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The Board Talk

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Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert Las Vegas, Nevada

Eddie had just hung up the phone and had told Long Beach Lil to "call for some ice....I'll be there in 30 minutes." He instinctively felt he was making a mistake, as he had also promised Shelli he would see her as soon as he got off work.

On the drive to Lil's hotel, Eddie entertained some thoughts about what it might be like if he went on the road. He wanted the "action." He wanted to be able to prove to himself how good he really could be, and he was also excited over the notion of hustling full-time. He arrived at the hotel and found Lil's room. He tried to ignore the #13 displayed on the door. He needed the drink she had promised, and his emotional level rose over the prospect of what awaited him inside that room.

Lil's voice responded to Eddie's knock: "Come on in, Eddie; it's open." He entered to find Lil waiting -- with a glass in her hand. She really looked fabulous. She was dressed casually, but in a way that accented her fantastic body. She said, "I'm glad you're here, Eddie, really glad." Her eyes said all the rest. As she handed him the glass, she said, "I noticed what you were having last night. I hope this is O.K."

Eddie answered, "It'll be just fine. Thanks!" and then added: "Is it just me -- or do you look even better now than you did last night?"

Lil smiled then and replied, "Thanks for the compliment, Eddie. Maybe it's just because we're not competing now, and you see things in a little different light."

Eddie would have liked the "spell" to last longer, but he snapped out of it when he recalled the time restraints he was under. After he took a long pull on his drink, he said: "I'd like to make this a real social visit, but could we get down to what you had in mind? Shelli is probably steaming by now."

Lil looked a little disappointed as she said, "Anyway you want to play it, Eddie. Let's get down to business ...Here's the way things look to me, Champ. I won't go over everything, but what I have planned is that we take off and hit all the hot spots and pick off the 'fish' at selected cities. I know where to go -- and who to play. I know how to work the 'marks,' and I know how to do it -without them even suspecting they're getting hustled. I'll show you all the 'scams,' and how to set up the marks. I'll show you the ropes on the phsyical techniques -- things that will put us way ahead, even before the quarters go into the slot." She looked at him carefully then -- and saw that he was taking it all in. She continued: "You could take a couple weeks to straighten things out here, so you don't leave Bob in a strain. Then you'll just have to make Shelli understand it all!" She added: "I feel good about this, Eddie. This plan will work out real fine. Now, what do you think? Are you willing to give this thing a shot?"

Eddie looked her intently in the eyes, but then shifted his gaze down to his watch. He said, "I'm really late; I have to leave now. Thanks for the drink." Lil's eyes drifted down to the floor then in disbelief. When Eddie got to the door, he hesitated and slowly turned around. He regained her eye contact and said: "By the way -- I'll see you in two weeks, Lil. I'm in."

(What happens next? Don't miss the next episode of Frisco Eddie's Revenge in the December issue!)

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