Leaping Lizards.

Feeling uncherished a wife hires an actor to pretend to be her lover to make her husband jealous and her husband hires a woman to pretend to be his lover in hopes of making his wife jealous and realize she still loves him.

Logline:

The moment KATHERINE COLDWELL comes home from Paris she tells her wealthy husband CHARLES that she wants a divorce. She tells him she is in love with another man. Charles immediately seems to take the news well and invites her in and tells her that he doesn’t want to go through all the grief and pain but would rather learn to accept the fact that she doesn’t love him anymore. That was all a facade to keep her hanging around long enough to invite her lover over for dinner to get to know him and find him out. Her lover, NEAL FARMINGTON , is picked up at the airport and excepts an invitation to come to dinner. HOWARD , the limo driver/cook for Charles, threatens Neal with a gun. He makes the point that Charles is a different bird but if it was him he wouldn’t be so nice. What no one knows is that Neal is an actor hired by Katherine to see if Charles has any love for her anymore. He could show it be being jealous in her mind….but Charles is hiding his jealousy and being smart instead.

Earlier, before Neal arrived, Charles tripped Katherine as she was leaving the house. She scraped her chin, elbow, and knee. MRS. WELLS, their housekeeper for twenty years, used Bactine on Katherine and had to blow on the wounds because of the stinging- except for the chin when Katherine ran from her bad breath. Howard saw the tripping and swore it was an accident but later changed his tune.

After being hospitable toward Neal, Charles calls his two daughters, June and April. He asks them to act out problems that would make their mother see her need to stay with their dad. April’s act was so powerful that Katherine fainted at the news then fainted again later when June told her story. That led to DOCTOR SMITH ordering her to spend a week in bed. Katherine didn’t go along with that but got out of bed for a special dinner Charles and Mrs. Wells set up for the night. Charles calls up a woman, TRUDY, and pays her to pretend to be his lover- that they had a fling in Vegas years ago. Katherine has always been jealous of Trudy and when she shows up for dinner she blows up. This leads to a fantastic moment where it all comes out- that Neal is an actor from Europe- that Trudy is engaged to another man and Charles promised to buy her a new car as a wedding present for her help to make Kathryn jealous- and that they were both doing the same thing to each other instead of really showing their love. It all ends in a feast of laughter