

PORCH PIRATE SALLY

Written by

Charlton Metcalf

INT. INSIDE HOUSE BY THE FRONT DOOR - DAY

CARNELL a man in his late twenties is leaning against the inside of his front door, left eye pressed up tight against the peep hole, looking out onto the porch of his house.

CARNELL

(whispering)

Don't make a sound Tinkerwinkle,
she's right there... She's the
one... If you could see her... I'll
bet she's been the one the whole
time.

Carnell gets on his tippy toes trying to look down through the peep hole.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

She's shaking it. Now she's got her
ear against it. Amazon must have
packed it tight this time. That's
one in a row.

Carnell moves his eye away from the peep hole, shakes his head, then back in bumping his head a bit then freezing perfectly still.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

She stopped shaking, she heard
that, damn... Don't make a sound
Tinkerwinkle...

Carnell looks back behind himself quick, then back to the peephole, then jerks his head away and down.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

She's looking in the peephole,
she's looking in the peephole.

TINKERWINKLE

RUFF, RUFF, RUFF, RUFF.

CARNELL

What the hell are you doing Shhhhh.

Carnell presses his eye back quick to the peephole.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

(normal voice)

She dipped out, damn. Thanks a lot,
I told you to be quiet.

Carnell looks back at his large bright green parrot on her perch bouncing and bobbing its head up and down proudly.

TINKERWINKLE

Ah ha, ha, ha. Ah ha, ha, ha.
Loser, loser.

CARNELL

I know, I should have opened the
door this time.

TINKERWINKLE

I never loved you.

CARNELL

I spent a lot of thought into what
she might like.

TINKERWINKLE

Oh stop it, I could have killed
you.

CARNELL

She's gonna be so surprised.

TINKERWINKLE

I'm seeing everybody.

CARNELL

I think I got the sizes perfect.

TINKERWINKLE

Good night Boris.

CARNELL

My Name is Carnell! Carnell!!

INT. INSIDE BY THE FRONT DOOR - EVENING

Carnell is peering through the peephole, his whole cheek
pressed up flat against the door.

CARNELL

She's wearing what I got her, I
can't believe I got her taste so
right.

Carnell crushes his whole body against the door.

He suddenly jumps back.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

(whispering)

She keeps looking up at the eyehole and back at the street, you spooked her last time. She's never gonna steal this one.

Tinkerwinkle struts her head on her perch.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Should I have turned on the porchlight? I should have, that was a bad mistake.

Tinkerwinkle ruffles her feathers and flaps her wings wide.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Stop it, Shh... She needs to take this one, it goes with the outfit.

TINKERWINKLE

(loudly)

Did your mother have any children that lived!

Carnell spins quickly around.

CARNELL

What are you doing?

He shoots his eye back up to the peephole.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

(nervous, high pitched)

She's leaving, into the breach.

Carnell quickly backs up and swings the door open wide.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - EVENING

Carnell juts out onto the porch kicking the Amazon package at his feet hard into the back of SALLY a woman in her twenties dressed in a casual designer top and shorts with pink flip flops.

SALLY

Ow!

CARNELL

(picking up the package)

Oh my gosh I'm so sorry. Here don't forget your package.

SALLY
(rubbing her back)
That's not mine.

CARNELL
Oh my bad, I thought Amazon
delivered it to the wrong house and
you were just picking it up. They
always do that.

SALLY
I never use Amazon, they're always
losing stuff. I'm just--

CARNELL
They do that a lot. You can have
this one though.

SALLY
Huh?, I'm just looking for my cat,
he got out, again.

CARNELL
Oh no, did you put signs up? Can I
help you look for him?

SALLY
Oh no that's ok, he'll show back
up. Tom cats always do.

CARNELL
What's he look like, what's his
name in case I see him.

SALLY
(looking behind her)
Black.. Uh Nights his name.

CARNELL
The black night. Mysterious, the
prowler cat.

SALLY
Just trouble right now.

CARNELL
You can still have the package
though, it might make you feel
better.

Sally looks down eyeing the package.

SALLY
Are you Mr. Johnson?

CARNELL

Oh no one calls me that. Call me Carnell.

SALLY

Carnal? Like carnal desires?

CARNELL

No for unlawful carnal knowledge either.

SALLY

What?

CARNELL

Just Carnell. Carnell Sue Johnson the first.

SALLY

Soo? Like Chinese?

CARNELL

My father was a Johnny Cash fan.

SALLY

You just come right out and tell people your name is Sue Huh?

CARNELL

Father passed away before I was born so I honor it proudly.

SALLY

Fuck... Wow, my names just... Sally.

CARNELL

Well very nice to finally meet you Sally. What a fun name. It's a good thing it's not Sue.

SALLY

Well...

CARNELL

You are kidding? Middle names Sue?

SALLY

No, most of my friends call me by two nicknames though.

CARNELL

Not worse than Sue?

SALLY

Well... Half my friends call me
Fuck Yeah, 'cause when they ask me
if I'm down for whatever, I'm like
Fuck Yeah.

CARNELL

It's good to be a free spirit.

Carnell looks self-consciously down at Sally's unzipped
shorts, then all the way down slowly to her pink flip flops.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Uh.. XYZ.

SALLY

Huh?

CARNELL

(rolling his eyes down
quick)

You know from grade school, XYZ

Sally looks down jumping back a bit.

SALLY

(Laughing)

Fuck no.

CARNELL

You should keep the package.

SALLY

Well it's your box?

CARNELL

Oh I don't need it.

SALLY

You ordered it?

CARNELL

They're just women's running shoes.
I ordered them by mistake.

SALLY

For your girlfriend I hope?

CARNELL

I wish, I mean... It's a long
story, I started over. Appearances
you could say. They are Nike Air
Maxes.

SALLY
Expensive, nice appearance for a
mistake.

CARNELL
I buy only the best.

SALLY
You're lucky nobody stole them.

CARNELL
I've been lucky. I had a few things
go missing lately.

SALLY
People suck.

CARNELL
The first time a couple weeks ago.
The porch pirate left a nice thank
you note.

SALLY
Really? Who would do that?

CARNELL
"Just a quick thank you for leaving
me the opportunity to steal your
package, you made my day."

SALLY
Seems like a nice person I guess.

CARNELL
Everybody has to spend their time
doing something.

SALLY
It's still so wrong. Don't you
check for packages? I bring mine in
right away.

CARNELL
I just got home and wanted to open
a bottle of Le Pin Pomerol merlot.
Do you like merlot?

SALLY
What is that?

CARNELL
It is a superb wine made from the
merlot grapes in the Pomerol region
of France. Would you like some?

SALLY

Uh... Does it taste like Jack Daniels?

CARNELL

Well it's not the best year.

SALLY

Then it sounds right for me.

CARNELL

I'll go get some glasses, don't go anywhere. You want to come in?

SALLY

No I've seen that movie. I'm thirsty though.

Carnell hands Sally the Amazon box and dashes in the house.

CARNELL (O.S.)

Don't go anywhere, wait till you try it, you'll never taste anything the same way again. You want to just kiss the cork.

SALLY

Cork, so it's fancy.

Sally shakes the Amazon box, looks behind her on the street and spots a couple walking their dog. She grins and nods hello to them as they go by not smiling back.

She shakes the box again shrugs her shoulders then rips open the box.

Carnell rushes through the door with the bottle and two clanking crystal wine glasses in his hand.

Sally is smelling deep one of the Air Maxes.

CARNELL

They go great with your outfit don't they.

Sally Glances down at her garb.

SALLY

With these I'll look like a Hollywood star.

CARNELL

They're all aligned.

Sally moves one of the shoes she's holding out of the box up to the light coming through the front door.

Knuckle holding the wine glasses Carnell fills them a third full.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Here, set those down and try this,
you'll love it. It's like tasting
France.

Sally sets the box down and puts her right flip flopped foot right up against the box checking for size.

SALLY

I LOVE their fries, toast AND their
vanilla, but not so much their
onion soup.

CARNELL

Following up with this excellent
merlot turns those entrees into a
fine dining experience. This is to
steal for.

Sally quickly pulls her left foot away from the box

SALLY

Will it give me a buzz?

Carnell elegantly hands Sally the glass swirling it.

CARNELL

Swirl it like this and put your
nose to it, the aroma.

SALLY

It sort of smells like Jack.

CARNELL

A hint of the oak wood barrel, yes.

SALLY

I hear that's important.

CARNELL

Go ahead give it a sip.

Sally swirls and sniffs the glass again.

Carnell flips on the porchlight startling Sally a bit.

CARNELL (CONT'D)
Hold it up to the light, it's so
clear like a brand new love.

Sally suddenly tilts the whole glass back into her mouth
gulping. Suddenly she does and explosive wide spit take all
over Carnell.

Carnell dripping with wine doesn't move.

His eyes blink slow with in a burning squint.

CARNELL (CONT'D)
I take it you'll stick with the
vanilla?

SALLY
FLY, it was a flu, like that old
Jeff Goldblum movie it had a little
freaky fly in it. I didn't mean to--
(laughing)
You look a mess.

A big drop of wine forms at the end of Carnell's nose.

CARNELL
More France for me.

SALLY
You've been invaded

CARNELL
Imperialism at it's finest.

SALLY
Is that good?

CARNELL
In a hundred years I'll demand my
independence.

Sally picks up the box of shoes.

SALLY
You really don't want these?

CARNELL
Go ahead, they go great with your
outfit. Like they were meant to be.

SALLY
They do seem to match a lot in the
light.

CARNELL

It is a nice top, Carolina Herrera
and the shorts, Alice and Olivia,
you have excellent taste.

SALLY

I don't remember where I got them
but thanks most men wouldn't
notice.

CARNELL

Your flip flops are great for a
summers evening but the Air Maxes
will be much more stylish match.

TINKERWINKLE

Did your mother have any children
that lived?

Sally throws up an eyebrow startled and looks past Carnell
through the open front door.

CARNELL

(ignoring Tinkerwinkle)
They are great for walking or
running if you ever need to.

TINKERWINKLE

I cheated on you because it was
fun.

SALLY

(backing up a step)
Uh.. Is that your wife?

TINKERWINKLE

Well size matters again.

SALLY

Oh Wow.

CARNELL

No, not exactly.

TINKERWINKLE

I don't like your pants.

SALLY

Girlfriend? I feel like I should
go.

CARNELL

No, no, not a girlfriend either.

SALLY

Oh so you're gay. That's nice.

CARNELL

No, no not gay. It's my wifes--

SALLY

So it is your wife. Always happens,
I should go. Still keep the shoes?

TINKERWINKLE

What are the flowers for, your
grave?

CARNELL

No it's my wifes--

TINKERWINKLE

I wish we were better strangers.

Sally finally turns to leave.

SALLY

That's enough for the both of us.

CARNELL

SHUTUP!

SALLY

Hey just because she talks to you
like that, that's no way to talk to--
-

TINKERWINKLE

What the hell good are you then?

CARNELL

IT'S MY WIFES AMAZON PARROT! It's
my wife's, sorry.

Sally turns around.

SALLY

Pare of?

Tinkerwinkle squawks loudly.

CARNELL

Parrot, parrot.

SALLY

Oh parrot, parrot. Like a pirate?

CARNELL

No, well maybe if you, but Yes, yes parrot, it's my wife's Amazon parrot. I didn't buy it on Amazon, that would be wrong but it's from the Amazon.

SALLY

So you all stole it from the rainforest? That's not the best thing to be doing, you can be cancelled for--

CARNELL

No, my wife did, I mean my ex-wife did, I got it in the divorce before--
-

TINKERWINKLE

It's not porn if we both like it.

SALLY

That's some ex-wife.

CARNELL

Tinkerwinkle, shut! Up!

SALLY

You named your parrot Tinkerbelle?

CARNELL

Tinkerwinkle, Tinkerwinkle.

SALLY

Oh that's much better.

CARNELL

And she named it, not me. I wanted to call her Meryl Peep.

TINKERWINKLE

I'm going shopping!

SALLY

Dis Tinkerwinkles repeat everything she said?

CARNELL

That was mine, I stress shop when I'm upset.

SALLY

We all have to be doing something.

CARNELL

My ex got the cars, nice house,
vacation condo--

SALLY

And she gave you the bird.

CARNELL

Double birds actually but the other
one got out of her cage when I was
out shopping and perched on the
living room ceiling fan. I didn't
see her up there and I walked in
and turned the fan on, high speed.
"Little French Girl", she was a
Mexican parrot so it was an ironic
name, hung on as long as she could,
claws dug in deep from the marks
that were left, but finally she
flung off and crashed through the
front bay window hitting the Amazon
delivery girl in the back of the
head knocking her off of the porch
into the rose bushes. It was
valentines day. She's still on
disability.

SALLY

Little French Girl?

CARNELL

I'll remember her at Cinco de mayo
this year.

SALLY

Pour out some Patron.

CARNELL

And a little merlot.

SALLY

That sounds nice.

CARNELL

And historically accurate.

SALLY

She is history.

Sally looks around behind her then back to Carnell.

SALLY (CONT'D)

Well I should get--

CARNELL

Oh, So do you have a boyfriend? Or
a girlfrie--

SALLY

Uh.. I don't have boyfriends I just
have mechanics.

CARNELL

Mechanics?

SALLY

You know, change the oil, wiper
fluid, revs her up real good,
pushes her to the limit and rotates
the tires.

CARNELL

Whenever I take my car to the
mechanic it's always making some
knocking noise but when the
mechanic take it for a test drive
the noise stops.

SALLY

Sounds like you need a carburetor
overhaul to me.

CARNELL

I should watch a YouTube video and
try to do it myself.

SALLY

For you it'd be better to just
trade it in.

Sally notices a police car slowly rolling down the street.

The scanner squawks through the open cruiser windows.

She side eyes the cruiser as it creeps past.

CARNELL

Maybe your mechanic could--

TINKERWINKLE

It's raining men, hallelujah.

CARNELL

(yelling back into the
house)

I could always pour out more
Patron!

TINKERWINKLE

I never loved you.

Sally squeezes the box of shoes that she's holding a little tighter in her arms.

SALLY

Well I should be going. This has been great fun.

CARNELL

Oh I wouldn't actually ever kill Tinkerwinkle.

SALLY

I would.. But I should get home to see if my cat came home.

CARNELL

I understand, you wouldn't want to keep black night waiting.

SALLY

You never know when he's going to show up, and I should be there to let him in.

CARNELL

Once they come back they come back again.

Sally turns quick and hurries down the porch steps.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Well it was nice talking--

SALLY

You too.

Sally heads quickly down the sidewalk almost dropping the box of shoes.

CARNELL

Well if I see a black cat around I'll be sure to cross it's path and know it belongs to you.

Carnell puts his hand up to his forehead to block out the porch light as peers down the sidewalk.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

The shoes are dry clean only...

Carnell turns around looking back into the front door with his hands on his hips.

CARNELL (CONT'D)
It's raining men? Really?! Would it have killed you to have said "What's new pussycat?" come on.

INT. INSIDE BY THE FRONT DOOR - DAY

Carnell has his face pressed solid up against the door as he stares fixed through the peep hole.

CARNELL
Nothing for three days? No ones even touched the box.. Did the rapture happen? Is their suddenly peace on earth? No crime, even petty.

TINKERWINKLE
It's raining men, hallelujah.

CARNELL
Exactly, YOU scarred her off.

TINKERWINKLE
Your problem, not mine.

Carnell presses and twist his eye for a different view.

CARNELL
I hope she likes everything this time. I'm pretty sure I got some of her favorites and maybe some new ones. I can just tell. A baking pan with edible cookie spoons for dipping in milk, a Danny DeVito reversible sequin pillow, a merlot wine subscription and a crafting with cat hair book. Sounds pretty perfect right.

TINKERWINKLE
Your music sucks.

CARNELL
I hope that box isn't to big for her to carry home. She had some muscle tone to her though like she works out. You think she's LA Fitness or Lifetime? Probably more of a YMCA girl if I think about it.

(MORE)

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Great song that YMCA, fun dance routine. That band had all the good food groups. The one leather guys isn't for the vegans though. He sure was big like a bear.

Carnell kicks both of his legs up in back to keep from cramping.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Wait.. Hold on.. Could it be? Their she blows!

Tinkerwinkle squawks.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

I guess I am a pirate.

Carnell backs up from the door rubs his eye, takes a deep breath then looks around to Tinkerwinkle.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

Please don't make a sound this time just be quite, be a mime bird. Pantomime yourself a soundproof cage.

Tinkerwinkle squawks and ruffles her feathers.

Carnell presses quickly back up against the peephole.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

She Grabbed it and BOLTED, OH NO!

Carnell spins around and dashes through the living room to the back of the house.

CARNELL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

JUST DO IT!

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Carnell comes sprinting around the corner of the sidewalk onto his street braking hard right in front of a speed walking Sally.

CARNELL

Oh Hi, how are you today? Nice day for a walk isn't it.

Sally stops but makes a few gestures on either side of Carnell like she's thinking about darting suddenly past him.

SALLY
Oh hi, sure is.

CARNELL
(breathing hard)
Find your cat?

SALLY
(looking around)
Back in Black.

CARNELL
Well that's great.

SALLY
It really is.

CARNELL
Is that box too heavy for you?
Sometimes Amazon just packs
everything into one weighty load.

Sally lifts it up and down a couple times quickly.

SALLY
(looking around)
Nope see, all good with the
weighty.

CARNELL
What did you get?

SALLY
Oh just my usual order.

Sally spots a black and white SUV with cherries on top
rolling towards her behind Carnell.

CARNELL
They didn't tape that box very
well, it's about to burst open.

SALLY
Oh yeah... You know it is getting
pretty heaving standing here, would
you mind holding it for a bit 'til
I regain my strength.

CARNELL
No problem sure, anything for you.

Carnell starts to grab the box but then notices Sally looking
intently behind him and pivots his head around.

CARNELL (CONT'D)
Officers are right on schedule

Carnell swings back studying Sally eyes.

SALLY
You wanna go out sometime?

The prowler SUV inches towards them.

CARNELL
Really?

SALLY
Sure thing.

CARNELL
Where would you like to go?

SALLY
I don't care, anywhere. We can go
to France if you want, right now
I'd prefer it.

CARNELL
Or Mexico, you like your tequila.
Or maybe Lynchburg Tennessee the
home of Jack Daniels, I looked it
up.

SALLY
Lynchburg I'm in.

CARNELL
Wow, this is quite the surprise.

SALLY
There's something I have to tell
you though and you can't hate me.
That cop car...

Carnell turns and looks again eyeing the cops creeping SUV
then back to Sally.

SALLY (CONT'D)
You have to hold this box, Now!

CARNELL
That cop car?

SALLY
Yes! Just take the box. Please,
now! Now!

CARNELL

Well there's something I have to tell you that I shouldn't but since we are going away together I can trust you. That's not a cop car, that's a U.S Marshall. I'm in witness protection, they're just keeping close tabs on me to make sure I stay straight.

The SUV pulls up and stops along side of Sally and Carnell with the drivers side window going down.

Sally just stares wild-eyed holding the box towards Carnell.

CARNELL (CONT'D)

(waving)

Hi Bill, staying out of trouble?

BILL

Thanks for the wine pairing ideas.

CARNELL

Glad to help.

BILL

Who's your friend?

CARNELL

Just a neighbor girl, helping her with a heavy package.

BILL

Just doing a favor?

CARNELL

That she Can refuse.

BILL

Nice to hear. Well you take care. Crime is on the uptick in this area, a lot of porch pirates so you be safe.

CARNELL

You know me I can spot a pirate a mile away, I have the bird.

BILL

(waving bye)

Love that bird.

The prowler suddenly zooms away.

Carnell grins around to a catatonic Sally as she abruptly drops the Amazon box to the sidewalk with all the contents spilling everywhere.

Carnell bends slowly over, as Sally stares at him no knowing what to think.

CARNELL
(standing back up)
Sweet Danny DeVito pillow, that'll
be great for the plane.

THE END