

MIKE

65.

KATIE (CONT'D)
(pushes past Mike)
Excuse me.

Through the window Katie sees the parole letter sitting, clear as day, on the passenger seat.

MIKE
How'd you know where I live?

1/5

Caught! Katie freezes with fear for a moment then turns.

KATIE
Look, I've been at that meeting for four years now. I've seen people die cause they think they got their shit under control. No matter what you believe, you don't. Something is bothering you, it's all over your face.

Mike debates. Katie surrenders and turns to open her door.

MIKE
I'll be there tomorrow at five.

Katie keeps her back turned.

KATIE
I'll be there at five-thirty to be sure.

Katie OPENS the door to her car.

INT. DELANEY LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dana, who's been watching the entire exchange through the window, pushes the curtain back and walks away filled with jealousy, bordering on rage, past Ted.

TED
What?

CUT TO:

Start

INT. RICHMOND DINER - DUSK

Katie and Mike sit across from each other. Mike stares down at his coffee.

KATIE
If this is gonna work, you sort of gotta say something.

MIKE

66.

2/5

MIKE

I thought that was what you're supposed to do. Mediate.

KATIE

Mediate what? It's just us, Mike.

Mike smiles, letting out a small laugh...

KATIE (CONT'D)

What?

MIKE

Nothing.

KATIE

(eyes narrow)
Tell me.

MIKE

No, you're just... you're very nice. *Concerned.* That's a little weird for me.

KATIE

Shouldn't be.

MIKE

Yeah well...
(his smile fades)
You won't understand.

KATIE

How do you know?

MIKE

(louder)
Because I'm not a good guy, okay?

A few heads turn. Mike looks around, leans in, and speaks discreetly.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I did eight years for killing an innocent man on my way back from doin' a job where I robbed a woman in front of her little kid...

Katie contains her emotions, listening. Mike leans in...

MIKE (CONT'D)

I've stuck guns to people's heads and taken their fuckin' money. That's what I did.

(MORE)

MIKE

67.

MIKE (CONT'D)

That's what my father did and that's what my grandfather did... We knew nothin' else. If you grew up here, you stole or you sold drugs. You did whatever you had to do.

3/5

Katie listens intently. She barely moves a muscle as her only interest at the very moment is hearing everything he has to say.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Things got so bad I'd drink a half gallon of whiskey a day just so I could get the courage to go through with it. I fuckin' hated myself and I hated everything about my life. And now, my mother is dead, my father is a fuckin' drunk, my brother is a junkie and I'm right back where I started.

(looks down)

It's only a matter of time before everything starts over again. I know it. I can feel it. Breathing on the back of my neck.

(looks up again)

People like me. We don't belong anywhere.

Katie tries to conjure a response. She can't. Mike notices and rises.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I told you you wouldn't understand.

Katie quickly reaches over and grabs his wrist. They are both surprised at this. Katie holds.

KATIE

If you think you can't relate to me, you can, 'cause I'm closer to you than you think.

A curious moment later, Mike sits back down. He takes a breath, then...

MIKE

Where are you from?

KATIE

Fishtown.

MIKE

Fishtown? You're kiddin'...

Katie shakes her head.

KATIE
Well, the real Fishtown.

4/5

MIKE
You can't really fault Dickens. He
wasn't exactly a local.

Katie can't help but smile...

KATIE
So you do know a little something.

MIKE
I had a lot of time to read while I
was away. "Paradise Lost." Milton,
you know --

KATIE
Yeah, I know. I'm just --

MIKE
Surprised I do. I didn't really
understand it all, but...
(adjusting in his seat)
So, where in Fishtown you from?

KATIE
Tulip.

MIKE
Tulip? That's a stone's throw.
Why'd I never see you?

KATIE
I went to a private school in Bryn
Mawr then I was a pre-med at
Temple.

MIKE
Shit... What happened?

KATIE
It was one of those things you have
set in your mind as a kid, and you
go through with it cause you think
it'll make your parents proud. I
didn't realize until half way
through that it wasn't what I
wanted.

MIKE
What about your family?

A long beat.

5/5

KATIE

You tell me about you then I'll
tell you more about me. Fair?

Mike nods.

MIKE

What do you wanna know?

CUT TO:

Stop

INT. DELANEY KITCHEN - NIGHT

Dana pecks at her plate of Colcannon, clearly distraught,
while an oblivious Ted is talking about the Phillies again.

TED

... I think they'll do it this
year. Best pitching staff ever.
Just hope their hitting holds up.

DANA

Ted...

Ted stops and looks up.

TED

Yeah?

DANA

Can I borrow your car?

CUT TO:

EXT. RICHMOND DINER - MOMENT LATER

Ted's car pulls up across the street from the Richmond diner.
Dana exits the car and approaches the restaurant. She
abruptly stops as she sees Mike and Dana sitting together
through the window. Dana's face drops as she tries to hold
back the tears.

INT. RICHMOND DINER - CONTINUOUS

Mike is in the middle of telling a story to Katie.

MIKE

... I couldn't even tell you why I
was there.

(MORE)