

ANNIE ENTERS the room. Crash stays with his stance.

ANNIE

Crash... I want you.

CRASH

Nuke won't go to bed with you, eh?

ANNIE

He's confused --

CRASH

Aren't we all?

ANNIE

Don't you think I'm pretty?

Crash puts down the bat, and looks directly at her. As he does he picks up two spring loaded hand exercisers and begins pumping them an he talks.

CRASH

You're gorgeous, God damn it! From the moment I first saw you I knew I had to have you. I had to have you!

ANNIE

I want to be had.

CRASH

I think of you and the "boy" all the time.

ANNIE

He won't make love to me anymore.

CRASH

And he's right! A ballplayer on a streak has to respect the streak. They don't happen very often.

(beat)

You know how hard this game is? If you believe you're playing well because you're getting laid or because you're not getting laid or because you wore red silk panties -- then you are!

(beat)

And I still think Thomas Pynchon is full of shit.

ANNIE

I want you desperately!

Crash can hardly keep up. So he slows her down --

CRASH

Who are you? Do you have a job?

ANNIE

I teach part time at the Junior College. What if I told you I was through with Nuke? He learned his lessons quickly and left me.

CRASH

And now you wanta teach me?

ANNIE

I don't imagine there's much I could teach you.

CRASH

I doubt that.

ANNIE

Crash, I get wet just thinking about you.

CRASH

I thought you wanted an
"uncomplicated" boy?

ANNIE

I'm ready for a complicated man.

CRASH

-- and as soon as we lose a game,
he'll be back in your arms.

ANNIE

I said when I think about you, I get
wet.

CRASH

Annie, I think you should leave.

Annie launches into a tirade without orchestration or self-awareness. She's frustrated, confused, angry and...

ANNIE

God damn you -- what is happening?

Is there no man who'll have me?

(beat)

This is the weirdest season I ever
saw -- the Durham Bulls can't lose
and I can't get laid!

CRASH

(softly)

You okay?

Annie slides against the wall down to the floor. Tears flow.
Her makeup runs. Her eyes are red.

ANNIE

(shakily)

I need a drink.

Crash gingerly helps her to her feet.