

### TOO HASTY!

As Lucy sat musing in her room, she heard the telephone ring. Her mother, Maud, calmly picked up the receiver and listened. The call was for Lucy. Maud went to the door and shouted, "Lucy you're wanted on the phone, dear."

Lucy, hoping it was Jim, joyously jumped and ran to the phone. As she said hello, and listened for a response, she disappointedly heard a girl's voice coming over the line. It was Angela.

"Hi, Lucy, how are you?" queried Angela.

"Fine, thank you, and how are you?" inquired Lucy.

"Just great! What's cookin' Lucy?"

"What's cookin'! What do you mean?"

"I mean are you going to the party tonight?"

"I don't know yet, Angela. Are you?"

"Oh sure!"

"With whom?"

"Jim is taking me."

"That's lovely, I - - - hope you have a good time."

"Thank you Lucy, I'll see you there."

As Lucy returned to her room she wondered: "Why did Jim do this to me? What does he see in Angela?" Later that day she decided to go visit her friend, Rosalin. Rosalin met her at the door.

"Hello, Lucy! Isn't this a perfect evening? Let's go for a stroll," said Rosalin.

"That might be a good idea," replied Lucy.

The two girls strolled about in continuous conversation, when suddenly Rosalin said, "I suppose you are taking in the big party tonight, are you, Lucy?"

"No, I don't think so," replied Lucy.

"But where's Jim?" retorted Rosalin, "Isn't he taking you?"

"Angela called up before I left, and said that he was taking her."

"But Lucy, that's not true! Jim said he was going to call you this evening. You mean he hasn't called you?"

"No, at least not before I left home."

"Well, we should go back in case he does call."

They went to Lucy's house, and there Lucy anxiously waited for a call from Jim, but no call came. She waited long after Rosalin left, but there was still no call. She didn't know which to believe—Angela or Rosalin. When she went to bed, she thought it over. The more she thought about it the more angry she became, till finally she resolved upon the policy of ignoring Jim. If he called her up, she would refuse to answer the phone.

Several days later she met Jim as she was walking downtown, and she was unwilling to listen to him, but something forced her to do so when he asked: "Lucy, what has come between us?"

"As if you don't know!" stormed Lucy. "Did you have a nice time at the party, the other night?"

"But Lucy, I wasn't at the party, I couldn't contact you."

"Why did you want me when you had Angela?"

"Angela! Where did you get that notion?"

"Don't play stupid. Angela called me up and told me everything."

"She lied! I merely asked her if she was going to the party."

"Jim, are you telling the truth?"

"Why should I lie? Angela stretched her imagination a little too far."

"Oh, Jim! How could I have been so stupid!"

"Forget about it Lucy. When I see Angela, I'll give her a piece of my mind! Let's go to a movie."

"That would be lovely Jim! I'm sorry for what happened. I guess I was a bit too hasty."

Lucy's troubled mind was settled. She regretted her temporary distrust of Jim. She learned the hard way, as many of us do, that it never pays to make decisions without all the facts.

—Charles Roche '55.