

A FAITHFUL FRIEND

By Rod

Based on Malachi Chapter 2: 1-16. Charlie is married to Diana but is cheating on her. Ed is Charlie's oldest friend and was his best man.

CAST

Charlie

Ed

Ed is on stage seated at a table as if in a pub. Enter Charlie carrying two pints of beer.

C Here we are, Ed. One pint of Old Peculiar as requested. Get that down you.

E Cheers Charlie. Your very good health. *[They clink glasses]*

C *[Cheerfully]* Thanks, and I am in very good health.

E I thought you seemed rather chipper. Is there any particular reason?

C *[A little cagey]* No, just that life seems pretty good at the moment all things considered.

E It wouldn't have anything to do with that long blonde hair on your shoulder by any chance?

C What blonde hair?

E *[Reaching out to grab the hair]* This one. Who does this belong to then?

C *[Looks embarrassed]* Oh, you know. Probably one of the secretaries in the office.

E Oh yeah. Which one? *[More direct realising there is more in it than he thought.]* Come on, Charlie, I'm your best friend. Is there something I should know?

C Oh well, if you must know, there is someone. Her name is Judy.

E You're joking.

C And that is why I feel so good. She makes me feel young again.

- E Wow, you're serious. Does Diana know?
- C Diana? No, of course not.
- E Do you plan on telling her?
- C What? Probably not yet.
- E Well don't. And stop seeing this Judy.
- C Why should I? When I am with her I really feel alive.
- E Maybe, but you are killing your marriage. Don't you remember your wedding day? You told me as your best man that it was the happiest day of your life. Diana was everything you wanted in a lifelong marriage partner.
- C It was a good day.
- E "Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder." Don't throw your marriage away for some floozy who flatters your sagging male ego.
- C Judy is not a floozy.
- E Maybe not, but as your closest friend I beg of you not to break faith with the wife of your youth.
- C Maybe you're right, Ed.
- E Trust me. I am. Diana and you were united as one flesh and one spirit. She is the mother of your lovely children. Now more than ever you need to hold fast to those promises you made to her. She is worth it.
- C You are right. Thanks, Ed, you are a real friend.

THE END

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