

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