INT - A KITCHEN - NIGHT

MR VAN HORN sits at the kitchen table, in deep thought. He is tired, dressed in a robe. He is frustrated, a little weary.

We hear movement beyond the door, and Mr Van Horn looks up.

We hear the lock turn, and the door open.

We centre on Mr Van Horn. He smiles to his WIFE (not in camera).

MR VAN HORN Hello, my love

WIFE

(O.C.)

Hi dear. It's good to see you still up. Why are you, though?

MR VAN HORN
Didn't want to go to sleep without
seeing you. What happened? You're
usually home by seven.

WIFE

(O.C.)

I know, I'm so upset about it. Project due to-morrow, I just had to stay late. Let me go get changed, and we can talk all about it.

Mr Van Horn watches his wife (0.C.) leave the room. He sighs. And waits.

MR VAN HORN

(loudly, so she
can hear in the
next room)

So, were you working with that tall guy across the hall? I don't remember his name.

WIFE

(muffled, through
door)

You mean Jonathan?

MR VAN HORN

No, no, the tall one.

WIFE

(muffled, through
door)

I don't know whom you mean.

MR VAN HORN

Mark, I think it was. You work with a Mark, don't you?

WIFE

(muffled, through
door)

Oh, Mark! Why would you think I'd be working with him? No, it was some supervisor from the Central office. Susan.

The wife now re-emerges (stays O.C.).

MR VAN HORN

(looking at her)
You've been late a lot this past
month.

WIFE

(O.C.)

Have I? I'm sorry, I didn't realise. I'll try to make sure it doesn't happen again, but you know how work is. It's out of my control.

MR VAN HORN

(turns away from her)

Yeah, I guess it is.

WIFE

Listen, dear, I really should get to bed; I've still got to get into work on-time to-morrow. You coming?

MR VAN HORN Not right away.

WIFE

Okay, then. Good-night. I love you.

MR VAN HORN

(looks her full in
the face)

Yeah. I love you, too.

We hear the door close as the wife leaves, and ${\tt Mr}$ ${\tt Van}$ ${\tt Horn}$ is again alone, sitting in the kitchen.