

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In last month's episode, after Frisko Eddie found Lil in a compromising situation with Dick Moyer, he told her he was leaving Reno. Before he checked out, he called the Blue Moon hoping that Shelli was still waiting for him.)

When Eddie heard Shelli say: "I'm sorry, Eddie, but...", his heart fell into his stomach! The phone he held in his hand was trembling. After another pause, he heard Shelli again. This time she was hollering out in a loud voice: "Quiet down, you guys. It's Eddie and I can't hear a word he's saying!" Then he heard her say: "O.K., Sweetheart, go ahead, I can hear you now."

Eddie felt a torrent of relief pass through his whole being! He replied: "Honey, I just wanted to tell you that I'm coming home! I'm going to catch the first flight out. I'll call you back and let you know what time I'll be in. Do you think you'd be able to pick me up?" He heard her say: "Oh, Eddie, you don't know how long I've been waiting for this call! Of course, I'll be there, Darling." Eddie replied: "I love you, Sweetheart. I'll get right back to you. Bye."

Eddie let out with a loud "YES" after he placed the phone in its cradle. He didn't care about anything that could happen to him now -- as long as he had Shelli! He quickly took care of business then. He booked the next Reno to San Francisco shuttle flight, called Shelli back, and gathered up his things and took the elevator to the main floor. After he checked out, he went to the back bar in the Casino as he had told Lil he would. He had enough time for one drink. If Lil didn't show up, or contact him, he would assume that she had found everything to her satisfaction in their room, and he would be on his way.

There were still a bunch of players at the bar. They were pretty well oiled up by now, and Eddie got several slaps on the back and "you should have won it" from the gang. There was one thing for sure....he had made quite an impression at the tournament, and on the entire road trip for that matter. Needless to say, it felt good -- but not as good as the prospect of seeing Shelli and getting back to the Blue Moon. His emotional dilemma over the split with Lil was completely suppressed by what lie ahead for him.

He gave her another few minutes and no one showed. He took that as a sign that his business here in Reno was finished. He walked back to the bell hop desk and picked up his bag and then made his way out the entrance.

The flight from Reno to San Francisco International only took about 35 to 40 minutes. Eddie just laid back and relaxed, until he heard the pre-landing instructions. He couldn't wait to get on the ground!

The landing was uneventful and soon he was walking into the terminal area with bag in hand. He figured that Shelli would probably be picking him up outside of the baggage pick-up area, so he didn't look around too close. Just as he turned to head for the main terminal, he heard a voice say: "Hi, stranger -- care for some company?" It was Shelli!

He dropped his bag and rushed over to her. They embraced so long that a crowd was actually starting to gather! This was a wonderful moment for both of them -- one they wouldn't soon forget.

They both couldn't stop talking on the drive through the city. Eddie was describing his shuffleboard adventures, and Shelli was telling about the Blue Moon and all that had happened there. She told him almost everything, anyway!

They decided to stop off at the bar to arrange things so they could both have the next day or two off. Shelli pulled into the owner's space at the rear of the place. They were both beaming when they entered the bar. A big cheer went up when they came in, and everyone came up to hug and shake hands.

After a couple of drinks, and things had settled down, Eddie suggested that they head for the apartment. He whispered to Shelli: "We've got a lot of catching up to do, Sweetheart!" She whispered back: "I know, Precious, but I want you to do something first. O.K.?"

He asked, "What in the world could it be?" She said: "Just put two quarters in the shuffleboard, O.K.?"For me."

(Just what does Shelli have on her mind? Could it have something to do with the ALMOST everything she had told him? Don't miss the next exciting episode.)

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