

# Scene 1 - All Read

13

WAITRESS

Great. I'll be right back with those drinks.

She exits. Paul looks through the menu.

PAUL

I'm craving pasta but I also love their chicken so if you were going to get pasta, maybe I'll get the chicken so we can share--

Paul looks up to see Cathy staring at him.

PAUL (CONT'D)

What? I know you wanted to tell me something but I thought we'd order first--unless you want to tell me now.

Start

CATHY

I wanted a new couch because you spilled fruit punch while you were bouncing on the cushions.

PAUL

Not bouncing. Dancing. Do you want me to just order for both of us?

CATHY

What forty year old man dances on a couch sober?

PAUL

I can't be the only one.

CATHY

And now I have to reverse the cushions to hide the stain and I used to lie awake at night upset about that because even though you couldn't see the stains I knew they were there.

PAUL

I told you to go ahead and pick out a new couch.

CATHY

I don't want to be the one who picks out the new couch. I want to be the one who spills the Fruit Punch.

\* \* \*  
Read  
first Scene  
Only!  
\* \* \*

The C Word

Paul

113

PAUL  
You're not the Fruit Punch type.

CATHY  
Because I read that high fructose  
corn syrup is so bad for you.  
(then) Do you think I'm boring?

PAUL  
(hesitant)  
Just tell me how to get back in the  
house.

CATHY  
You do. You think I'm boring.

PAUL  
It's not a bad thing. It's just  
the way our personalities break  
down. I like to do fun things and  
you like to do things that some,  
let's say a majority people might,  
if they were forced to categorize  
them, might consider boring.

CATHY  
Like what?

PAUL  
Like clean and organize.

CATHY  
That's what I like to do?

PAUL  
You live for it.

CATHY  
(getting angry)  
I tried to be the fun one. I  
wanted to buy the house with the  
pool so I could teach Adam the  
Banana Split and Dive but you  
wanted to be closer to your job so  
you could Vespa to work.

PAUL  
You said that was probably a better  
idea because so many people die in  
pools.

CATHY

People die everywhere. I said it was a better idea because you threw a tantrum in front of our realtor.

PAUL

I made my point in an emotional way, sure.

CATHY

You made your point in a childish way.

PAUL

(getting annoyed)

Well, it's hard not to act like a kid when every time we leave the house you ask me if I need to pee.

CATHY

Well it's hard not to treat you like a child when every time I make you a sandwich you ask me to cut the crusts off your bread.

PAUL

Oh sue me. I love a crustless sandwich.

CATHY

Well, I love onions but I haven't been able to eat them for five years because you say they're stinky poo poo. And now Adam doesn't like onions and he's never even tried them.

PAUL

They are stinky poo poo. Stinky poo poo yuck yuck! (laughing; then) Come on, Cathy, am I really sleeping at my sister's because you want to start cooking with onions?

CATHY

Yes, Paul. That's it. I want onions to be a major part of my life in the next year.

PAUL

Well, first of all, you're whacked and second of all, I hope you feel better because I feel like shit.

L

END

Additional Scene

~~My hand on the door handle.~~

~~This gets Cathy's attention and she turns to look.~~

~~And I just stepped around  
pushing a new coat of paint on this  
as the door opens in the yard. I  
can't help but find that lawn  
mower.~~

~~CATHY~~

~~Let me guess.~~

~~OLD WOMAN~~

~~he didn't see me...  
and...  
th...~~

~~Boat.~~

~~CATHY~~

~~My...  
to...  
to...  
how your...  
as.~~

Cathy exits.

EXT. CATHY'S HOUSE - A MOMENT LATER (N-2)

As she heads back to her house, Paul is pulling up on his Vespa. She inadvertently cuts him off. He swerves to miss her and topples over.

PAUL

Sorry I'm late.

He picks himself up and pulls up his pant leg to reveal a scraped knee..

I could sure use a band aid and a lollipop.

Off Cathy's blank stare we CUT TO:

INT. CATHY'S HOUSE - LATER (N-2)

Cathy gets the first aid kit and tends to Paul's knee.

Start FV/1

The C Word

Paul

1/3

FVI<sup>29</sup>

PAUL  
Do you remember Angel from work?

CATHY  
Yep.

PAUL  
He got engaged to that girl who we met at that party and she made that snotty face when you talked to her that made you feel like you had bad breath. I took him out for a drink to celebrate but then the game was on and it was really close so I stayed til the end. (re: knee) On behalf of all the soldiers, thank you so much Mrs. Nightingale. Where's Adam?

CATHY  
Doing his charity work.

PAUL  
That's nice.

SFX. The PHONE RINGS. Cathy puts the first aid kit away and let's the machine get it.

PAUL (CONT'D)  
What charity is it again?

DR. TODD (V.O.)  
Hi Cathy, it's Dr...Smilovic. Dr. ...Todd. It's Todd. This isn't business it's, just personal. Anyway, I was thinking about you... I can't seem to stop thinking about you actually. If I'm being honest. I know you go either way on honesty (he chuckles). Anyway, I want to make sure you have my cell number--

PAUL  
(suspicious)  
Who's that?

CATHY  
I've been meaning to talk to you about something--

PAUL  
Are you fucking kidding me? So this is why you need your space?  
(MORE)

2/3

FYI 30

PAUL (CONT'D)

But what, you want to see if it works out before you let me go completely? What, a computer geek with a heart of gold doesn't do it for you anymore? What kind of fun were you really looking for, Cathy? Trips to the Riviera? Well, am I right? (beat; emotional) Are you having an affair?

She doesn't respond.

PAUL (CONT'D)

I need to be alone for a while.

END

L

He grabs his jacket and exits. She stares after him for a moment, then turns to the phone and plays Dr. Todd's message again.

~~EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE - THE NEXT MORNING (10:30)~~

~~Cathy has three pictures pinned in front of her, road pictures.~~

~~PAUL~~  
~~So what have you told us far?~~

~~Cathy~~  
~~You're like a dog with a bone about that.~~

~~DR. TODD~~  
~~Eventually you'll have to tell them.~~

~~Cathy~~  
~~Maybe not. Maybe I'll just leave it on my front door that says head of household great this year or year.~~

~~DR. TODD~~  
~~Michelle's so random.~~

~~CATHY~~  
~~Maybe you should tell them for me. Affairs never have more practice with giving the end of the world. Do you know if like it? Be a little bit of a good complement.~~

~~PAUL~~  
~~Michelle's so random.~~