The Tease

by Jake Barnes

She was sick and tired of marriage. She didn't want to be a mother, but now she was. When she called her former suitor, he asked her how she was doing. Oh, you know, she said. Ben was a teacher. She had been in one of his classes at the junior college. One day he invited her over to his apartment after class. He told her to bring her swimming suit.

During the course of their conversation that day, she confessed that she was a virgin. He asked how old she was, and she told him. Twenty-two.

He had wined her and dined her for months. He had tried to get into her pants, too. She giggled when she thought about that. Now she was married to someone else. The baby was crying, too, and surely he could hear that.

When he had answered the phone, he asked her how she was doing, and she said, “Oh, you know.” He was friendly on the phone. She told him to call her sometime, and then she hung up. She wondered if he would call. If he did, this time she would have a surprise for him. Or maybe not. It was fun teasing him.

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