

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER
FRAULEIN KOST

ACT ONE

Scene Eight

The Living Room of FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER's Apartment

(FRAULEIN KOST is entering with a SAILOR.
Suddenly FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER enters from her room)

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

That sailor! Out of my house!

FRAULEIN KOST

This sailor -- dear lady -- is my brother!

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

Out! Out!! Out!!!

(SAILOR exits)

FRAULEIN KOST

Wait! Wait! How dare you! You think it is easy -- finding a sailor? This was only my second one since New Year's. And what is it now? April!

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

Your second?

FRAULEIN KOST

Ja.

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

Your second?

FRAULEIN KOST

Ja.

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

You think I do not know what goes on here? Sailors -- all the time: in -- out -- in -- out! God only knows what the neighbors think I am running here -- a battleship? Fraulein Kost, I give you fair warning! One sailor more -- I call the police!

FRAULEIN KOST

And if I cannot pay the rent?

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

The rent is due each Friday -- as always.

FRAULEIN KOST

No sailors. No rent. I move.

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

Move?

FRAULEIN KOST

Move!!

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

And what am I supposed to do with your room? Out of the blue -- she tells me "I move!" Is that gratitude for you? Only last week I gave you another new mattress!

FRAULEIN KOST

All right! All right!! So I will leave the end of the week -- since you insist.

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

I insist? You insist!

FRAULEIN KOST

So what about the sailors?

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

The sailors? Fraulein Kost -- if you wish to continue living here, you must not let me catch you bringing in any more sailors! You understand?

FRAULEIN KOST

Very good. So it is the same as always.

(She goes into her room and closes the door.)

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

No, it is not the same as always!

(She knocks on FRAULEIN KOST's door)

Fraulein Kost. Do you hear me? I have put my foot down.

(She knocks again)

Fraulein Kost! Fraulein Kost!!

(SCHULTZ enters from his room carrying a paper bag)

SCHULTZ

Fraulein Schneider! Good evening!

FRAULEIN SCHNEIDER

Oh, Herr Schultz! Such a surprise!