



Gregory
From *Overruled*
By George Bernard Shaw

Age Range: Young Adult, Adult

Style: Comedic, Contemporary

Monologue:

“You see, it's a great many years since I've been able to allow myself to fall in love. I know lots of charming women; but the worst of it is, they're all married. Women don't become charming, to my taste, until they're fully developed; and by that time, if they're really nice, they're snapped up and married. And then, because I am a good man, I have to place a limit to my regard for them. I may be fortunate enough to gain friendship and even very warm affection from them; but my loyalty to their husbands and their hearths and their happiness obliges me to draw a line and not overstep it. Of course I value such affectionate regard very highly indeed. I am surrounded with women who are most dear to me. But every one of them has a post sticking up, if I may put it that way, with the inscription Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted. How we all loathe that notice! In every lovely garden, in every dell full of primroses, on every fair hillside, we meet that confounded board; and there is always a gamekeeper round the corner. But what is that to the horror of meeting it on every beautiful woman, and knowing that there is a husband round the corner? I have had this accursed board standing between me and every dear and desirable woman until I thought I had lost the power of letting myself fall really and wholeheartedly in love.”

Play Synopsis:

Mr. Lunn and Mrs. Juno have fallen into a love affair. Mr. Lunn learns that Mrs. Juno is not a widow and Mrs. Juno learns Mr. Lunn is not single. Their spouses come into the picture.

Read the Play Here:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/3830/pg3830-images.html>