

## "Explain the Kids..."

(From a story circulating around the Internet...perhaps you've seen this somewhere....)

Yes, I am FINALLY BACK from Iraq and Kuwait and am spending this time talking with and catching up with old friends and new. New friends -- those who sent me things for my personal enjoyment while I was in Kuwait and later Iraq; and old friends, like Carlotta, who kept in touch with me while I was gone and who welcomed me back with open arms and a warm kiss when I returned back home recently and stopped in "our Starbucks" over on Ford Parkway in St. Paul.

You should have seen those faces turn as we kissed and hugged each other!!

We finally sat down and I stood back up and went to the counter and ordered our regular drinks -- just like old times. I yelled how great it was to be back and how much Liz and her family was looking forward in seeing me after all of these months. She yelled back the fact that she had lots of stories to share with me.

So after our drinks were prepared, I brought them back to the small table where the attorney and I sat. As I sipped the first warm drops of my drink, she looked at me. After a few moments, she smiled and said, "God, I really miss that face, Mike!"

I placed my drink down and said "I've really missed this..."

We shared the same things I have shared with others -- how tough it was in Iraq, the daily grind, the leadership locally and back down in Kuwait and how it affected me, the work ethic of contractors, and on and on... After a few minutes, I stopped myself and said "I'm going on and on...what's been going on with you?"

The pretty defense attorney law partner -- I found out she's now a full partner at her firm -- looked at me and paused in thought. She moved her hair back from in front of her face and smiled.

"There's so many stories to share with you. Okay...here's one."

Carly moved her chair closer to the table and lowered her voice as she told the story.

"Back in July, I had a client. He wanted to divorce his wife and sue her at the same time. We normally only handle one major issue at a time -- until this guy explained to me what the situation was."

I nodded my head.

"The couple had been married for 20 years. During the 20 years, they had three kids and he explained that he loved and doted over them and basically gave them anything they wanted. All of them now are out of high school now...two are in college."

Carly stopped to take a sip from her coffee drink.

"The husband explained to me that every night that they made love, he insisted on having all of the lights turned off..." She stopped and then said, "Well, he's no Denzel, okay?"

I nodded.

"Well, after more than 20 years of this and the arguing and fighting over it, his wife felt this was ridiculous and figured she would break him out of this crazy habit. So one night about three months back, while they were in the middle of a wild, screaming, romantic session, she turned on the lights beside the bed."

"Okay..." I said

"She looked down at where she is impaled and saw her husband was holding a battery-operated leisure device... a vibrator! The man explained to me that he found one which was soft, thick and long as to help keep her satisfied -- and which felt most like him."

I smiled.

Carly said, "The woman went completely ballistic! She screamed all kinds of cuss words at her husband, calling him impotent and "limped". He said that she jumped off the bed and looked at him as he was still holding the battery operated device. She screamed at him, "How could you be lying to me all of these years? You better explain yourself!"

"Wow..."

Carly looked at me and said, "The husband said that he looked at his wife straight in her eyes and said in a calm voice "Joyce, I'll explain the toy... you explain the kids..."

I looked at the lawyer to see if she was serious.

"When they went to court, he got the divorce and the court is making her pay him back for everything he invested in the children seeing how she conned him into thinking that they were theirs.

"When the judge declared the divorce final," Carly looked at me and said, "that's why when I have sex again, the lights will always be on!"

She then smiled at me. I smiled back, knowing that even after a long time out of the country; she's still in rare form!