?
- Judy** Don't shout at me. I don't like it. I'm leaving. I'm not going to buy anything. I'm going home.
- George** No Judy, please . . . stop! I'm sorry Judy. You're a good cook, Judy, a beautiful cook. Please don't leave now. Mr Madoc is coming here today and he wants fish. Please, please, please Judy, go and buy some nice fish.

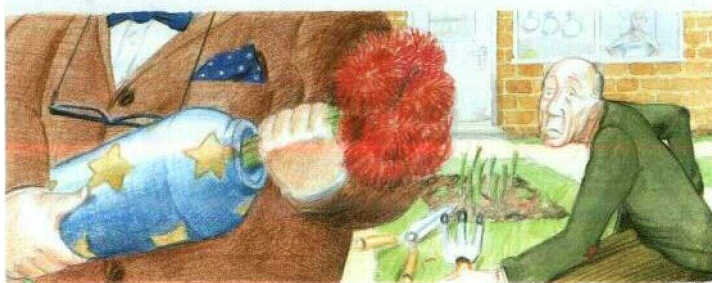
- Judy** No. It's chicken on Thursdays. Right?
- George** Oh, OK Judy ... chicken.



### Scene 3 Flowers

*(In the garden.)*

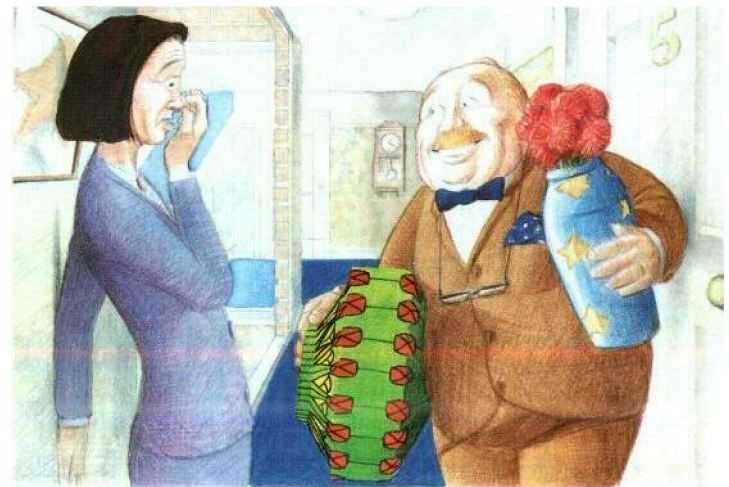
- Peter** Hello, Mr Harris. You don't usually come into the garden. Can I help you?
- George** Hello, Peter. I need some flowers for our best room.
- Peter** What? Ten hours on the telephone? That's a long time ... and expensive too!
- George** No, Peter. Not ten hours! I want SOME FLOWERS for our best ROOM.
- Peter** OK, OK. Don't shout, Mr Harris. I can hear you. Flowers. I've got lots of flowers.
- George** Thanks, Peter. They're for an important TV star. He's coming here today.
- Peter** What's that? Your green car?
- George** No, Peter. No. A TV STAR, HERE TODAY!
- Peter** OK, Mr Harris. Don't shout, don't shout. I can hear you.



### Scene 4 The new light for Tony's room

*(In the corridor.)*

- George** Mary, can you help me? Take these flowers to Tony's room, please. I've got this new light for the room. Do you like it?
- (The new light is green. It has yellow and red flowers on it.)*
- Mary** Oh, George! It's horrible. You can't put that in his room!
- George** Yes, I can. I think it's beautiful. I like it and I'm going to put it up now. Can you help me?
- Mary** Oh, all right. Give me the flowers.



*(In the room.)*

**George** Hold the ladder, Mary. I'm going to put the light up. Careful, now!

**Mary** I want a cup of coffee.

**George** Please, Mary. Not now. Hold the ladder for me ... Careful! There!

**Mary** Ouch! You're standing on my hand.

**George** Hold the ladder, Mary. Don't go, Mary...!  
Ah! Help!

*(He falls off the ladder.)*



**George** Ooh ... my head!

## Scene 5 An old woman arrives

*(It is five o'clock. A woman is getting out of a taxi.)*

**Woman** Good afternoon! Are you the manager?

**George** Er, no ... yes! Yes, I am.

**Woman** Have you got a room here for me?

**George** A room? Oh no. I'm afraid we're full. We're very busy this year.

**Woman** What! No rooms. Busy? But I think my ...

**George** That's right, no rooms. We've got important people in the hotel today. But er ... what's your name?

**Woman** Margaret Adams. And I'm tired, too.

**George** Oh, all right. Come in.

*(In the hotel again.)*

**George** Yes, you can have a room for one or two nights. But it's small and you can't see the sea.

**Woman** But I want to see the sea. Have you got any other rooms?

**George** I don't know ... No. There isn't another room. We're very busy, you see.

**Woman** And I'm very tired. The small room's OK. Why are you busy?

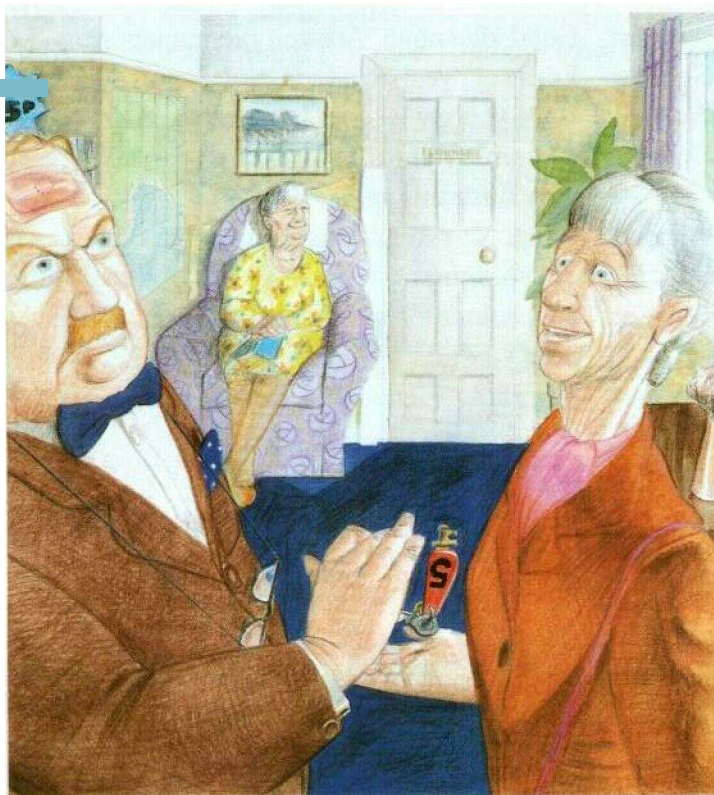
**George** A famous TV star is coming.

**Woman** Oh, very interesting. Do you like TV?

**George** No ... er ... yes! Very much.

**Woman** Yes, I do too. I like films best.

*(She laughs.)*



**George** Here's your key. Your room is number 5.

**Woman** Thank you. I'm going up to my room now.  
Please bring my bag - it's outside, in the street.

*(The woman goes out.)*

**George** Her bag? I haven't got time. I can't take her bag to her room.

*(George carries the woman's bag into the hotel and quickly puts it in a cupboard. Mary comes in. She is drinking coffee.)*

**Mary** Who's that woman, George?

**George** That's ... er ... Miss Adams. She's in room 5.

**Mary** Oh, that's a horrible room. It's very small and you can't see the sea.

**George** That's right. But it is quiet. It's fine for her.  
She's only going to stay for one or two nights.  
Do you like the new light in the big room?  
It's nice, I think ... very nice.

**Mary** It's horrible, George. Red and yellow flowers!  
Ugh! And it's very big. Is it safe?

**George** Safe? Yes, oh yes, it's safe. Ha, ha!

## Scene 6 The TV star

*(It is half past five. A young man is coming into the hotel carrying a small bag. He is wearing jeans.)*

**George** Oh, hello, hello. Welcome!

**Young man** Hello.

**George** Thank you, thank you, thank you.

*(He takes the man's hand.)*



**Young man** That's OK... er, why?

**George** You've got the big room, and there's a new light in there for you too - a beautiful new light.

**Young man** Very nice. Thank you very much. But I don't understand.

**George** Well, you're famous. You're a TV star.

**Young man** Me? Famous? A TV star?

*(He laughs.)*

**George** And here's the key to your room. I can take your bag.

**Young man** Oh, thank you, but it's not heavy. I can carry it. And I'm not famous.

**George** Yes, you are.

**Young man** But I'm not.

**George** Ah, I see ... you're not famous. You don't want any TV cameras here. Ha, ha! Yes, I understand.

**Young man** You understand?

**George** Yes. You want a quiet holiday. You're not famous. Ha, ha! All right, I understand.

**Young man** Good. Can I see the sea from my room?

**George** Oh, yes, it's one of the rooms in the front of the hotel. It's very nice.

**Young man** Is it expensive? I haven't got a lot of money, you know.

**George** That's OK. I like you. I don't need the money. For you, the room is free!

**Young man** I don't understand ...

**George** Mary! Mary! Come here! Come and meet Mr Madoc!

*(Mary comes in. She is holding a cup of coffee.)*

**Mary** What do you want now?

**George** Mary, meet Mr Madoc. This is my wife,  
Mary

*(George takes Mary's arm. Her coffee goes over the young man's jeans.)*



**Mary** Oh, I'm very sorry! Your jeans! I'm sorry,  
Mr... Mr...

**Young man** Mr Brown. Paul Brown.

**George** I'm sorry, Mr Madoc. Please excuse my  
wife. We can clean your jeans for you  
here. I'm very sorry.

**Young man** Oh, it's all right. It isn't important. I can  
wash my jeans.

**Mary** I'm sorry, Mr Brown.

**George** Don't be silly, Mary! His name is  
Mr Madoc.

**Young man** Er, no ... my name is Paul Brown.

**George** Yes, Mary, in this hotel his name is Paul  
Brown, but on TV his name is Tony  
Madoc. You understand ... he wants a  
quiet holiday.

*(He smiles at the young man.)*

**Young man** What?

**George** Mary, please ask Peter to take  
Mr Brown's bag to his room. Quickly  
now! Thank you.

**Mary** Can I get another cup of coffee?

**George** No, Mary, you can't. The bag, Mary.  
Do you like flowers, Mr Brown? You've  
got some nice flowers in your room.  
They're from our garden, you know.

**Young man** Oh, no. I'm sorry. I don't like flowers  
very much.

**George** Fine, fine. I don't like flowers either.  
Mary, put the flowers in the kitchen,  
please.

**Mary** But Peter's going to be very angry,  
George.

**George** In the kitchen, Mary.  
*(Mary and the young man go out. The woman comes in.)*

**Woman** Excuse me, but where's my bag?  
**George** What? Oh, your bag? It's here.  
**Woman** I need it in my room.  
**George** Yes, yes. I'm sorry, Mrs ... er ... but not now. I am going to take it to your room, but I'm very busy now. We have a very important person in the hotel.

**Woman** But my glasses are in the bag. I can't learn the new play without my glasses ...  
**George** Sorry, Mrs ... er ... not now.  
*(The young man comes in again.)*

**George** Mr Brown! There you are! Is the room OK, Mr Brown?  
**Young man** Yes, it's fine, thank you.  
**George** Good, good. Would you like anything? A drink? Some champagne? A television?  
**Young man** No, nothing, thank you.  
**George** Please, have a drink. Mary! Bring a bottle of champagne.  
*(Mary comes in.)*

**Mary** Champagne, George?  
**George** Yes, bring a bottle of champagne and ask Peter to put the television in Mr Brown's room.

**Young man** But I don't like television and I don't drink champagne, thank you very much.  
**Mary** He doesn't want them, George.  
**Young man** I'm going out for a walk near the sea now. What time is dinner?  
**George** Dinner's at half past seven, Mr Brown. Mary, go to the kitchen and talk to Judy about dinner, please.  
**Mary** Don't shout, George. I'm going.  
*(Mary goes to the kitchen. The young man goes out. George goes back to reception.)*

**Woman** My bag, please, Mr Harris.  
**George** Ah yes. It's here, in the cupboard. You can take it to your room now ...  
**Woman** But I can't carry the bag. It's very heavy and I'm 74 years old.  
**George** Oh, all right. Give it to me.  
*(He goes to the cupboard and takes out her bag. They go out.)*

## Scene 7 I don't like champagne

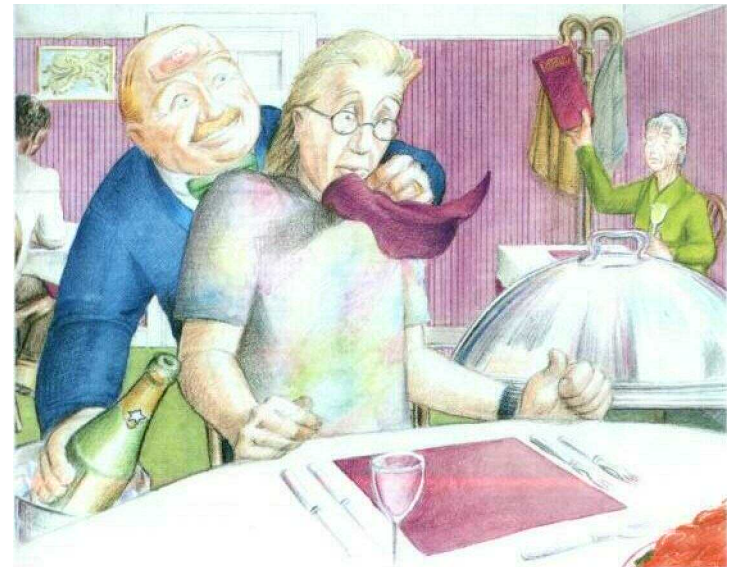
*(In the hotel's restaurant. It is after eight o'clock. George is looking at a picture on the wall. The old woman is sitting at a table.)*

- Woman** Mr Harris!
- George** Yes?
- Woman** I'd like my dinner now, please. It's ten minutes past eight now, you know.
- George** Oh, I'm sorry. We're very busy today. What would you like?
- Woman** I'd like some fish.
- George** I'm sorry, Mrs ... er ... we haven't got any fish. No. There isn't any fish.
- Woman** Oh well. What about a pizza? There's 'Pizza' here on the menu.
- George** Sorry, there's no pizza today.
- Woman** No pizza ... Well, what have you got?
- George** Chicken. We've got chicken.
- Woman** All right. I'd like some chicken, please.

*(George is not listening. The young man is coming into the restaurant. George goes to Mr Brown's table.)*

- George** Hello, Mr Brown. Here's your table.  
*(Mr Brown sits down.)* Can I help you? What can I get for you?

- Woman** I'd like some chicken, please, Mr Harris.
- George** All right, Mrs ... er ... all right. Don't shout. I'm sorry, Mr ...
- Woman** I'd like a glass of ...
- George** Champagne, Mr Brown? Would you like some champagne now? It's free.
- Young man** No, thanks. A glass of water, please.
- George** Please have some champagne.
- Young man** No, no. I don't like champagne.
- Woman** I'd like a glass of water, please.



*(George goes to the woman's table. He is angry.)*

**George** Mrs ... er ...

**Woman** My name is Adams. Miss Adams.

**George** Miss Adams. We have a famous TV star here and we're very busy. I can't do everything. Do you understand that?

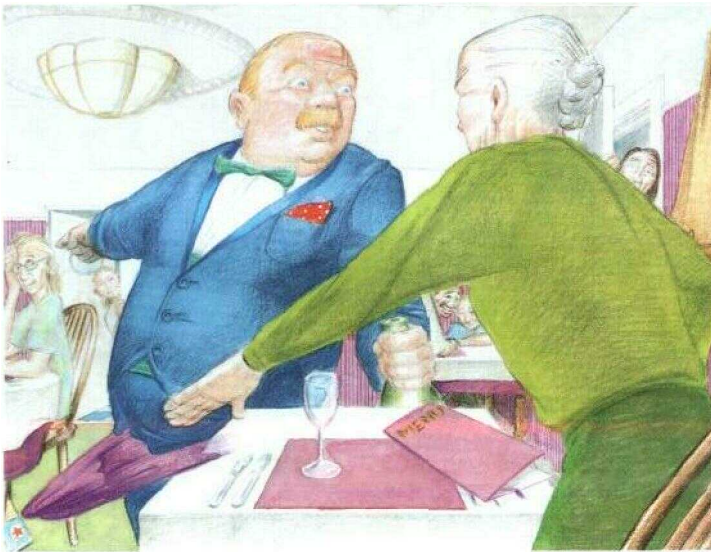
**Woman** Oh yes, I understand. / am a TV star.

**George** Who? What! *You're* a TV star?

**Woman** That's right. My name is Toni Madoc.

**George** But Tony Madoc is a man.

**Woman** Oh no -'Toni' is a woman's name too! T-O-N-I. My real name is Margaret Adams but on TV my name is Toni Madoc.



**George**

What? Oh no!

**Woman**

Yes, Mr Harris. And now I'm going to leave this hotel, the 'Happy Holiday Hotel'. I don't know about 'happy' but I know it isn't good! And I'm not happy here - I've got a small room, I can't see the sea, and Mr Harris, you're a very silly man!

*(Toni Madoc goes out of the restaurant. George looks at the young man sadly.)*

**George**

And who are you?

**Young man**

I'm Paul Brown.

**George**

You're not the TV star?

**Young man**

No, Mr Harris. I'm a student.

**George**

A student!

*(He runs to the door.)*

**George**

Miss Madoc! Miss Madoc! Please don't leave. Have some champagne! Please! It's free.

## Scene 8 George sees stars

*(In the corridor, outside the big room. The woman is talking to Mary. Mary has got the woman's bag.)*

**Mary** I'm very sorry. George is silly sometimes. We can move you to the big room and the young man can have the other room. Please don't leave now!

*(In the big room Mary and Toni Madoc are looking out of the window. George runs into the room.)*

**George** Miss Madoc! Here you are! Please stay! You can have the room for nothing - free!

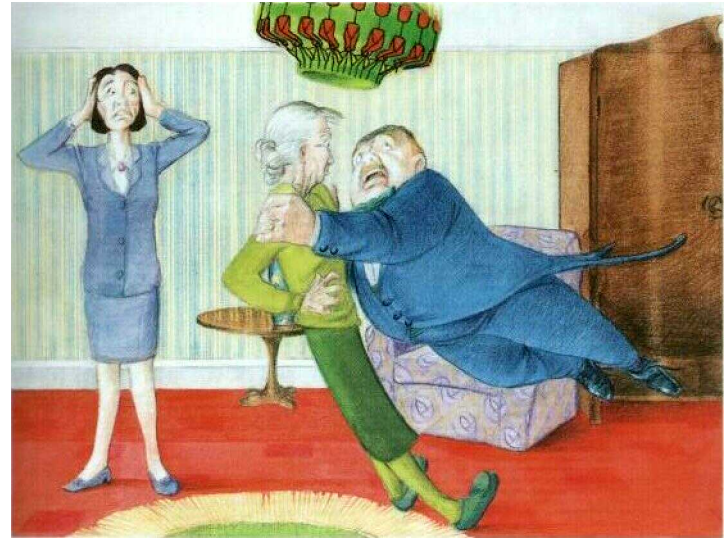
*(He takes her arm.)*

**Toni Madoc** No, I'm sorry. Goodbye, Mr Harris.

*(She is standing under the new lamp. Suddenly the lamp begins to fall.)*

**Mary** George ... Stop! Listen!

*(George pushes the woman. She falls over. George falls on top of her. The lamp falls on George's head. He lies there and doesn't move.)*



**Mary** Miss Madoc. Are you all right?

**Toni Madoc** I'm fine. *(She gets up.)* But how is Mr Harris?

**Mary** George? George! Speak to me, George!

**Toni Madoc** Oh, Mr Harris! Are you all right?

*(They look at George. He doesn't speak or move.)*

**Mary** That horrible light *isn't* safe. Oh George, can you hear me? Please say something, George.

**Toni Madoc** Now I understand! That lamp nearly ... and Mr Harris ... oh, what a nice man! Because of Mr Harris I'm safe! Thank you, Mr Harris ... thank you, George.

**George** Champagne?

**Toni Madoc** What a nice man! Thank you, Mrs  
Harris.

**Mary** Don't thank me - thank silly old George.  
Would you like a glass of champagne  
now, Miss Madoc?

*(They go out. George is lying on the floor. He slowly opens  
one eye.)*

**George** He's very ... No, she's very, very  
famous. She's a star ...