

**PICASSO.** You know, you and I...we're not so different.

**GERMAINE.** Oh yes we slept together but there is a difference. For me, you are the thing that never happened. You and Freddy exist in separate universes. What I do in one has nothing to do with the other.

**PICASSO.** How convenient.

**GERMAINE.** Oh, don't get me wrong. I'm not being nasty. I like you. It's just that I know about men like you.

**PICASSO.** Men like me? Where are there men like me?

**GERMAINE.** Have a drink. You don't want me to go on.

**PICASSO.** No, tell me about men like me.

**GERMAINE.** (*Settles in.*) A steady woman is important to you because then you know for sure you have someone to go home to in case you can't find someone else. You notice every woman, don't you?

**PICASSO.** Many.

**GERMAINE.** I mean every woman. Waitresses, wives, weavers, ushers, actresses, laundresses. You notice them, don't you?

**PICASSO.** Yes.

**GERMAINE.** And when you see a woman you think, I wonder what she would be like. You could be bouncing your baby on your knee and if a woman walks by you wonder what she would be like.

**PICASSO.** Go on.

**GERMAINE.** You have two in one night when the lies work out, and you feel it's your right. The rules don't apply to you, because the rules were made up by women, and they have to be if there's going to be any society at all. You cancel one when someone better comes along. They find you funny, bohemian, irresistible. You like them young because you can bamboozle them, and they think you're great. You want them when you want them, never when they want you. Afterwards you can't wait to leave, or if you're unlucky enough to have her at your place you can't wait for her to leave because the truth is we don't exist afterwards, and all conversation becomes meaningless because it's not going to get you anywhere because it already got you there. You're unreachable.

**PICASSO.** But I appreciate women. I draw them, don't I?

**GERMAINE.** Well, that's because we're so goddamn beautiful, isn't it?

**PICASSO.** Germaine, men want, and women are wanted. That's the way it is and that's the way it will always be.

**GERMAINE.** That may be true, but why be greedy? By the way, I knew you were using me, but I was using you back.

**PICASSO.** How?

**GERMAINE.** Now I know what a painter is like, tomorrow night a street paver maybe, or a news agent, or maybe a bookseller. A street paver might not have anything to talk about to a girl like me, but I can write my romantic scenarios in my head and pull them down like a screen in front of me to project my fantasies onto. Like you project your fantasies onto a piece of paper.

**PICASSO.** How does Freddy fit in? Why are you with him?

**GERMAINE.** Because occasionally, occasionally, he says something so profound I'm just glad to have been there. But really? What I wouldn't give for a country boy.