

Doing Own Thing

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Yes, it so: Oldcat, him like a good politician: him only spearmint with drug in college, and here's how it happened:

At frat-jock party, when him vying for king of drunken get-crazy hill, his new, pretty-tit Ft. Lauderdale girlfriend who just as dumb as he, goat him on: "Little town boy from Kentucky 'fraid of big city life?" It not like, after all, Gainesville, Florida really big city, but noneless, him smoke a joint to make city girl happy and prove he a man.

Hack-hack, duuuuuhhh. That his total experience. This the big city?

Now some pablums will tell you pot good, that it create no more harm than silly dare or joke, lot less than alcohol or tobacco smoke. Maybe so for them, but after Oldcat watch this girlfriend slip one night, two night, three night and more down marijuana's slippery slope, him never again believe in pot of gold. These all the happens in four months that happen:

1. She quit physics class. "It stupid."

2. She laugh at all her singing sorority sisters that had been her friend. "Them stupid."

3. She listen only to tiny tape and record collection, she watch only tiny color tv. "Want to go out?" Oldcat ask. "Canoe down Sewanee River? Party at Tim's? Shop at mall?"

"No," she manage to whisper, her voice cracking like dry barn board curing in hot sun, "No, them all stupid." Then she turn music low, raise sound on sitcom TV; shake head, turn tv down, music up.

4. She quit sorority, sorority quit her?

5. Same ditto-like with college.

6. Her get apartment. Woo-hoo, Oldcat chant to jock friends, licking lip, buying big box prophylactic. I soon go jumpity-bump until little Oldcat, him get red-eye sore and squawk surrender. But little Oldcat no have chance, cause big Oldcat forget about girlfriend's tape, record, and TV: "Oldcat, listen to this sad 'Bridge Over Troubled Water' song. Don't Simon and Garfunkel just make you want to die? Oldcat, stop that! stop that! Let's watch this funny funny Saturday Nite Live rerun."

Stop, listen, look. Oldcat hear this so much that he think he dating a train.

And list of bad happenings just grow:

7. "Parents stupid," she say when they no send no more money.

8. Her get waitress job in fancy steak house. Her big tits go away. Wherever to? Oldcat wonder. Marijuana smoke dry them up? That possible? And though she a waitress, she no wear make-up anymore. "Make-up stupid."

9. Her no longer smile when she see Oldcat. Her just look, like glaze-eyed hen laying an egg. Eggshell, it going to break open soon? Oldcat worry. "Want to smoke a J?" she ask, giving first big grin of night. Oldcat, him shake head. Last time him smoke, him cough all next day during windsprints. Though him explain reason, his refusal upset girlfriend, make her worry him a narc or something worse -- Southern Baptist maybe, she joke. Her dark eyes so serious though, that Oldcat forget to laugh.

10. Her lose waitress job in fancy restaurant, get another in pizza house. She and Oldcat fight, she scream: "My pizza boss stupid, college stupid, your sport team stupid, politics stupid, born-again religion stupid, this hick Florida town stupid, you stupid!" That Sermon on Mount finished, they go to bed and screw. "Screwing stupid," she laugh,

head smothered in pillow.

11. Oldcat no know what to do. Him call, she no answer. Him believe she probably no hear phone cause she smoke pot and listen to record, tape, TV -- all at same time.

"She do her own thing," friend advise.

"Yes," Oldcat answer.

But him wonder, as him drive by time and time to see new sadeyed, hippie supposed friends smoking J's on front porch -- yes, him wonder: she do own thing, or thing, it do her?