

# RALPH & SHARON

## THE \$25,000 MISTAKE

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

RAPLH (30s, buttoned-up WASP) sits facing his wife, SHARON (30s, conservative, southern belle-y). Both look uncomfortable.

RALPH

Seriously, honey? Board games?  
Can't we just drink and talk like  
adults?

SHARON

We're at a dinner party, it's poor  
form not to participate in the  
host's activities... no matter how  
asinine.

RALPH

I didn't even know they made home  
version of \$25,000 Pyramid.

SHARON

It'll be just as much fun as it is  
on TV.

RALPH

(sarcastically)  
Yeah, who needs prize money or  
celebrities?

FYI

Sharon receives instruction from someone off stage.

SHARON

(to offstage)  
We're all set.  
(to Ralph)  
It's time to start. Look alive,  
Sweetie.

RALPH

If I must.

Ralph starts the timer. Glances at the card in his hand.  
Fires off clues to Sharon.

RALPH (CONT'D)

Bird. Pterodactyl. Hornet.

SHARON

Things with wings. Things that  
fly.

RALPH & SHARON 1/4

"\$25K MISTAKE"

START

RALPH

Yes.

Ralph flips over a new card.

RALPH (CONT'D)

Coffee. Tea. Red Bull.

SHARON

Things with caffeine.

RALPH

Very good.

(sarcastic)

See how exciting this is?

SHARON

Stop it.

Ralph flips over a new card.

RALPH

Freedom. Vacation. Fun.

SHARON

Things that end when you have children.

RALPH

(taken aback)

What? No, listen closely.

Celebration. Barbecue. Fireworks.

SHARON

Things you do when you find out you're not pregnant.

RALPH

No, honey. Jeez. Pass. They were "things associated with July 4th."

(thinks)

Wait, do you not want to start a family with me?

SHARON

No, I mean yes! I'm just bad at his game, that's all.

Ralph flips over a new card.

RALPH

Okay, let's get back on track.

Kittens. Ducklings. Lamb.

RALPH & SHARON 2/4

SHARON

Things that annoy you. Things you  
use for target practice.

RALPH

No, what are you -- think hard.  
Saplings. Fawn. Calves.

SHARON

Things that damage your car when  
you hit them.

RALPH

No! And that's really disturbing.  
Pass. They're "young or baby  
things."

Ralph picks a new card.

RALPH (CONT'D)

(determined)

Here we go, this one's easy.  
Prayer. Sermon. Tithe.

SHARON

Things that are futile. Things  
stupid people do.

Ralph throws down his cards and stands up angrily.

RALPH

What is wrong with you?

SHARON

Me? You give terrible clues.

RALPH

Why do you have such sick thoughts?

SHARON

Why are you so judgemental?

RALPH

These are basic concepts.

SHARON

It's free association. You can't  
control how your subconscious links  
things.

RALPH

I can control the type of woman I'm  
married to.

(MORE)

RALPH & SHARON 3/4

RALPH (CONT'D)

Maybe I should seriously rethink  
this relationship.

SHARON

Maybe I should give the clues.  
You'll see it's not as easy as it  
looks.

RALPH

(suddenly hesitant)  
I don't know about that.

SHARON

What's the matter? Afraid you  
won't be good at something?

RALPH

(stepping up to challenge)  
Bring it on.

END

They switch seats. Sharon picks up the cards, starts the  
timer, looks down at her card, then starts pitching clues.

SHARON

Pipe. Lighter. Ash tray.

RALPH

Things you use to smoke crystal  
meth.

SHARON

What?! They're things you'd find  
at your grandfather's house. How  
do you know about--

RALPH

Enough with the prude routine,  
clock's ticking.

Sharon, eyeing Ralph with disgust flips a new card.

SHARON

Shovel. Rake. Broom.

RALPH

Things you use to bury a body!

SHARON

Really?! Honey, they're things  
you'd find in the garage. How  
would a rake or a broom even be  
useful--

RALPH & SHARON 4/4