

Dinner For Three

by

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EXT. STREET. NIGHT.

A house sits quietly on an empty street, it is cold and dark.

INT. KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Jack and Sarah are having a discussion in the kitchen, as the pasta boils in the pot. Sarah is cutting carrots, while Jack is pouring drinks next to her.

JACK

So, let me get this straight, there's a new bloke at your book club, he's a bit of a loner, he's a bit strange, and you decide to invite him over for dinner?

SARAH

He's not strange, he's just new,

JACK

To be honest, he sounds kind of strange.

SARAH

You know what its liked to meet someone for the first time, it can be hard.

JACK

Yeah ok, I trust your judgement, only because you're going to be my wife.

Jack walks away from Sarah towards his room.

JACK (CONT'D)

I'll just be a minute.

Jack exits room and Sarah turns on the radio, continues to prepare food. Music plays.

INT. KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Jack walks back in.

JACK  
Sarah, I don't like this. you  
should've just taken him out to  
buy a coffee or something.

SARAH  
Stop stressing, it will be fine.

JACK  
Ok (the door bell cuts him off)

Sarah leaves Jack's side and goes to the door, whilst he  
turns off the radio and pours drinks. Sarah converses with  
Victor at the door.

SARAH  
(O.S.)  
Hi, Thank you so much for coming.

VICTOR  
(O.S.)  
It's my pleasure, Sarah.

SARAH  
(O.S.)  
I hope you like Spag Bol, we've  
cooked up a feast (she says this  
as she walks back to the kitchen).

Sarah walks back into the Kitchen next to Jack, the two  
look at each other and then look towards door and speak in  
unison.

JACK AND SARAH  
Come in!

VICTOR  
Thank you.

As Victor says Thank you Jack gives Sarah a look and gestures that he's uncomfortable. Victor then walks into the Kitchen.

VICTOR (CONT'D)

(O.S.)

So are the lights here solar powered or are you guys completely electric?

SARAH

(O.S.)

No everything is electric.

VICTOR

(O.S.)

Yeah nice, How many lights do you have in this place?

JACK

36

VICTOR

(O.S.)

Really?

JACK

No, I don't know.

Victor gives a creepy grin, like he's slow to register there humour.

VICTOR

How's 'On the Road' going Sarah?

SARAH

Yeah, its taking a bit to get into, not quite my cup of tea.

VICTOR

Oh ok. There's something very lonely about travel isn't there?

SARAH(SMILING)

Yeah there is. But I think Jack Kerouac also depicts it as something quite liberating.

VICTOR

It's the only book I've ever read  
that shows how man, even when  
free, can be lonely.

JACK

(O.S.)

Would you like a cup of tea  
Victor? (Victor ignores him,  
doesn't miss a beat in his  
dialogue)

VICTOR

But isn't that the world we live  
in? We have more freedom than  
ever, yet we don't know what to do  
with it. We don't live up to the  
expectations that come with our  
freedom, we can do nothing but  
fail and as a consequence- we feel  
lonely.

JACK

Was that a yes or no on the tea?

VICTOR

I'm all right

SARAH

I don't think Freedom has anything  
to do with expectations, it's more  
to do with how you love others, it  
comes with knowing you're not  
alone in this world.

VICTOR

Interesting (he doesn't really  
value that opinion).

INT. DINNER TABLE. NIGHT.

The characters eat as an awkward tension fills the room.  
Victor looks at Sarah, Sarah smiles at Victor and Jack  
looks across frustrated at Sarah.

JACK

So where do you come from?

VICTOR  
A place far away

JACK  
Does this place have a name?

VICTOR  
It does, but I don't like to talk  
about it, it's very different to  
here.

JACK  
(O.S.)  
How so?

VICTOR  
People communicate differently,  
there is no technology getting in  
the way of things-its quite  
serene. Unlike here, this place  
isn't serene.

JACK  
I think it's a serene enough  
place, I think its quite a nice  
place.

VICTOR  
(O.S.)  
Interesting.  
(A pause occurs)

VICTOR (CONT'D)  
In some ways. But everyone's  
superficial. Where I'm from, if  
you think something then you say  
it. You don't just pretend.

JACK (TURNS TO SARAH)  
Have you told him anything?

SARAH  
What would I have told him?

JACK  
Things I've told you, about us.

SARAH  
Jack, I met this man today, what  
would I have possibly told him?

JACK  
Evidently something.

SARAH

Yeah ok, so you think I go up to people, who I haven't met before and tell them intimate details about our relationship?

JACK

I think you do, I think you've told him something. And I'm leaving so you two strangers can pour your hearts out to each other.

Jack Exits.

Sarah walks over to the radio and turns it on.

INT. DINNER TABLE AND KITCHEN. NIGHT.

(Music plays) Victor watches Sarah in the kitchen. Sarah cuts herself off screen and yelps.

SARAH(OFF SCREEN)

Ough! Damn!

Victor licks his lips casually while he watches Sarah. He Breathes in. Sarah puts Band-Aid on finger, before looking up at Victor.

SARAH

What? (notices he is watching her)

VICTOR

What's going on with you two. You guys don't seem very similar.

SARAH

Don't worry.

VICTOR

See, that's what I don't understand. Everyone puts on a charade of being in love... if you're in love you shouldn't fight. That's how it used to be, but people here, in this time, in this world.

(MORE)

VICTOR (CONT'D)  
It's all about the image.  
Everything's about the image.

SARAH  
(laughs) Come on. You've been in  
love before haven't you? Firstly,  
image has nothing to do with it...  
and let me tell you, fighting is a  
part of it.

VICTOR  
(O.S.)  
(dismissively) Interesting.

Victor rubs his chin, thinking.

VICTOR (CONT'D)  
Love means something different to  
every person, for example, I love  
eating, many people say they love  
eating. But none of us are in love  
with our food, are we? And if we  
do love our food then love really  
doesn't mean much to us.

Sarah looks at Victor and pours herself a drink. She then  
takes a sip as the conversation slows.

VICTOR (CONT'D)  
How do you know you really want to  
spend the rest of your life with  
this guy? I don't think I could  
spend eternity with any one  
person.

Silence for a few seconds. Sarah continues sipping the  
drink, she is un-impressed with him.

EXT. DINNER TABLE AND KITCHEN. NIGHT.

Jack walks back into the room slowly, glancing at Victor  
and looking at Sarah. Still standing, Jack addresses Sarah.

JACK  
I'm sorry about before, what I did  
I miss?

Silence.

SARAH  
(smiles at Jack) Nothing, we were  
talking about book club.

JACK  
Fantastic!

Jack sits back down in his seat.

JACK (CONT'D)  
(to Victor) So... how long do you  
plan on staying in the area?

VICTOR  
I haven't really planned it out.  
Until I get bored, I guess. What  
about you? Any plans?

JACK  
Not yet, just saving up money. Not  
that we don't talk about moving.

Jack smiles at Sarah and then turns back to Dom.

JACK (CONT'D)  
I wouldn't mind moving closer to  
my family. Do you have any family  
nearby?

Victor shakes his head.

JACK (CONT'D)  
Whereabouts are they?

VICTOR  
I'm not sure.

Jack sighs loudly and puts hands on table.

JACK  
We invited you to our house  
Victor, and we've given you a nice  
meal. It would be polite if you  
told us a bit about yourself so  
you're not just some stranger...  
To be completely honest, you're  
being very rude.

VICTOR  
Times have changed.

JACK

What are you on about? And Sarah, what did you tell him at book club? We should be talking about these things between ourselves, if you can't trust me, yet you can trust him... I don't know... If that's the case then we're just not working.

The three look at each other.

SARAH

Can we talk about this in another room?

JACK

I think that's a good idea.

Jack and Sarah walk off to another room. Victor stands up and walks into the kitchen to look around. He leans over and looks into the sink. A drop of blood is in it.

INT. KITCHEN AND DINNER TABLE. NIGHT.

Sarah re-enters room.

SARAH

(O.S.)

Get out.

Victor stares at Sarah.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Get out, please.

VICTOR

A Woman never used to talk to a man like this.

SARAH

Well times have changed.

Silence for a few seconds. Dom walks towards and then out the door. Jack enters the room.

JACK

Is he gone?

SARAH

Yes.

Pause.

SARAH (CONT'D)

You know; I didn't say anything to him at book club- we only spoke about books.

JACK

I know you wouldn't have said anything (smiling at her). I'm not sure what came over me, he had this weird way of making me doubt you.

SARAH

We're stronger than that, Jack. If we want to be together forever, then we have to trust each other.

JACK

I do. And we will be.

Jack and Sarah embrace in a hug.

JACK (CONT'D)

(as they are hugging) Man, that guy was a weird bloke.

SARAH

I know (she laughs and looks up at Jack). That's a story to tell to the Grandkids.

JACK

(laughs) It's top 5. Maybe even top 3 if we have a boring life.

The two hug in silence.

EXT. STREET. NIGHT.

Dom leans on car out the front of house watching from outside.