

1/9/03

63.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

But you just want to tell your little pals that it's cool that you brought some hooker to a party.

JOHN

No.

MELISSA

Then why did you tell him?

JOHN

Honestly? Because I thought lying was worse. Lying would mean I'm ashamed to be with you. And that is so far from the truth. I am so proud to be with you - and I really don't give a shit what you do for a living.

She looks at him, silent. He clearly means what he's saying.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Melissa, we've known each other for five years. And I've met a lot of women in those five years. But I have always held each of them up to this imaginary standard of beauty and wit and grace -- and not one of them has been able to measure up. And then one day I realized - that standard was not imaginary. That standard was you. I love you. And no one, no matter what she does for a living, could ever compare.

Melissa looks at him - not sure whether she should smile or cry. She kinda does both.

EXT. WES' (& TOBY'S) APARTMENT - NIGHT

Wes sits on the patio, smoking. Toby appears behind him.

TOBY

Hey. I thought there was strange bald smoking man loitering on your balcony.

WES

Nope. Just me.

TOBY

I, ummm, you know, I just stopped by to get some of my stuff.

Toby turns to go back inside. But stops.

TOBY (CONT'D)

I didn't really come by to get my stuff.
I mean partly, but not entirely.

WES

OK.

TOBY

Did we make a mistake?

WES

We?

TOBY

Me. Me - did I fuck it up?

Wes looks at her for a very long time.

WES

No. I don't think you did.

This is not the answer that Toby was expecting.

TOBY

Really?

Wes measures his words.

WES

Tob, I've spent the last few days alone
in this house. And every spoon or
printer or doorknob has a story - we have
like years of memories packed into every
square inch. But the more I thought -
the more I realized that's all I thought
about - the past. And what we had was
perfect. For then. But it might not be
perfect for now.

Toby looks at Wes - he really means this.

WES (CONT'D)

We grew up together. We've always had
each other. But I don't think either of
us ever got to see what it would be like -
what we would be like - if we didn't have
that.

TOBY

Right. That's what I was trying to tell
you before.

WES

But now you're going back on it?

TOBY

I was getting scared.

WES

I'm scared, too.

Toby sits down as the two of them silently contemplate this admission.

WES (CONT'D)

Toby - I got a job offer today.

TOBY

Wow. Well, god - congratulations. God - that was - fast, but -

WES

I don't want it.

TOBY

Well, then keep on. Look for something better.

WES

I want to keep working with you, you dork.

TOBY

Oh. OK. How, umm, how is that going to work, with us?

WES

It just will. You're my best friend.

Toby smiles.

TOBY

Yes.

WES

Which is why I'm going to tell you -- Catter kissed me.

TOBY

Come again?

WES

Catter kissed me. She apologized. Everyone thinks she was just -

TOBY
Everyone?

 WES
Paul, Rob, Mollie, you know -

 TOBY
Everyone knows?

 WES
They didn't want to upset you, Tob.

 TOBY
But you don't mind?

Wes looks at her, and smiles genuinely.

 WES
Of course I mind. But until further
notice, you are still the one I'm going
to tell everything to.

Toby smiles. As they sit in silence, Wes hands her the
cigarette and she takes a pull off of it.

 TOBY
Who are we without each other?

Wes takes the cigarette back.

 WES
I don't know. But we're about to find
out.

Toby gives a smile and lays her head on Wes' shoulder.

~~INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT~~

~~Melissa lays in bed, peacefully asleep. We find John,
dressed, straightening his tie by the foot of the bed.~~

~~He moves over to Melissa, kisses her on the forehead. He
then pulls out an ENVELOPE from his jacket pocket and
places it on the nightstand. He looks at her one last
time and leaves.~~

~~As he shuts the door, Melissa stirs. She turns over to
find John gone and the envelope on the nightstand. Her
peacefulness is quickly overtaken by sadness. She slowly
reaches over and takes the envelope.~~