

'About Schmidt' by Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor

ROBERTA: Don't lie to me. Jeannie told us all about your little panic attack last night.

Warren opens his mouth to speak but Roberta pre-empts him with a mouthful of soup.

ROBERTA: And I don't blame you. It's a perfectly natural reaction. In the beginning I had my own reservations. After all, as the veteran of two failed marriages, I have learned a lot about what works and does not work between two people. And knowing what I know, and having seen the kids together much more than you have, I can tell you they are in <u>very</u> good shape. They have a <u>very</u> healthy relationship -- spiritually, emotionally <u>and</u> physically. I'm not sure how much Jeannie has really told you about her relationship with Randall -- I understand she was closer with her mother. But Jeannie and I have grown <u>very</u> close. She confides in me. And, well, you already know how famously they get along as friends. But what you may not know is that their intimate life is positively <u>white hot</u>.

Warren is not happy knowing this.

ROBERTA: The principal reason that both my marriages failed was physical. I am an extremely sexual person. I can't help it -- that's just how I'm wired. Even when I was a little girl. Most people find this hard to believe, but I had my first orgasm when I was six. In ballet class.

Anyway, suffice it to say I've always been very easily aroused, and Jeannie and I have a lot in common that way. The point is that neither Cliff nor Larry could keep up with me. As much as I tried to understand it and as much as I valued the companionship, it became an insurmountable problem. Now I don't want to betray Jeannie's confidence, but I can assure you that she and Randall are not



going to run into those kinds of difficulties. They may have other problems along the way, but they will <u>always</u> have their sexual life to fall back on. More soup?