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## SHOULD WE SAY WHAT WE THINK, OR THINK WHAT WE SAY?

[ʃʊd] [wi:] [seɪ] [wɒt] [wi:] [θɪŋk], [ɔ:] [θɪŋk] [wɒt] [wi:] [seɪ]

## Jerome K. Jerome

A mad friend of mine says [ə] [mæd] [frend] [pv] [maɪn] [sez]

that the main word of the age is Make-Believe. [ðæt] [ðə] [meɪn] [wɜ:d] [ɒv] [ði] [eɪʤ] [ɪz] ['meɪkbɪˌli:v].

He claims that all social [hi:] [kleɪmz] [ðæt] [ɔ:l] ['səʊʃəl]

intercourse is founded on make-believe. ['Intə(:)kɔ:s] [IZ] ['faʊndɪd] [pn] ['meɪkbɪˌliːv].

A servant enters to say [a] ['s3:vant] ['entaz] [tu:] [sei]

that Mr. and Mrs. Bore are in the living-room.  $[\eth \text{et}]$  ['mistə(r)] [end] ['misiz] [bɔ:r] [a:r] [in] [ðə] ['liviŋ-ru:m].

"Oh, damn!" says the man.
"[əʊ], [dæm]!" [sɛz] [ðə] [mæn].

"Hush!" says the woman. "Shut the door, Susan. "[h $\Delta$ f]!" [sez] [ðə] ['womən]. "[f $\Delta$ t] [ðə] [dɔ:], ['su:z(ə)n].

How often am I to tell you never to leave the door open?"

[haʊ] [ˈɒf(ə)n] [æm] [aɪ] [tu:] [tɛl] [ju:] [ˈnɛvə] [tu:] [li:v] [ðə] [dɔ:r] [ˈəʊpən]?"

The man creeps upstairs on tiptoe and [ðə] [mæn] [kri:ps] [,Ap'steəz] [pn] ['tɪptəʊ] [ænd]

enters his study room. ['entəz] [hɪz] ['stʌdi] [ruːm].

The woman tries not to show her feelings, [ðə] [ˈwʊmən] [traɪz] [nɒt] [tu:] [[əʊ] [hɜ:] [ˈfi:lɪnz],

and then enters the living-room with a smile. [ænd] [ðɛn] [ˈɛntəz] [ðə] [ˈlɪvɪŋ-ruːm] [wɪð] [ə] [smaɪl].

She looks as if an angel has arrived.

[si: | [loks] [æz] [if] [ən] ['eɪnʤəl] [hæz] [ə'raɪvd].

She says how delighted she is to see the Bores— [ji:] [sez] [hav] [dɪ'laɪtɪd] [ji:] [tu:] [si:] [ðə] [bɔ:z]—

how good it was of them to come. [hav] [god] [It] [wvz] [vv] [ðem] [tu:] [kam].

Why did they not bring more Bores with them? [wai] [did] [ðei] [npt] [brin] [mo:] [bo:z] [wið] [ðem]?

Where is naughty Bore junior? [weər] [iz] ['nɔ:ti] [bɔ:] ['dʒu:njə]?

Why does he never come to see her now? [wai] [daz] [hi:] ['nɛvə] [kam] [tu:] [si:] [ha:] [nav]?

She will have to be really angry with him. [fi:] [wɪl] [hæv] [tu:] [bi:] ['rɪəli] ['æŋgri] [wɪð] [hɪm].

And sweet little Flossie Bore? [ænd] [swi:t] ['litl] [flosi] [bo:]?

Too young to visit friends! Nonsense. [tu:] [jʌŋ] [tu:] [ˈvɪzɪt] [frɛndz]! [ˈnɒnsəns].

The Bores, who had hoped that she was not at home—[ðə] [bɔ:z], [hu:] [hæd] [həvpt] [ðæt] [ʃi:] [wɒz] [nɒt] [æt] [həvm]—

who have only come because the etiquette book [hu:] [hæv] ['əʊnli] [kʌm] [bɪˈkɒz] [ði] [ˈɛtɪkɛt] [bʊk]

told them that they had to come [təʊld] [ðɛm] [ðæt] [ðeɪ] [hæd] [tu:] [kʌm]

at least four times in the season, [æt] [li:st] [fo:] [taɪmz] [ɪn] [ðə] ['si:zn],

explain how they have been trying and trying to come.

[iks'plein] [haʊ] [ðei] [hæv] [bi:n] ['traiiŋ] [ænd] ['traiiŋ] [tu:] [kʌm].

"This afternoon," says Mrs. Bore, "[ðɪs] [ˈɑːftəˈnuːn]," [sɛz] [ˈmɪsɪz] [bɔ:],

"we decided to come for sure. "[wi:] [dɪ'saɪdɪd] [tu:] [kʌm] [fɔ:] [ʃʊə].

'John, dear,' I said this morning, '[ʤɒn], [dɪə],' [aɪ] [sɛd] [ðɪs] [ˈmɔ:nɪŋ],

'I shall go and see dear Mrs. Bounder this afternoon,

'[aɪ] [ʃæl] [ɡəʊ] [ænd] [si:] [dɪə] [ˈmɪsɪz] [ˈbaʊndə] [ðɪs] [ˈɑ:ftəˈnu:n],

no matter what happens.'"
[nəʊ] ['mætə] [wɒt] ['hæpənz].' "

It looks like the Prince of Wales, [It] [loks] [laɪk] [ðə] [prins] [bv] [weilz],

who wanted to visit the Bores, [hu:] ['wpntid] [tu:] ['vizit] [ðə] [bɔ:z],

was told that he could not come in.

[wvz] [təvld] [ðæt] [hi:] [kvd] [nvt] [kʌm] [ɪn].

He might call again in the evening or come some other day.

[hi:] [maɪt] [kɔ:l] [ə'gɛn] [ɪn] [ði] ['i:vnɪŋ] [ɔ:] [kʌm] [sʌm] ['ʌðə] [deɪ].

That afternoon the Bores were going

[ðæt] [ˈaːftəˈnuːn] [ðə] [bɔːz] [wɜː] [ˈgəʊɪŋ]

to enjoy themselves in their own way;

[tu:] [In'dʒɔɪ] [ðəm'sɛlvz] [In] [ðeər] [əʊn] [wei];

they were going to see Mrs. Bounder.

[ðei] [ws:] ['gəviŋ] [tu:] [si:] ['misiz] ['bavndə].

"And how is Mr. Bounder?" asks Mrs. Bore.

"[ænd] [hav] [ɪz] ['mɪstə(r)] ['bavndə]?" [a:sks] ['mɪsɪz] [bɔ:].

Mrs. Bounder remains mute for a moment.

['mɪsɪz] ['baʊndə] [rɪ'meɪnz] [mju:t] [fɔ:r] [ə] ['məʊmənt].

She can hear how he goes downstairs.

[ʃi:] [kæn] [hɪə] [hav] [hi:] [gəvz] [ˌdavnˈsteəz].

She hears how the front door softly opens and closes.

[ji:] [hiəz] [hav] [ðə] [frant] [də:] ['sɒftli] ['əvpənz] [ænd] ['kləvzız].

And thus it is, not only with the Bores and Bounders, [ænd] [ðʌs] [ɪt] [ɪz], [nɒt] [ˈəʊnli] [wɪð] [ðə] [bɔ:z] [ænd] [ˈbaʊndəz],

but even with us who are not Bores or Bounders. [bʌt] ['iːvən] [wɪð] [ʌs] [hu:] [ɑ:] [nɒt] [bɔ:z] [ɔ:] ['baʊndəz].

Any society is founded on the make-believe that ['eni] [sə'saɪəti] [ız] ['faʊndɪd] [ɒn] [ðə] ['meɪkbɪˌliːv] [ðæt]

everybody is charming;

['evribodi] [iz] ['tʃa:mɪŋ];

that we are delighted to see everybody; [ðæt] [wi:] [a:] [dɪˈlaɪtɪd] [tu:] [si:] [ˈɛvrɪbɒdi];

that everybody is delighted to see us; [ðæt] ['ɛvrɪbɒdi] [ɪz] [dɪ'laɪtɪd] [tu:] [si:] [ʌs];

that it is so good of everybody to come; [ðæt] [ɪt] [ɪz] [səʊ] [gʊd] [əv] [ˈɛvrɪbɒdi] [tə] [kʌm];

that we are desolate at the thought that they really must go now.

[ðæt] [wi:] [α:] ['dɛsəlɪt] [æt] [ðə] [θɔ:t] [ðæt] [ðeɪ] ['rɪəli] [mʌst] [ɡəʊ] [naʊ].

What will we prefer—to stop and finish our cigar or [wt] [wil] [wil] [pri'f3:]—[tul] [stop] [and] ['finif] ['avə] [si'ga:r] [5:]

to hasten into the living-room to hear Miss Screecher's songs?

[tu:] ['heɪsn] ['ɪntu:] [ðə] ['lɪvɪŋ-ru:m] [tu:] [hɪə] [mɪs] ['skri:ʧəz] [sɒŋz]?

Miss Screecher does not want to sing;

[mɪs] [ˈskriːtʃə] [dʌz] [nɒt] [wɒnt] [tu:] [sɪŋ];

but if we insist—We do insist.

[bʌt] [ɪf] [wi:] [ɪnˈsɪst]—[wi:] [du:] [ɪnˈsɪst].

Miss Screecher consents.

[mɪs] ['skri:tʃə] [kən'sɛnts].

We are trying not to look at one another.

[wi:] [a:] ['traɪɪŋ] [nɒt] [tu:] [lʊk] [æt] [wʌn] [ə'nʌðə].

We sit and examine the ceiling.

[wi:] [sɪt] [ænd] [ɪgˈzæmɪn] [ðə] [ˈsi:lɪŋ].

Miss Screecher finishes, and rises.

[mɪs] ['skri:tʃə] ['fɪnɪʃız], [ænd] ['raɪzɪz].

"But it was so short," we say.

"[bʌt] [ɪt] [wɒz] [səʊ] [ʃɔ:t]," [wi:] [seɪ].

Is Miss Screecher sure that was the end?

[IZ] [mIS] ['skri:tfə] [[və] [ðæt] [wpz] [ði] [ɛnd]?

Didn't she miss a verse? [dɪdnt] [fi:] [mɪs] [ə] [vɜ:s]?

Miss Screecher assures us that the fault is the composer's.

[mɪs] [ˈskriːtʃər] [əˈʃʊəz] [ʌs] [ðæt] [ðə] [fɔ:lt] [ɪz] [ðə] [kəmˈpəʊzəz].

But she knows another.

[bʌt] [ʃi:] [nəʊz] [əˈnʌðə].

So our faces lighten again with gladness. [səʊ] ['aʊə] ['feɪsɪz] ['laɪtn] [əˈgɛn] [wɪð] ['glædnəs].

Our host's wine is always the best we have ever tasted.

['avə] [həvsts] [wain] [iz] ['ɔ:lweiz] [ðə] [bɛst] [wi:] [hæv] ['ɛvə] ['teistid].

No, not another glass; we dare not—

[nəʊ], [nɒt] [əˈnʌðə] [qla:s]; [wi:] [deə] [nɒt]—

doctor's orders, very strict.

['dvktəz] ['ɔ:dəz], ['vɛri] [strɪkt].

Our host's cigar! ['avə] [həvsts] [sɪ'ga:]!

We did not know they made such cigars in this world. [wi:] [dɪd] [nɒt] [nəʊ] [ðeɪ] [meɪd] [sʌtʃ] [sɪˈgɑːz] [ɪn] [ðɪs] [wɜːld].

No, we really cannot smoke another. [nəʊ], [wi:] [ˈrɪəli] [ˈkænɒt] [sməʊk] [əˈnʌðə].

Well, if he insists, may we put it in our pocket? [wel], [if] [hi:] [in'sists], [mei] [wi:] [pot] [it] [in] ['avə] ['pokit]?

The truth is, we do not like to smoke. [ðə] [tru:0] [tz], [wi:] [du:] [nɒt] [laɪk] [tu:] [sməʊk].

Our hostess's coffee! Will she tell us her secret? ['avə] ['həvstısız] ['kɒfi]! [wɪl] [ʃi:] [tɛl] [ʌs] [hɜ:] ['si:krɪt]?

The baby! The usual baby—we have seen it. [ðə] ['beɪbi]! [ðə] ['ju:ʒʊəl] ['beɪbi]—[wi:] [hæv] [si:n] [ɪt].

To be honest, we do not like babies a lot. [tu:] [bi:] ['bnɪst], [wi:] [du:] [nɒt] [laɪk] ['beɪbiz] [ə] [lɒt].

But this baby! [bʌt] [ðɪs] ['beɪbi]!

It is just the kind we wanted for ourselves. [It] [IZ] [dʒʌst] [ðə] [kaɪnd] [wi:] [ˈwɒntɪd] [fɔ:r] [ˌaʊəˈsɛlvz].

Little Janet's recitation: "A Visit to the Dentist"! ['lɪtl] ['dænəts] [ˌrɛsɪ'teɪʃən]: "[ə] ['vɪzɪt] [tu:] [ðə] ['dɛntɪst]"!

This is genius, surely. She must train for the stage. [ðɪs] [ɪz] [ˈʤi:niəs], [ˈʃʊəli]. [ʃi:] [mʌst] [treɪn] [fɔ:] [ðə] [steɪʤ].

Her mother does not like the stage. [h3:] ['mʌðə] [dʌz] [nɒt] [laɪk] [ðə] [steɪʤ].

But the theatre will lose such talent. [bʌt] [ðə] [ˈθɪətə] [wɪl] [luːz] [sʌtʃ] [ˈtælənt].

Every bride is beautiful. ['evri] [braɪd] [ɪz] ['bju:təfʊl].

Every bride looks charming in a simple dress of—

['evri] [braid] [loks] ['tʃɑ:mɪŋ] [in] [ə] ['simpl] [dres] [bv]—

for further particulars see local papers. [fɔ:] ['fɜ:ðə] [pə'tɪkjʊləz] [si:] ['ləʊkəl] ['peɪpəz].

Every marriage is a cause for universal rejoicing. ['evri] ['mærɪʤ] [ɪz] [ə] [kɔ:z] [fɔ:] [ju:nɪ'vɜ:səl] [rɪ'ʤɔɪsɪŋ].

With our wine-glass in our hand we picture the best life for them.

[wið] ['avə] [wain-gla:s] [in] ['avə] [hænd] [wi:] ['piktʃə] [ðə] [bɛst] [laif] [fɔ:] [ðɛm].

How can it be otherwise? [hav] [kæn] [ɪt] [bi:] ['ʌðəwaɪz]?

She, the daughter of her mother. (Cheers.) [ji:], [ðə] [ˈdɔ:tər] [ɒv] [hɜ:] [ˈmʌðə]. ([tʃɪəz].)

He—well, we all know him. (More cheers.) [hi:]—[wɛl], [wi:] [ɔ:l] [nəʊ] [hɪm]. ([mɔ:] [tʃɪəz].)

We carry our make-believe even into our religion. [wi:] ['kæri] ['avə] ['meɪkbɪˌliːv] ['iːvən] ['ɪntu:] ['avə] [rɪ'lɪʤən].

We sit in church, and say to the God, [wi:] [sɪt] [ɪn] [tʃɜ:tʃ], [ænd] [seɪ] [tu:] [ðə] [gɒd],

that we are miserable worms—that there is no good in us.

[ðæt] [wi:] [a:] ['mɪzərəbl] [wɜ:mz]—[ðæt] [ðeər] [ɪz] [nəv] [gvd] [ɪn] [ʌs].

It does us no harm, [It] [dAz] [As] [nəv] [ha:m],

we must do it anyway. [wi:] [mast] [du:] [It] ['enɪwei].

We make-believe that every woman is good, [wi:] ['meɪkbɪ,li:v] [ðæt] ['ɛvri] ['womən] [ɪz] [god],