### by Len Nasman



Olivia is meeting her boyfriend Karl's parents for the first time. While gathered on the deck of the parent's rocky mountain home, Olivia asks how the parents first met, and much to Karl's shocked surprise some interesting family history is revealed.

## This story is a work of fiction, however the location of the story, Lulu City and the area near the west side of Rocky Mountain National Park, is real.



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"What! You say you caught her naked?"

Olivia was surprised at Andrew's reply to the question "How did you and Jane first meet?"

This was the first time Olivia was meeting with her boyfriend Karl's parents. Olivia, Karl, Andrew and Jane, were lounging and chatting after lunch on the patio of Andrew and Jane's home overlooking the Kawaneeche valley on the edge of Rocky Mountain National Park just north of Grand Lake, Colorado.

"It was her fault" Andrew replied. "She forgot to lock the toilet compartment door on the train. When I opened the door she screamed and called me a pervert."

"Why were you naked in a train toilet?" Karl asked his mother.

"Actually, I blame Janice." Jane responded.

"Janice, who is Janice?"

"Janice was my former friend and roommate at Colorado State University"

"Former friend?"

"We were pretty close when we were undergraduates at Colorado State. I stayed on for graduate school in Wildlife Management, while Janice headed to Chicago to pursue a career in fashion design. She invited me to visit her in Chicago. It turns out that our interests had changed dramatically."

"So how did that lead to you being naked on a train?" Karl asked.

"When Janice and I got together in Chicago, it quickly became obvious to me that Janice and my interests had become very different. She tried to get me into the latest fashions of the day. I tried to humor her, but when we attended a party with her fashionista friends, I'm afraid I disappointed her. I didn't join in with the drinking games with jello shots and vodka chasers, and I gave a cold shoulder to the jock type guys with excessive testosterone that were hitting on me. At one point Janice called me a 'prude' and said I needed to 'get with the times'. It was clear that we had moved into different worlds. On my last day there, she dressed me up with a very mini skirt, deep cut blouse, and spike heels. I humored her and wore the outfit to the train station when I headed back to Colorado.

I felt that I looked like a floozy, and struggled with dragging my big old red suitcase across the train platform. It wasn't long before I decided to get back to my normal costume, what Janice referred to my 'cowgirl outfit.' I went to the toilet compartment, stripped down for the change, and that's when Andrew opened the door."

Andrew said "Technically I guess our first meeting was not actually the naked scene. When I was walking to the train, some floozy tripped over her silly spike heels and nearly pushed me off the platform. I manage to keep her from falling, but she rudely hurried off to the train. I decided that most of the coeds I knew back at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey wouldn't be caught dead in such an outfit. It was later on the train when I recognized Jane with her big red suitcase that I discovered she was the floozy."

"I guess I was too embarrassed and flustered to even thank you for catching me." Jane said.

After Jane was dressed in her 'cowgirl outfit,' I sat next to her on the train and told her that I wasn't actually a member of the PSA."

"What's the PSA?" asked Olivia.

"I claimed that it was the Pervert Society of America.." Andrew replied.

This kind of broke the ice, and we struck up a conversation. Eventually I mentioned how when I was commuting from New Jersey to New York City for my job, that strangers on a train tended to get into conversations with fellow train riders, and reveal things to strangers that they ordinarily would not even discuss with close friends."

"I've noticed the same thing happens when you are riding in airplanes. I've been surprised at some of the things I have learned about people while sitting next to them on a plane." Olivia interjected. "What was your job in New York City"

"I was working for a magazine called <u>Tales Trails and Tails</u>. But by the time I met Jane on the train, the magazine had closed up shop, and I was left without a job. I did, however, receive a very generous severance package, and this allowed me freedom to explore, so I headed to Colorado."

"Why Colorado?" Karl asked.

"After I was finished working for TT&T, my Aunt Annie invited me to her house for cookies and milk, she always bribed me with chocolate chip cookies. She tried to convince me to take advantage of my new freedom from work, and have an adventure. She dragged out an old tin box that was sent to the

family from Colorado in the late 1800's. Among some other stuff it had a sort of treasure map."

"So, let me guess, that's what got you on the train where you ogled naked mom." Karl asked.

Andrew decided to enter a little more fun into the conversation. "Yep, Aunt Annie's wild goose chase treasure hunt suggestion convinced me to have a little adventure. It wasn't much longer before I had another chance to ogle Jane's lovely body."

"The plot thickens." Olivia interrupted.

"Tell us more."

"The train came to a complete stop near Jamesville, Iowa. An eastbound freight train had jumped the track as it was crossing seven mile creek. The conductor told us that we would be stuck there for a couple of days, and we better try to get a motel room before all the rooms were taken. I had seen a sign for the Wigwam Motel. I grabbed my backpack and Jane's big red suitcase to make a run for it."

"I tried to stop him." Jane said. "I had spent most of my money back in Chicago, and didn't have anything left for a motel, but he just grabbed my suitcase and took off for the motel.

As soon as we entered the motel, I found a phone and tried to call my Uncle Bill to have him wire me some emergency funds, but he was out in the field and couldn't be reached."

"You mean your Uncle Bill was a farmer?" Olivia asked.

"No, not that kind of field. He worked for the Colorado Fish and Game Department, and was required to do a lot of field research." Jane replied.

"In the mean time," Andrew continued. "I went to the check-in desk to get a room. Aunt Martha told me that there was only one room left, but she winked and assured me that my wife and I would enjoy it. Since she saw us come in with me schlepping the big red suitcase, it was natural for her to assume we were a couple."

Karl jumped in. "Who is this Aunt Martha? I didn't know you had relatives in Iowa."

"She was not really my Aunt." Andrew replied. "She reminded me so much of Aunt Annie's next door neighbor Martha, that it just seemed right to call her that."

When she said that there was only one room available, and that was the last one in town anywhere, I had a quick decision to make. I could tell 'not Aunt Martha' that I only wanted a single, but that would make Jane stuck without a room. I couldn't make her sleep on a cold park bench could I?

I could be a gentleman and let Jane have the room, but then *I* would be left in the cold. The other choice was for us to share the room. Since 'not Aunt Martha' assumed we were married, this seemed like a reasonable option."

"As you can imagine, I was not too keen on the idea of sharing a room with this happy ogling stranger." Jane said. "But, I was stuck without money for a room and I could not contact Uncle Bill. Andrew explained how there were no other room options, and that 'not Aunt Martha' assumed we were married. I told him that I didn't have money even for sharing a room, but he said that he had a windfall of severance money from TT&T, and that money was not an issue. He even claimed that since 'not Aunt Martha' had married us, that his money was our money. So, I finally gave in.

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After 'not Aunt Martha' gave us the room key, we headed down the hall to find room 106. Room 106 had the number on the door inside a big red heart."

"Oh no!." Olivia laughed. "You checked into the Honeymoon Suite?"

"Yep!" Andrew replied. "The walls were painted red and there were lots of decorations featuring hearts and cupids, including a big nude painting over the bed. Oh, there was also a heart shaped hot tub in the room."

"Andrew tried to get me drunk and into the hot tub." Jane said.

"Well, it didn't happen quite like that." Andrew went on. After getting settled in the 'Lover's Room' we asked 'not Aunt Martha' to recommend a restaurant. She suggested that Mama Leone's, no connection to the famous Mama Leone's in New York City, was the best place in town and made a reservation for us."

It turned out that the owner was a cousin of 'not Aunt Martha'. She told her cousin that we were staying in the Honeymoon Suite, and to treat us well. The restaurant owner insisted that we sample the different varieties of wine that he imported from an Italian cousin of his. So, it wasn't me that was responsible for Jane having a little too much to drink."

Jane interjected. "By the time we got back to the room, I was feeling pretty well looped. Andrew insisted that we should take advantage of the hot tub. I was remembering how Janice had called me a prude, and even though she was not there to see, I guess I was trying to convince myself that I was not really a prude. Also Andrew suggested that I could tie him up and blindfold him to prove that he was not really a pervert."

"I can't imagine my straight laced parents behaving like some kind of free wheeling hippies." Karl said, shaking his head.

Andrew, deciding to have a little fun at Karl's expense jumped in.

"You would be surprised at how your mother behaved back in the days before we were married. There was another time when she ripped off my clothes and dumped me in another hot tub."

Jane decided to add to the fun. "And Andrew once pulled off his pants for me."

"Who are these people?" Karl said, looking at Olivia and frowning. "I don't know these people at all."

"OK." Olivia laughingly jumped into the conversation. "I want to hear more about this clothes ripping incident."

"It was actually quite innocent." Jane said. "That was the result of Andrew playing hero. This is a bit of a long story. You better refill your drinks for this."

After topping up their drinks and digging into the snacks, Jane continued.

"My Uncle Bill wanted me to visit Mikel, an old sheep herder friend of his to see if he had any leads on the poachers who were killing big game; sheep, deer, and elk, and selling trophy heads. I took Andrew along in my jeep for the visit.

On the way back from our visit with Mikel, we came upon a small crowd of people looking at a car that had been washed into the river by a flash flood. The car was stuck on a rock in the middle of the river, and looked like it would soon break loose. We could see that there were people in the car. No one in the crowd seemed to know how to help. Andrew had me move

the jeep facing the river. He then grabbed the winch cable, hooked it onto his belt, and waded out to the car.

There was a little girl and her mother in the car. Andrew pulled the little girl through the car window, and had her put her arms around his neck. He then had the mother hang on to his belt, and I slowly winched them back to shore, just as the car broke free and washed on down the river."

"This sounds like a scene from an adventure movie." Olivia said.

Jane continued. "By then there was an emergency squad on the scene and they quickly rushed the little girl and her mother away. Andrew's lips started turning blue and he was in danger of hypothermia. I got pretty wet also while helping drag the mother and daughter to shore. A lady noticed our condition and told me to get Andrew to one of her nearby rental cabins. The cabin had a hot tub. Andrew's fingers were so cold he couldn't even undo his buttons. So that's when I helped Andrew out of his clothes and into the tub. I was wet, cold, and shivering so naturally I joined him."

Andrew added. "The lady owned the vacation cabins, and was another 'not Aunt Martha' type. She took our wet clothes away to dry them out, and said we would find them outside the door in the morning. She came back shortly with bowls of hot soup, drinks and snacks and bid us goodnight."

"OK, I guess the second hot tub incident was not part of some crazy hippy party." Karl said. "I'm surprised that this is the first time I've heard this story."

"It happened long before you were around." Explained Andrew. "Somehow the subject never came up."

"But what about dropping your pants for Jane?' Olivia grinned.

"That was after Jane flashed the poachers." Andrew said.

"What's this about Mom flashing poachers? Karl asked.

"I'm getting a little ahead of the story." Andrew replied. "She flashed me again before the poacher incident."

"So Mom, were you in the habit of flashing people?" Karl asked.

"No." Jane said. "One of my jobs at Elk Park Ranch was to clean the swimming pool. I didn't like the fact that at the time I had no sun tan and my skin was pasty white. I also needed a new swim suit, so my friend Nancy and I took a shopping trip to the Grand Lake General Store. I wanted to try swimming suits on before selecting one. There was no changing room, but they allowed me to change in the broom closet. It was pretty small, and when I bent over to pick up the suit I wanted to try on, my bottom bumped the door open."

"I happened to be shopping in the store at the time, and got a quick peek at some skin before the door slammed shut." Andrew said with a laugh. "At the time, I had no idea that it was Jane. As a matter of fact, I didn't even know Jane and I were staying at the same ranch."

"But what about the poachers?" Olivia asked.

Jane took a sip of her drink, sat back and continued the story.

"I wanted to work on a tan, but I didn't want to lay around the pool for the guests to ogle me. So, I got on a horse and rode up the valley a ways and found a nice sunny spot off the trail where I was sure no one could see me, and slipped out of my

clothes. I had my new bikini on under my clothes. Then I spread a blanket and did some sun bathing."

Andrew picked up the story.

"I made Elk Park Ranch my base, not knowing that was where Jane worked. I had taken a hike to look for the area near Lulu City where there was a cryptic mark on Uncle Arvids;'s old treasure map. I had set up my tent on a ridge overlooking the Kawaneeche valley the evening before. The next day I was looking through my binoculars at a small group of big horn sheep on a ridge across the valley from me when suddenly one of the sheep fell over the edge of a cliff. It was immediately followed by a second sheep falling. Now I was a greenhorn tenderfoot easterner, and did not know much about how sheep behaved, but I suspected this was not a common occurrence. As I kept watching I soon detected some motion and spotted what I was convinced must be poachers.

About the same time I saw someone on horseback riding up a valley trail. The rider moved off the trail, rolled out a blanket, stripped off her clothes (which told me this was a pretty girl) and stretched out on the blanket.

"I noticed that one of the poachers apparently also saw the girl, and he made his way down to where she was laying. At that point I didn't know if the girl was part of the poacher group or not. But when the poacher jumped on the girl, tied her up, and lead her horse away, it was pretty clear what was going on."

Jane added. "The poachers decided that my horse was just what they needed to pack out the two big horn sheep heads. The poacher had covered my head with a backwards ski mask so I couldn't see him. He said that he would be back in a while and we would have a little fun."

Andrew continued. "I made my way down to the girl and tried to convince her that I was not the guy who tied her up. I cut her loose and it was only when the ski mask was removed that I recognized Jane."

"Andrew and I were equally surprised to discover each other. I have to say that Andrew was a perfect gentleman. By then my thrashing around had made my bikini top slip. The first thing Andrew did was to take off his shirt and had me put it on.

I told Andrew what the poacher had said about coming back, and we decided to get away from there as quickly as possible. We used some sticks to brush away most of the tracks to try to confuse the poachers and give us a little more time to get away.

Andrew suggested that the best thing to do was to avoid the trail and get back up to his camping spot which was pretty well hidden from sight from the valley. From our vantage point on the hill we had a good view of the valley. Andrew gave me his binoculars, and he used the telephoto lens on his camera, and we watched the poachers look around for a short time where they had left me, and then finally saw them head down the trail leading my horse, which had a couple of large garbage bags thrown over the saddle.

We wanted to stay clear of the poachers, so Andrew convinced me to stay in his tent until the next morning before hiking back to the ranch."

"So once again you and Andrew slept together?" Karl smiled.

"This was a lot different than the king sized bed in the honeymoon suite." Jane replied. "There was no room to build a wall of pillows between us in that sleeping bag. It's a good

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thing that we already knew each other." Jane grinned. "It was a tight squeeze, but we managed."

"Is this when Andrew pulled his pants down for you?" Olivia laughed and asked.

"No, that came later back at the ranch." Jane said.
"Remember that part of my job was to clean out the pool.
Several days after the poacher incident Andrew was watching me diving down to remove an obstruction in the drain."

"She disappeared under the water so long that I was afraid she would drown." Andrew commented.

"Anyway, what I pulled out of the drain was someones bikini top. Just for fun I wadded it up and threw it at Andrew. He made a grab for it, stepped on a rubber ducky, fell backwards, and sat on a cholla cactus."

"Ouch, that must have hurt!" Karl made a wincing face and exclaimed.

"You better believe it." Said Andrew. "Jane went and grabbed a first aid kit and we went to my cabin where 'Nurse Jane' ordered me to drop my pants and stretch out on the bed while she operated with tweezers and pliers. The operation was a success, and all of the nasty thorns were removed. The best part was when she rubbed antibiotic ointment on the affected area. Mm hmm." Andrew smiled at the memory.

"What ever happened to the poachers?" Olivia wanted to know.

"That's another long story." Andrew replied. "The short version is that one of the poachers thought he needed to remove any possible witnesses. You have to realize that this poaching operation was a big business where one big game head could sell for prices into five figures. He actually tried to assassinate

us and missed by only a couple of inches with a high powered rifle. The good news was the he and an accomplice were caught and jailed."

"Wow!" Exclaimed Olivia. "Your parents sure have an exciting history."

"This has been all new to me." Replied Karl. "I had no idea that in their younger days my parents were sleeping with each other and ogling each other's naked bodies."

The complete story of Andrew, Jane, Arvid's treasure, and the poachers is found in the book *Danger in the Rockies* on Amazon.

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