

FOREIGNER SIDE 2: FROGGY & BETTY

Froggy LeSuer is a military man who frequently visits this area and has made friends with Betty Meeks, the proprietor of the lodge. Things have been bad for Betty lately and she fears losing her lodge. During the discussion of Betty's misfortune, she shares an unfulfilled dream of travel and meeting exotic people with Froggy, which gives him an idea that will allow Charlie, his painfully shy friend, to stay at the lodge undisturbed.

FROGGY – But Bet, if you sell where will you live?

BETTY – Oh, I don't know. It won't matter. If I have to move out of this place, I don't s'pose it'll be too long before Meeks 'n' me is together again.

FROGGY – Get off!

BETTY – No, I tell ya Froggy, I been addin' things up, an' I tell ye,- the one thing I regret – the only thing I regret –an' don't you tell nobody this –

FROGGY – No.

BETTY – was, I wisht I'd managed to see some o' the world sometime. The way you done. Is it sinful of me to wish that, you reckon? Afore you come along, I never knowed anybody outside of Tilghman. Then, hearin' your tales about A-rabs, 'n' Greekses, 'n' such like? Laws. I lay awake sometimes, wonderin' what them folks 'd be like. Foreigners. Their different kinds a lives, how they' dress , 'n' talk an' all. Well, too late now. Y' get old afore y' get around t' some things.

FROGGY – Well, yer might be disappointed, anyway.

BETTY – Well, I wonder.

FROGGY – Oh, yeh, love, take my word on it. Your typical foreigner? No, you 'aven't missed much. No, bit on the dull side, really. Bit borin' . Quite borin', in fact. Dresses about like wot we do. And of course, it's useless to say anythin' to 'im, because he doesn't – 'E doesn't speak – 'Old on...

BETTY – What is it, what's the matter Frog?

FROGGY – Just thinkin'

BETTY – What??

FROGGY – Right – right, look, Bet, I've something to tell yer. There's this bloke, he's a mate of mine, I've brought 'im aong.

BETTY – Here?

FROGGY – That’s right. ‘E’s in my old room now. ‘E’ll be staying three days. I want you to take super care of ‘im- best of everything, right? And, the other thing is – ‘ow do I put this. ‘E mustn’t be spoken to.

BETTY – Why not, somethin’ wrong with him?

FROGGY – No, perfectly nice fella, the fact is – ‘e doesn’t speak English very well, in fact, not a word.

BETTY – Oh-

FROGGY – No, poor bloke. Now, I can’t say too much, got my orders, but, I’ll tell you this- if someone ‘ere was wishin’ to see a foreigner- a real one – p’raps they wouldn’t ‘ave to look real far.

BETTY – Where’s he from? What country?

FROGGY – Uh...no, I’m sorry, can’t say any more. My tongue is tied.

BETTY – ooooooh, here’s here on some kinda government work?

FROGGY – I won’t say yes and I won’t say no.

BETTY – Well, my land, what’s his name?

FROGGY – Charlie.

BETTY – Charlie??

FOGGY – Well, I mean, ‘is real name is Cha-Oo-Lee, somethin’ like that. But I calls ‘im Charlie.

BETTY – (a sudden thought occurs to her) He ain’t a communist, is he?