

WELL I NEVER!

A sketch in one scene

by

Keith Passmore



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Well I Never!

Cast of characters

Woman 1 (W1)

Woman 2 (W2)

Waitress

Production notes:

The stage is bare apart from two straight backed chairs at C.

Both women are late middle aged and are well dressed in black. The waitress is dressed formally.

Time: 1980's

Well I Never!

Both women are seated DC on straight backed chairs. They occasionally sip sherry from glasses.

W1: He was a nice man.

W2: Yes, a nice man.

W1: I don't mean just nice. You know, he was a nice man.

W2: I know, I know what you mean.

W1: Yes, well respected.

W2: Course he was.

W1: Salt of the earth.

W2: Yes. You're right, absolutely.

Pause

W1: Funny that.

W2: What's that then?

W1: Salt of the Earth. It's a funny saying don't you think?

W2: Yes. Salt of the sea or salt of the cellar but not...

W1: (*interjecting*) Cellar?

W2: Yes, you know, salt cellars.

W1: I've always called them pots.

W2: Pots, cellars, doesn't matter does it?

W1: No, I suppose not, but it's a funny phrase. Not very...

W2: (*interjecting*) Nice?

W1: Complimentary, I'd say.

W2: That's it, that's the word.

The waitress enters R with a tray of sherry glasses. She offers drinks to the women. They return empty one to the tray and take full ones. The waitress smiles and exits L

W1: He was though wasn't he?

W2: What wasn't he?

W1: (*slightly irritated*) Salt of the earth.

W2: Oh! Yes he was, salt of the earth.

W1: An upstanding gentleman.

W2: Definitely upstanding.

Pause

W1: Not any more though.

W2: What d'yer mean?

W1: Upstanding.

W2: No, not any more, poor man.

Pause

W2: How's she taking it?

W1: Who?

W2: Her.

W1: Oh, her? She's devastated.

Pause

W1: Well, she would be wouldn't she?

W2: What's that then?

W1: What's what?

W2: Why would she be, er...?

W1: Devastated?

W2: Yes, devastated.

W1: Wouldn't you be?

W2 is a little confused

W2: I really don't know.

W1: Not wed were they.