

you're a real man. A real newsman, got it? And we're back in four, three, two and — *(he points the last count).*

(They're back on air.)

BETH. Welcome back, folks. You're living in Fairytaleland and this is your 7 o'clock news.

FRANK. This is *not* news! News is supposed to be *newsw*. That cow jumps over the moon everyday. And the cat plays the fiddle. And the little dog laughs. And the dish runs away with the spoon. Let me guess what else happens today. The mouse runs up the clock? Little Bo Peep loses her sheep again? Jack and Jill — oh, wait — is that today's *breaking* story? *(To the camera:)* They fall down the hill folks, okay? Because Jack and Jill are clumsy. They're clumsy kids that never grow up and always need more water from the well. Why are they so thirsty? I don't know. And I don't care. This is not reporting.

BETH. Frank isn't feeling very well this morning.

FRANK. Actually, you're right, I'm feeling kind of nauseous from all the monotony. Let me give you a piece of advice, Betty: no one knows where the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked are and no one ever will. Because nothing ever changes in Fairytaleland. *(Going closer to the camera:)* Ya hear that folks? This is your 7 o'clock news, I'm Frank Donnelly and nothing ever changes. *(Pause.)* Unless you want it to.

(PHIL approaches FRANK, and opens his mouth to say something.)

FRANK. You don't have to fire me, Phil — I quit.

(FRANK leaves. An awkward pause.)

BETH. Right. Well, that...is...unfortunate. *(Another awkward pause. Looking to PHIL:)* Commercial?...No? Can't we just go to static? *(PHIL motions to keep rolling.)* Right. *(Back to camera:)* Time to get a Pop Tart?

(PHIL frantically motions to go to commercial.)

BETH. We'll be right back.

(Off air.)

↓ End