

Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, Frisco Eddie had been beaten by "The Man," Glen Dawson, and lost the \$3,000 pot. Instead of putting Eddie back in the action, Long Beach Lil challenged the board.)

There was a lot of hustle and bustle from the crowd, and the players Glen and Eddie, after Lil made her announcement: "Gentlemen: I challenge the board."

Eddie walked over to where Lil stood. He wanted to talk -- he was totally baffled. At the same time, Glen Dawson strolled over to an elderly man who had been silently watching all the action. The spectators surrounding the seat the man occupied slowly drifted away from the area, as if they knew some sort of conference was about to take place.

Eddie was a little excited when he asked Lil: "Just what in the hell is going on here?" Lil gave him a cool look as she replied: "I've purposely stayed completely out of this thing so far, so you could try to prove whatever it is you have to prove. You can't see how this thing is being developed here, Champ. You are being set up -- and I mean really set up. You will not beat Glen Dawson tonight. This is his personal board, and you're on his turf. There may be two, or possibly three, players in the country than can take him at this place."

She continued: "I may be one of those three, Eddie -- but you're not -- not tonight, not here. He's over there now talking to his 'money man.' My guess is that he's not prepared financially for a full blow-out with me -- at least I hope that's the case. You may not realize it right now, honey, but I'm making this move for you. I can't sit here and watch you get hurt."

Eddie looked intently into Lil's eyes then. What he saw there convinced him that Lil was making sense and, even more important, that she really did care for him. He asked: "Well, how is this thing going to work now, sweetheart?" Lil turned her head then and said: "We're going to find out real quick, Champ. Glen is on his way over here right now."

There was no smile on Glen's face as he approached. He looked at Lil then and said: "I had a little talk with my friend over there, and we both feel that the play should continue just as it was -- just me and Eddie, I mean." Lil's reply was quick and to the point: "It's going to be just you and me, for \$2000 a series at least -- or we're gonna walk. That's it...and that's that."

Glen looked at her long and hard and was convinced that she was dead serious. He replied: "Well, now, Lil, I'll have to talk to my man over there and all. You know, I just don't think this is right."

Lil stared him down then as she said: "There won't be any confab with anyone, Glen. You tell me within 30 seconds, right here and now, if we have a game -- or we're history and we'll meet up next in Reno." Glen had a rather strange look on his face then, and there was no reply.

Lil gave him his 30 seconds and then turned to Eddie and said: "Pack up your weights, Champ -- we're out of here!" Eddie moved quickly then and was ready to leave. There still was no reply from Glen. He just kind of gazed at them as they picked up their things and headed for the door.

Lil did stop and turn just as she reached the doorway. She looked at him briefly and said: "Too bad things didn't work out better, Glen. See you in Reno, O.K.?"

Lil and Eddie both breathed a sigh of relief as they pulled out of the parking area of O'Brian's Pub. Lil's mind was working overtime as they made their way back to the Sea-Tac Airport. By the time they had arrived, turned in the rental, and were at the ticket counter -- she had things sorted out.

It was well over a month before the tournament at Reno. While they were waiting for their flight out, Lil took out a copy of The Board Talk and made out and mailed off their entry applications. Eddie didn't really know for sure what was going on, as he was busy at the Flight Deck Lounge, getting a "snoot full" before the take-off.

By the time Lil returned, Eddie was well on his way. Lil said: "Get your nose out of that glass, Champ. We've got a flight to catch."

After they had cleared the security checks and were headed down the aisles toward the departure area, Eddie stopped and said: "Hold on, honey bunch. I'd like to know just where we're headed here!"

Lil looked at him with a twinkle in her eyes and a smile on her face as she replied: "To Michigan. We're going to Michigan, my man!"

What lies ahead in Michigan for Eddie and Lil? Don't miss the next exciting episode. As always, we encourage you to let Balboa Ron know you're enjoying his series: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89123.)