

M/W  
HANNAH | BRADLEY

M/W ~ Sit ~ com<sup>46</sup>

Anything  
But Love

ACT TWO

SCENE J

INT. DINER - AFTERNOON (DAY 3)  
(Hannah, Bradley)

(HANNAH SITS NERVOUSLY AT A TABLE. BRADLEY ENTERS,  
BLOWING HIS NOSE AND SITS ACROSS FROM HANNAH.)

HANNAH

Hi, Bradley. Thanks for  
meeting me here.

BRADLEY

Oh, my pleasure. This is  
almost like "our place." Will  
Robin be joining us?

HANNAH

No. I don't think so. So,  
how're you doing?

BRADLEY

Fine. Fine. You know, except  
my asthma's been acting up.  
And I've had this wicked post-  
nasal drip. And I sort of have  
this condition where my ears  
fill up with fluid.

HANNAH

So, I guess you heard about the  
lawsuit...

(BRADLEY SHAKES HIS HEAD.)

HANNAH (CONT'D)

...against the magazine?

(BRADLEY SHRUGS.)

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Are you hungry? I'm really  
hungry.

BRADLEY

What are we being sued for? Is  
it your article?

HANNAH

(BEAT)

Yes.

BRADLEY

It was that quote, wasn't it?  
The one I told you to cut, but  
you begged me to keep.

HANNAH

Yes.

BRADLEY

Did Catherine fire you? 'Cause  
if she did, I'll tell her it  
was my fault.

HANNAH

No. No, she didn't fire me...

BRADLEY

Whew! You really had me worried there. Things wouldn't be the same around the magazine without you.

HANNAH

Oh, don't say that. Things change. People come, people go. It's best not to get too attached.

(BEAT)

Bradley, did you ever have a girlfriend break up with you?

BRADLEY

No. I've never had a girlfriend. But do you know there are forty million single people in this country over the age of thirty-five?

HANNAH

(BEAT)

No, no I didn't...Bradley, have you ever lost a pet?

BRADLEY

No. But do you know Americans run over some three-hundred-and-sixty-five million animals a year?

HANNAH

(BEAT)

Bradley, did you ever see "Mask"?

BRADLEY

No. I hate movies that make me cry. But did you know the deformed kid dies at the end?

HANNAH

Bradley, you're fired.

BRADLEY

Uh, I'm sorry. What?

HANNAH

You're fired.

BRADLEY

Fired? Why?

HANNAH

Because you let my quote go through.

BRADLEY

The one I told you...

HANNAH

Yes, the one you told me had to be cut. Look, Bradley, you were right and I was wrong. I pleaded with Catherine, but she wouldn't listen. She's holding you responsible. And she told me to fire you. I'm sorry. You probably hate me now. You probably want to check out library books in my name and never return them. But I understand. I'd probably hate me, too. I'm just...sorry.

(BRADLEY SITS SILENTLY FOR A LONG BEAT.)

BRADLEY

Hannah, for thirteen years, eight months, and twenty-two days I've been pretty content with my job at Chicago Weekly. But you managed to turn it into a living hell.

HANNAH

Bradley, I wish I could...

BRADLEY

No, no you don't understand. Until last week, I thought that work meant being yelled at, mistreated, and abused. This was the only job I'd ever had -- I didn't know any different. And then you came along. You treated me nicely, you went out with me, you acted like I was a friend. And I liked that. Let me tell you, it's made it very hard for me to come into work. Because now I know there's another way.

HANNAH

(BRIGHTENING)

I don't know what to say, Bradley. I'm just...

BRADLEY

Well, don't get me wrong. I'm sure I'll be depressed for a little while. I mean, you can't just throw away thirteen years, eight months, and twenty-two days.

BRADLEY (CONT'D)

And money will be a little tight, and maybe Mom'll have to go on an every-other-day schedule on the dialysis machine...

HANNAH

Oh, Bradley...

BRADLEY

Just kidding about that last part. Mom's been dead for five years. But, in any case, for the first time in a long time, I'm kind of excited about what the future may bring.

HANNAH

So, we can still be friends?

BRADLEY

Absolutely. In fact, I just happen to have two tickets for Wagner's Ring Cycle next week.

HANNAH

That sounds, uh, interesting.

BRADLEY

Oh, you don't know the half of it. They'll be performing four nights straight at five hours a shot. It's all in German, but I can translate it for you -- I have the whole thing memorized.

HANNAH

Really? Well, I'm not...

BRADLEY

Oh, and we don't have very good seats. Actually, we'll be sitting on the grass and it does get damp at night, so you'd better wear something plastic. So, what do you say, is it a date?

HANNAH

(MAKING THROAT NOISES)

I-I think I feel my throat starting to close.

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW