

UNCLE SAM ON THE COUCH

By Ben Krull

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Uncle Sam is talking to his psychiatrist, Dr. Poppy Pill, about Sam's propensity to get involved in unhealthy relationships:

Sam: When I moved out two years ago I thought it was over. I even took my underwear and toy soldier collection.

Doc: Didn't I warn you that Irene was trouble?

Sam: Her name is Iraq, not Irene.

Doc: Irene, Iraq ... your relationships make me Irate!

Sam: I'm only moving back in for a few months.

Doc: Are you attracted to her because she comes from oil money? Is that what is driving your obsession?

Sam: Money has nothing to do with it. She hooked up with this mean guy who wants to kill her, and she asked for my help.

Doc: Didn't you go through this before, when she was bullied by that guy with the mustache? You said you were moving in for a few months and you ended up staying for eight years!

Sam: This time is different.

Doc: If you believe that I have some Chicago Cubs playoff tickets to sell you. ... The two of you have been going back and forth like this for 25 years. Why not get married?

Sam: I can't marry her, she's nuts!

Doc: What happened with the other women you were seeing, like Libby?

Sam: You mean Libya. She dumped some guy for me, but then got involved with a bad crowd.

Doc: How did things turn out with Sara?

Sam: I think you mean Syria. I took your advice and stayed away from her. She was too unstable, even for me.

Doc: And that Iranian girl who was threatening you?

Sam: I arranged an intervention with some of her European friends, to get a grip on her explosive personality.

Doc: My diagnosis is that you have co-dependency with volatile women. You also have GU disorder.

Sam: What's GU?

Doc: Geographically Undesirable. Why not date someone close to you, like Canada?

Sam: I went out with her, but she was only interested in me for my pipelines.

Doc: Have you tried online dating?

Sam: If I go online I'm paranoid the NSA will know everything about me.

Doc: By the way, have you divorced that Afghan woman?

Sam: I'm staying at her place, while she works out how to get a protective order against her ex.

Doc: How could you go back to Iraq, when you are still involved with someone else?

Sam: I know, I'm not good at juggling.

Doc: Iraq, Iran, Afghan... you need to focus. I'm writing you a prescription for ADD medication.

Sam: One more thing. I've been having nightmares about the Vietnamese girl I used to see.

Doc: Save it for next session. I have some Ukranian patients waiting outside for family therapy, so we have to end. ... Here's my bill.

Sam: Why so much?

Doc: With the new health care law, I am no longer in your network.