

The Waiting Room

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4 *A woman is terrified of the dentist. As she waits her*
5 *turn in the outer office she talks her heart out to a*
6 *stranger trying to read a magazine.*
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9 Every time I get a whiff of outer office dentist I'm
10 through. How about you? The only reason I'm here is
11 my husband told me if I held off any longer I'd have to
12 pay the bill myself. Medicare doesn't cover dental
13 surgery does it? What's the difference — I'm only forty.
14 I admit it. I hate the sound of thirty-nine. It's phoney.
15 Ohh — do you hear that drill?! Brrr . . It's getting so I
16 can't stand back issue magazines. What are you reading —
17 Esquire? Gave it up — couldn't get it out of the letter
18 box. *(Pause)* I suppose it's different with a man. Then
19 again we go through childbirth. I'd like to see a guy in
20 stirrups. Still there are all types of men. Brrrowww!
21 Hear it?! Still drilling. They should pull 'em out as soon
22 as they appear — the wisdom teeth — when you're young,
23 gay, carefree and don't give a damn. Hmm? *(Pause)*
24 Molars, bicuspid, fangs. The names alone. Brrrr . .
25 Listen to the drill . . bzzzzz. They got silencer guns,
26 why can't they invent a silencer drill? If I could only
27 relate to something else while I'm in the chair. Skiing.
28 Or recipes. Sex even. I have the same trouble on the bus.
29 Everyone stares at me and I get off. Here you're strapped
30 to the chair. Capital punishment. Even the X-rays gag me.
31 You suppose the water they schpritz on it does any
32 good? Nahh . . just a psychological ploy. Oh my you hear
33 it now?! I can just feel that hot metal instrument in my
34 mouth! *(Pause)* Oh nurse — this man fainted. You got
35 some water?