

INT — APARTMENT OF R AND S — LATE AFTERNOON

We see the front door. It is entirely solid, and we can see naught of what lays behind it.

There is an excited KNOCK.

S  
(O.S., with  
excitement)  
He's here!

R  
(O.S., with no  
excitement,  
yet not  
flatly)  
I'll be right there.

We pull back, seeing the short hallway before the door. A closet is on the right. As the room opens, there is a doorway to the Kitchen on the left.

S runs into view from the right.

S  
(to the door)  
Just a second!

S stands expectantly before the door.

S  
(loudly  
excitedly  
whispered to  
her right)  
Hurry up!

R comes into view from the right.

R  
(genuine)  
You didn't need to wait for  
me.

S  
Of course I did!

S looks R over, nods, smiles, then opens the door. We see through the doorway a corridor, on the opposite side of which are other apartment front doors. Standing in the doorway is T.

S

T! Come in, come in!

T enters, and S gives him a big hug.

T

Hey, S.

S finishes the hug and retracts, and T and R shake hands firmly.

T

Good to see you again, R.

R

And you.

S

Here, let me close the door.

She does.

S

And let me hang up your coat.

S takes T's coat. He is slightly overly pleased and thankful. She hangs the coat in the closet. T finishes taking off his shoes.

R

That's pretty wild you two running into each other, the other day.

S

I know. Can you believe it? After all these years. Did you want a drink?

T

You still make that cider?

S  
(smiles coyly)  
It's been a while, but I'm  
sure I can whip some up.

S retreats to the kitchen.

R  
(motions to  
chairs and  
couch)  
Have a seat.

T sits down on the couch, R takes a chair.

R  
So do you live in the area,  
then?

T  
Not at all. I live on the  
other side of town. It was  
really incredible  
happenstance that S and I ran  
into each other. I guess I  
always knew you two would  
never be out of my life  
entirely.

R laughs politely.

S  
(O.S.)  
Did you want any thing,  
honey?

R  
Not right now, thanks.

S enters carrying two steaming mugs.

T  
(to R)  
So I heard you just got laid  
off...

R looks to S, who is oblivious.

R  
Yeah, I was manager of a  
clothing store near here, but  
we went under.

S places both mugs on the coffee table before the couch.

T  
(genuine)  
That's too bad. Do you know  
what you're going to do now?

R  
I'm not sure, yet. I've been  
looking for opportunities,  
but there doesn't seem to be  
much these days.

S sits on the couch beside T, but still close to R.

T  
Well, you're not going  
hungry, yet. You've still  
got one paycheque in the  
house.

T looks over to S, who smiles. R smiles falsely.

R  
So what do you do?

S  
He's an investment banker.

R  
(verifying,  
not really  
with interest)  
Really?

T  
(smiles)  
It's not a glamorous job,  
but it takes care of the  
bills.

S  
And then some! Can I tell  
him how much you get paid?

T  
If you like.

R  
    (waves it  
    away)  
That's all right. I get the  
picture.

S  
I'm just so excited. You're  
so successful, now.

T  
Yeah, well...

T sips cider.

S  
Careful, it's hot.

T  
This is good!

S  
I haven't forgotten every  
thing, you know.

T  
You know what I was thinking  
of on the way here?

S  
What?

CUT TO:

EXT — IN FRONT OF R'S OLD BASEMENT APARTMENT — NOON

S and T stand face-to-face in front of the stairs down.  
They are holding hands.

T  
That time we went over to R's  
for his birthday, do you  
remember?

S  
You mean the time we were  
going to take him out for  
dinner?

T  
Yeah, then.

T and S descend the stairs and ring the doorbell. They wait a bit, and then R opens the door. He smiles warmly.

S  
(hugs R)  
Happy Birthday!

T  
(shakes R's  
hand)  
Yeah, Happy Birthday.

R  
Hey guys, just give me a  
second; come in.

INT - R'S OLD BASEMENT APARTMENT FOYER - DAY

S and T come into the apartment's foyer, but leave the door open behind them.

R goes back to his apartment, and finds his coat. He returns to the foyer and sees S and T cuddling and whispering seductively. They quickly realise they've been caught, and stop.

S  
(smiling)  
Sorry about that.

R  
(forces a  
smile)  
No worries.

T  
(to S)  
We were always doing that.

S

(to T)

You couldn't get enough of me, back then. I was entirely innocent.

(to R)

We got you a present.

S gives R a present.

T

Oh, the present.

R is unwrapping it.

S

Yeah, he totally flipped.

T

I don't even remember, now, what it even was we got him.

R looks up from unwrapping.

R

It was a book called, 'The desperate man's guide to finding a girl, any girl'.

R continues unwrapping.

S

(laughing)

Oh yeah, that's right. That was a little evil.

T

Oh, come on. It was all in good fun.

R opens the gift, looks at it, and looks furious.

R

What's this supposed to mean?

T

It's just a joke.

R

Real funny.

T  
You took it too hard. It was  
only mean as a joke.

R shows T the cover.

R  
Would you find it funny if  
your friends implied you were  
desperate?

S  
Honey, let it go. It was a  
long time ago.

CUT TO:

INT — APARTMENT OF R AND S — LATE AFTERNOON

R, S, and T are all seated as before, save that S is now  
leaning toward R and touching his leg.

S  
It's all worked out, now.

R and S kiss quickly. R smiles, and turns to T, who looks  
slightly uncomfortable.

CUT TO:

INT — T'S KITCHEN — NIGHT

T is standing against the wall beside the fridge, drinking  
from a plastic cup. We hear music and talking, but see no  
one else. The lighting is poor.

T  
Did R ever tell you how we  
first met?

S  
(V.O.)  
No, tell me.



T  
I had this party one night in  
the summer. I had so many  
people over, people had  
invited people I didn't even  
know. That was a good  
party...

(pause)

R had been invited by V. You  
remember him, right?

S

(V.O.)

Oh, he was that short guy you  
used to hang around with,  
back when I first met you.

T

Right

R enters from the right, looks dejected.

R

I never even knew V that  
well; we'd just worked  
together, and he'd invited me  
to the party.

R doesn't notice T until he's nearly stepped on him.

R

(surprised)

Oh!

R walks around T and opens the fridge on the other side of  
him. He pours himself a drink, and then closes the fridge.

T

So you just struck out with  
L, eh?

R

It didn't go like that.

T

Sure it did.

R

No, I remember. The first thing you said to me was that you'd struck out with L, too, that same night.

T

I was getting to that.

R

Well, I remember that was the first thing you said, because I said, 'I'm sorry for you, but what makes you think I also struck out with L?'

T

Oh that's right! I just saw you talking to her. I tried asking her out a couple hours ago. I heard she's dating some guy from out of town.

R

You're forgetting some thing.

T

Am I?

R

Then you said, 'damn is she hot, though'.

T

(embarrassed)

No, I didn't.

R

Sure you did. You went on for like fifteen minutes about how you wanted to screw her.

T

(very  
embarrassed)

I didn't do that. Don't be ridiculous.

S

(V.O.)

Don't try denying it, now.

T

I might have...made some sort of comment about her appearance, but I did not say I wanted to screw her.

S

(V.O.,  
disbelieving)

Uh-huh... So what did you say, R, when he said how he wanted to have sex with her?

R

I said I did, too. She was hot.

S (V.O.) laughs.

CUT TO:

EXT — PARK BENCH — MORNING

S sits alone on a park bench, book in hand. There is no one around, but there is space for a person to sit on either side of her. During establishing shots or in the background, we should see a gate or door.

S

Hey, T, do you remember the first time we met?

T

(V.O.)

Yeah. You were sitting in the park, reading the Iliad.

S

Was it the Iliad? I don't remember.

T enters from right.

T  
Yeah, I remember, because I  
came up to you and said, 'I  
just saw you from across the  
park. You're reading the  
Iliad?'

S  
                  (smiling, but  
                  hesitant)  
Yeah.

T smiles and sits down beside her. He holds up his book.

T  
I'm reading the Iliad, too.  
What part are you at?

S  
I don't remember what part I  
was at.

T  
You said you were at the part  
where Achilles is really  
upset with Agamemnon.

S  
How do you remember that?

T  
Trust me. I've just started.  
Menelaus is just getting  
Agamemnon to send the army.

S smiles awkwardly.

T  
Yours has a much better  
cover, though, I must say.

S looks at her cover of the Iliad.

T  
I like how it has this huge  
battle going on. It looks  
really cool.

S  
Well, yours is good, too.  
You've got that Greek  
painting on there, it really  
adds atmosphere.

T  
Hey, yours is a lot shorter  
than mine.

S  
Well, mine's a prose copy.

T  
Prose? Why would you get  
prose? The Iliad is an epic  
poem.

S  
I know, but I'd rather a more  
direct translation of the  
words.

T  
But don't you think verse is  
more romantic?

S  
    (coyly)  
And why would I worry about  
romance?

R  
    (V.O.,  
    slightly  
    impatient)  
And then you guys went out.

S  
Well, it didn't happen right  
away...

T  
I asked for your number  
before I left, though.

S  
I guess you must have. I  
don't recall how we actually  
started dating, though.

CUT TO:

INT — S'S OLD BEDROOM — EVENING

S sits at her desk, doing homework. The phone RINGS.

T

(V.O.)

I called you the next day.

S looks quizzical, then picks up the phone.

S

Hello?

T

(filtered,  
O.S.)

Hi S; it's T. From the park?

S

Oh hi! What did I say? Did you just ask me out or some thing?

T

(filtered,  
O.S.)

I asked you to go with me to the Hallowe'en party at R's house.

CUT TO:

INT — R'S FRONT DOOR — NIGHT

There are Hallowe'en decorations around the door. No one is in sight.

S

(V.O.)

Which is where I met R for the first time.

T

(V.O.,  
uncomfortable)

Yes, that's right.

The doorbell rings.

R

(V.O.)

I was dressed as a doctor.

R enters from the left, dressed as a doctor.

S

(V.O.)

Oh that's right! What was I again?

T

(V.O.)

You were a nurse, remember?

R opens the door and we see S behind it, dressed as a nurse.

T

(V.O.)

And I was dressed as your patient.

R

Hi there. You're here for the party?

T comes into view behind the door, dressed in a hospital gown with a cast over his left leg.

R

Oh, you're with T! Come on in.

S and T enter.

T

R, this is S; S, my good friend R.

R and S shake hands.

R

Nice to meet you.

S

Doctor and nurse, how prophetic!

R  
Yeah. But you were dating T,  
then.

S  
Well, not quite. I wouldn't  
say we were really dating  
until later.

R closes the door again.

T  
Really? I sort of always  
thought of that as our first  
date.

S  
Well, I wasn't thinking of  
you romantically at the time;  
I just thought you were a  
nice guy. It was probably a  
month or so before I really  
considered us as dating.

R  
What did you guys use as your  
anniversary?

S  
Uhm...I don't remember.

T  
April 3rd. The day we met at  
the park.

S  
Really? That must have been  
your idea.

T  
Yeah, it was... why did you  
say that?

S  
It doesn't sound like some  
thing I would have chosen.

CUT TO:



INT — HALL OF S'S PARENT'S HOUSE — EVENING

R is standing inside, dressed-up in a suit. He is holding a corsage. S comes down the stairs, dressed elegantly.

R  
For our anniversary, we use  
our first real date: your  
graduation.

S  
That seemed the most logical  
point.

CUT TO:

EXT — FRONT DOOR OF R'S BASEMENT APARTMENT — NIGHT

S is standing outside, knocking frantically. It is raining, and she is drenched.

S  
We couldn't really do the  
first night we got together.

T  
(V.O.)  
When was that, actually?  
Tell me if I'm being too  
nosey, but I've always  
wondered.

The door opens and R looks surprised to see S.

R  
S?

S  
(shaking,  
crying)  
Can I come in?

INT — R'S OLD BASEMENT APARTMENT — NIGHT

R is holding S in a friendly but platonic fashion.

R  
We didn't get together under  
the happiest of  
circumstances. S, are you  
all right?

S  
Just... Can I just sit down?

R  
Of course.

R leads S to a couch and sits beside her.

T  
(V.O.)  
What do you mean, 'not under  
the happiest of  
circumstances'?

S  
Oh, we can tell him, now.  
It's all a long time ago, any  
way.

R  
I guess...

CUT TO:

INT - S'S BEDROOM - EVENING

S and T are standing facing each other, both very angry and  
exhausted. Outside it is raining.

S  
T, remember the night we  
broke up? When we had that  
terrific row?

T  
I remember.

S  
I told you I never wanted to  
see you again, that we were  
over. And then I kicked you  
out of my house?

S points to the door. T, frustrated and angry, turns harshly and leaves.

T  
(O.S.,  
quietly)  
I remember.

INT - FRONT HALL OF S'S PARENT'S HOUSE - EVENING

T walks solemnly down the stairs.

S  
(V.O.)  
I don't even remember what we  
were fighting about.

T  
(quietly)  
I do. I was mad at you,  
because I thought you were  
spending too much time with  
R. I was jealous, and  
worried that he was planning  
on stealing you away from me.

S  
(V.O.)  
Really?

T  
(quietly)  
Yeah.

T goes to the front door, opens it, and then leaves, closing it behind him. We see rain outside.

CUT TO:

INT - T'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

R, S, and T are all sitting around the table, playing cards. R and S are being very flirtatious, looking at each other's cards, laughing, even a bit of tickling. They're not blatantly in love, though, just good friends horsing around.

T  
You two had been spending a lot of time together leading up to that. I knew that you guys were getting to be really good friends.

S  
(to R)  
Oh, I can't do the movie night this Sunday.

CUT TO:

INT — FRONT HALL OF S'S PARENT'S HOUSE — EVENING

S comes into view at the top of the stairs.

S  
(quietly)  
Well, T, after you left, I was in such a shock.

CUT TO:

INT — FRONT DOOR OF R'S OLD BASEMENT APARTMENT — NIGHT

R opens the front door to show S outside, drenched from the rain.

S  
I didn't know to whom to turn, so I went over immediately to R's house.

CUT TO:

INT — R'S OLD BASEMENT APARTMENT — NIGHT

R and S are sitting on the couch. R is trying to comfort S, but she is very upset.

S  
And then...

S turns to R. Their faces are a little too close. S looks at R through tear-filled eyes for his reaction.

S  
It just happened.

They move to kiss.

CUT TO:

INT - HOME OF R AND S - LATER AFTERNOON

R, S, and T are all sitting as earlier. The two mugs are empty, and every one is seating in a more relaxed position.

T  
(solemn)  
I never knew that.

S  
(smiling  
bravely)  
I hope it doesn't bother you,  
now, so long afterward.

T  
No, I'll be fine. Like you  
said, it was a long time ago.  
It's sort of funny. I was  
worried you would leave me  
for him, and that worry  
caused you to do just that.

R and S smile bravely.

T  
(sighs)  
I'm not like that any more.  
Jealous, like that.

S  
(smiles  
genuinely)  
That's good.

T  
Some thing like that...would  
never happen again.

S  
(joking  
uneasily)  
Well, if any thing happens to  
R, I'll look you up.

T stands.

T  
You mean like this?

T pulls out a gun and fires it into R. R shudders. T fires again. R slumps in the chair.

S stands and stares at T in shock.

T  
Some thing's happened to R.

He reaches out to S, who, after some hesitation, takes his hand, and he pulls her in close.

S takes the gun from his hands and puts in on the coffee table. Then she wraps her arms around his neck and kisses him passionately.

After a beat or two, she stops and looks directly at T.

S  
What are you thinking about?

T  
Hm? Oh, nothing.

S  
You've been quiet for a little too long. You're sure you're not upset about how R and I got together?

T  
I'm sure.

R  
(still dead)  
Maybe we should get dinner going. You hungry, T?

T  
Yes, that'd be nice.

R  
Could you set the table, honey?

S

(still held by

T)

Sure, R. Did you want any  
thing to drink for dinner, T?  
More cider?

T

Yes, that would be lovely.  
You know, this has really  
been a splendid meeting. We  
really should have done this  
a long time ago.

END