"DENNIS THE MENACE"

"ON THE OTHER HAND MAYBE IT'S *NOT* DENNIS DOWNSTAIRS MAYBE ITS ONLY A BURGLAR."

Ex-Widow Ignores New Husband For Youngster

By ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I married a widow with a 7-year-old son. She is a fine woman and we went

moon. The 7-year-old boy stayed with his grandmother. The evening we returned from our honeymoon my wife told me the boy wanted to sleep in her bed and would I mind sleeping in the guest room for a night or two—until the child became accustomed to having a stepfather. I didn't like the idea but I agreed.

I've been in the guest room ever since and am darned sick of it. I've told my wife a dozen times that my patience is wearing thin. She keeps saying the boy is sensitive and she doesn't want to disturb him emotionally. Last night she called me an "animal."

If I'm an animal please tell me. If not tell her. Thank you. —GUEST IN MY HOME

Dear Guest: Your wife has fostered this neurotic dependency in her son because she doesn't want to be a wife. This sleeping arrangement suits both "children" just dandy.

The woman needs professional help. She is destroying her marriage and ruining her son's life.

Dear Ann Landers: Our son recently graduated from school of dentistry and opened an office in the suburbs. Al anticipated that things would be slow. It takes a while for a young professional man to build up a practive from scratch.

The problem is our relatives. Two of his aunts, and an uncle have gone to Al for dental work. They all said something about being willing to take a chance on a young, inexperienced dentist because they know he needs the practice. They made it sound as if they were doing Al a favor.

He sent them all modest bills which they refused to pay. They said if they had wanted to pay they would have gone to their regular, experienced dentist.

What can he do about this? How can he prevent such occurrences in the future? — DOWN WITH RELATIVES

Dear Down With: Al should write off the bum relatives and learn from the experience.

A dental fee should be discussed with the patient (relative or not) before the work is done. This is not crass nor is it indelicate. It will prevent future misunderstandings.

Dear Ann Landers: My wife started to write to you but she broke down in the middle of the letter and I am taking over.

It's about our 17-year-old boy. He's handsome, built like a million dollars and does pretty well in his studies.

He never noticed the girls until about a year ago. Then he began to get cow-eyed over a neighbor girl, 16. They went together for a few months and suddenly he lost interest in her. Wait till I tell you why.

He has gone crazy over a 31-year-old divorcee. She slings hash in a beanery downtown. We didn't even know our boy went to places like that.

He thinks she's wonderful but we told him we'll take his word for it because we don't want to meet her. It's understandable that a young kid could become fascinated with a woman of the world. But why in heaven's name would a 31-year-old look twice at a high school kid? What can she be looking for anyway?—NO NAME OF COURSE

Dear No Name: Some older women are flattered by the attentions of a young boy. It makes them feel younger than springtime. Other older women who take up with young boys are looking for a male child to mother. It's plenty sick no matter how you look at it.

If alcohol is robbing you or someone you love of health and dignity, send for Ann Landers' booklet, "Help For The Alcholic," enclosing with your request 20 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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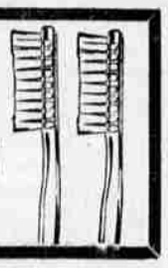

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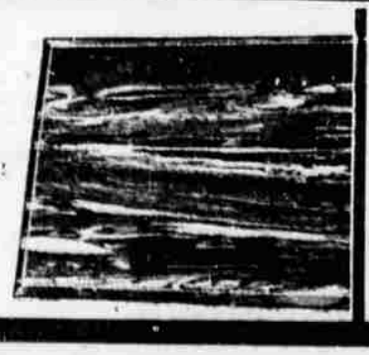

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