

DANIEL/OSCAR – SIDE E

OSCAR: Glorious Ikea. The Swedish fix-it-yourself discount furniture megastore.

DANIEL: Possibly Sweden's biggest export since ABBA and euthanasia.

OSCAR: He moved into a new apartment, and tastefully decorated it according to pages 56 to 59 of the Ikea catalogue.

DANIEL: I spared no expense.

OSCAR: Instant homes. Affordable prices. If only relationships came that way.

DANIEL: The concept of instant homes was appealing and accessible. But assembling the furniture was another issue.

OSCAR: Building a home takes time. Each piece of furniture in the room should evoke a memory, a time, and the people that surrounded it. Furniture is sentimental. Not mass produced and instant.

DANIEL: We would spend hours looking at living room upon living room. One was done in black leather and cold steel that said "single-gay-Asian-workaholic-accountant-in-late-thirties-unable-to-have-emotional-relationships-a.k.a.-you-know-who."

OSCAR: We were making our second round of the showrooms.

DANIEL: Another had an oak and pine theme—tres Heidi—dripping Laura Ashley prints that screamed Republican virgin spinster or repressed male homosexual.

OSCAR: I was getting tired.

DANIEL: Then there's an Oriental rosewood and marble motif that told me to brew some Jasmine and call the girls over for some serious mahjong. *Tres Joy Luck Club*.

OSCAR: The place was getting crowded and hot.

DANIEL: And I still haven't made up my mind.