



## DATING DILEMMAS

by Debbie Sue Goodman

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1. INT. KITCHEN. EVENING

Madge a widower in her late sixties wearing an orange plaid robe with pink curlers, a babushka, green slippers with knee high socks and rhinestone glasses. (With a nasal resonance voice) is sitting at her kitchen table already set. Waiting for her single, conservative, soft spoken daughter to come home. Debbie Sue in her early forties, never been married, wearing a black suit and coat comes home from work to eat dinner. Debbie Sue walks in removes her coat and places it on the chair beside her.

MADGE

Hi Honey, how was your day?

DEBBIE SUE

Hi Mom, I had such a long day.

MADGE

Let me get you a sandwich.

DEBBIE SUE

(Sigh) Oh, I'm starved Mom.  
(Sipping a glass of water)

MADGE

Didn't you eat lunch?

DEBBIE SUE

Well, remember when I told you, you could meet people in unusual ways?

MADGE

(Shaking her head up and down to agree with what her daughter is saying)

DEBBIE SUE

I went out for my lunch break instead of eating in the office. I stopped at the post office to get some stamps. A guy standing

behind me taps me on the  
shoulder.

MADGE

Oh Really?

DEBBIE SUE

I turned around and noticed  
he was holding a stack of  
envelopes. He starts talking  
to me telling me his whole  
life story. He proceeds to  
say that he lost his last  
five jobs, he got fired. He's  
mailing out six resumes and  
his car was repossessed.

MADGE

What did you say?

DEBBIE SUE

I gave him my phone number.

MADGE

(Sighs with a disgusted  
face) Oh, my goodness  
gracious.

DEBBIE SUE

I went back to the office  
without eating lunch. I'm  
sitting at my desk doing my  
work, when my cell phone  
rings. I pick it up and hear  
a strange noise that sounded  
like a washer & dryer. It  
was like, tha thump tha  
thump.

MADGE

Was it a washing machine?

DEBBIE SUE

Sure enough, he says, Debbie  
Sue, I'm calling you from the

local laundromat. They took my phone away. I've only got a minute to talk because I'm running out of change, I'm using a pay phone. I'm running out of change but... I'd like to take you on a date for a WALK...!

MADGE

(Shaking her head no)  
A walk on the first date?

DEBBIE SUE

(Shaking her head no)  
I couldn't believe it. I answered him and said, No way, not on the FIRST date!

MADGE

(Still shaking her head no)  
That's not going to happen on the first date.

DEBBIE SUE

(Still shaking her head no)  
No, not a WALK on the first date. Maybe the second, maybe the third, but certainly not on the first date.

(They both shake their heads no and they continue eating their dinner)

MADGE

Debbie Sue, I had my nails done at the beauty shop this morning. (Extends her hands out to show her nails). I met up with Mary-Anne. You remember Mary-Anne don't you honey?

DEBBIE SUE  
Sure, I remember her.

MADGE  
Well, her daughters, niece's,  
cousin's, sister's aunt,  
tried the online dating. She  
met someone, got married and  
moved to Omaha.

DEBBIE SUE  
I don't know, Mom about  
online dating. I don't think  
I can do that.

MADGE  
Debbie, you know you gotta  
kiss a lot of frogs before  
you find your prince.

DEBBIE SUE  
(Leans forward on the table holding her hand under her chin  
shaking her head up and down in agreement.)

Opens her laptop.

DEBBIE SUE  
I guess, I will give it a  
try.

MADGE  
You will need a picture.

DEBBIE SUE  
I'll go get one from High  
School.

MADGE  
Tilts her head to the side and her mouth opens up in  
amazement and in shock.

Debbie Sue exits the room to go find a High School picture.

2. INT. KITCHEN EVENING

Madge (wearing a bath robe & slippers. Staring at the clock, pacing back and forth.) (Mumbling) I don't know where she is. Her first online date. I'm so worried. (Debbie Sue slams the door and enters the kitchen. She removes her coat, throws it on the chair.)

MADGE

Debbie Sue, I'm so glad  
you're home. It's so late.  
How was your date?

DEBBIE SUE

It was awful, I thought this  
night would never end. He was  
a nice guy but didn't have  
much to say. He didn't have  
much of a vocabulary. He was  
my type of a guy. He had long  
hair, a pony tail, a beard,  
ripped jeans and cowboy  
boots. He had a really cool  
look.

MADGE

(With a questionable face  
replies)  
That's nice my dear, I guess?

DEBBIE SUE

As soon as we sat down in the  
restaurant, he was watching  
the waitress bring food to  
the tables. He pointed to  
the people eating at the  
table next to us and said  
give us some of dis or dat.  
I didn't know what to say. I  
shook my head up and down and  
agreed with him. Then, the  
waitress came over to take  
the order he points to items  
on the menu and says, give us  
some of deez, dhem, and doze.

MADGE

(Scrambling for words)  
What did he not go to school?  
Didn't he graduate?

DEBBIE SUE

I don't know Mom. I couldn't believe the way he was talking. Then, the waitress brings us the food and sets it on the table. He takes a bite of his sandwich.

MADGE

What happened next?

DEBBIE SUE

He says, Dis is Da best!

MADGE

(Opens her mouth in amazement) Oh my goodness, what happened next?

DEBBIE SUE

He gets through eating, and says, Before Dessert, where's da men's room? I didn't know what to say. I looked around the room and saw people walking there. I pointed to them and said follow **DEM** it's over **DARE**.

MADGE

Well maybe **da** next date will be better. (They both laugh)

### 3. INT. KITCHEN LATE EVENING

Madge wearing a bathrobe, hair curlers, is pacing and looking at the clock. (Mumbling) I don't know where she is, her second online date, it's so late where is she? Debbie enters the kitchen. Very exhausted and upset slips off her high heels and throws her suit jacket on the chair.

MADGE

(Anxiously asks)  
How was your date dear?

DEBBIE SUE

Mom, I give up on this online dating.

MADGE

(Pouring tea)  
Oh honey sit down, relax,  
have some tea tell me what  
happened.

DEBBIE SUE

I met this guy in a cafeteria  
style restaurant. In a  
shopping center close by.  
From the minute he said  
hello, his fingers were  
touching his nose. He  
extended one hand out to  
shake my hand, while one of  
his fingers was in his nose.

MADGE

Touching his nose? That's  
strange. What did he look  
like?

DEBBIE SUE

Actually, he was a nice  
looking guy. He was tall,  
thin, with a lot of facial  
hair. Dressed in a nice suit.  
After we ordered, we sat down  
to wait for our food. The  
whole time we were talking he  
was touching his nose with  
different fingers. One of  
them was going in and out of  
his nose.

MADGE

That's disgusting.

DEBBIE SUE

I know Mom. I didn't even want to eat. The waitress brought the food and he finally took his finger out of his nose.

MADGE

Well, that's good.

DEBBIE SUE

After we got through eating our sandwich, he started touching his nose again with different fingers. I asked if he had a cold? With a finger in his nose, he replied, no why do you ask?

MADGE

(Upset)

What happened next?

DEBBIE SUE

Then he says, "How about we go back up to the cafeteria and get some dessert?" I didn't want to. But he insisted. Then, we both got up. I followed him there. He points to the desserts with his finger and says, Go ahead get ANYTHING you like. I replied that's okay you PICK.

MADGE

Oh Debbie I hope next time you pick a winner.

DEBBIE

I hope the next pick will be the best. I'm going to sleep