

LOVE INTERVENTION

Written by

Joseph J. Caruso

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Email: jjcwn@verizon.net

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INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY.

Somewhere in Central New Jersey.

Jack Solomon, 65, Black Hair, 6'1 is talking to his long time therapist, MOLLY HENDERSON, 70.

JACK

As I have said, too many times already. I never got over her.

MOLLY

Why do you say, too many times?

JACK

You're not sick of this by now?

MOLLY

Its been 10 years Jack. Its my job. Its what I do. This is your hour. We have talked many things over these years, aside from Olivia.

JACK

What do you do when you found the one for you and it doesn't work out. You look for second place.

MOLLY

You try to move on. You try to find someone else. There is no other option. This happens to all of us Jack. It happened to Olivia.

JACK

I got so sick of dating. It made me nauseous and tired. Trying and failing so many times.

MOLLY

Your taste in women is extremely specific. That has always been a problem.

JACK

(Long Pause)

That's for sure. I spend so much time running my company now, I just don't have time to date and go through all of that garbage anyway.

MOLLY
Specifically?

JACK
The small talk, the awkwardness. I am so sick of all of it. Over the last few years of me dating. It finally broke me. The desire burned out of me. October 1997, that was it for me. I was done for good.

MOLLY
That is 27 years ago.

JACK
I was hurting the walking wounded, the desperate, the depressed, or I was getting hurt myself. For me, blind dating does not work. Given my opportunities in this life to find love. I felt, running my business was what I should do.

MOLLY
The good news is, your business is doing well now?

JACK
We have turned the corner. 24 years. 25 of us. We are still considered a startup, but so many long hours and hard work. I sure hired well, these people are my family, not my employees.

Jack starts to tear up.

MOLLY
I can see you love those people.

JACK
Only had to fire one jerk in all these years. We all practically had to throw him out of a window.

MOLLY
That was Paul?

JACK
Bragging, egomaniacal, narcissistic, lowlife, creep from the depths of hell.
(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

And those were his good qualities, aside from being so bald, we all had to wear sunglasses.

Molly laughs.

MOLLY

Do you think you will ever try to date again?

JACK

No. Just don't have the patience or the stomach for it. I am not attracted to women my age. As we have discussed. A huge problem.

MOLLY

Yes, that is a big one. And you do not see a workaround?

JACK

I don't think so. Part of me, a tiny part of me, still has a small glimmer of hope. I still think about Olivia, every day. Every day for the last 33 years.

MOLLY

You have a different brain Jack. When you find real love, it is forever.

JACK

I think I might have redefined the definition of one woman man.

MOLLY

The rationalizations help you?

JACK

Celebrities and what they go through. In many ways, worse than the normal world. Kevin Costner is a huge recent example.

MOLLY

What is the right woman?

JACK

For starters, someone who is not in it just for the money. 248,000 a month for child support and expenses? That is what Costner's Ex wanted.

MOLLY

It is all very unfair.

JACK

I think I will take the plunge, once Webster's dictionary updates with a word that has more power than just unfair. Unfair. Just does not cut it. Not for the downside of a breakup and divorce.

MOLLY

This helps you. Celebrity Schadenfreude?

JACK

Not happy anyone is going through a divorce. Just know I never could. Making a living has always been so hard for me. Having my own business. Its been a long hard Rocky fight.

INT. JACKS SOFTWARE BUSINESS - DAY.

Somewhere in Central New Jersey.

Several of Jack's employees are gathered in a large conference room.

JIM HANNIGAN. Jacks first employee, mid 50s, 5'11.

MARY DAVIS. Late 40s been with Jack's company for many years. 5'2' brunette.

DON WASHKAU. 60 years old, another long term employee and friend of Jack. 5'11, black hair.

JANET FIELDS. 55 years old, 5'7, blonde hair. Long term employee of the company.

KAREN DAVIS. 33 years old, was hired ten years ago. 5'4, brunette.

DAVID HAAS. 59 years old, 5'11, balding. Another long term employee.

RICH STEVENS. 39 a relatively new hire. 5'7, brown hair.

JIM

The mute woman?

JANET

Yes, he drove up to Morristown. Sat there, and this woman never said a word.

JIM

Good lord. How can this be? Was she a mime? Its no wonder he abandoned ship so long ago.

MARY

Its quality. Not quantity. For most of the world. The dating services almost never work. The online crap. It gets old fast.

JIM

(To Janet)

Not a word? Was she Mute? Nuts?

JANET

Why is this so hard for you to understand?

JIM

Because its so crazy. Its actually hard to not say a word.

DON

For you especially.

DAVID

It seems that over the years. Jack has told each of us a story about a different blind date.

DON

It is sad. A man his age, 65, never married, never really in love. Except that one time in mid 1991.

JANET

I cry every time I think about Jack and Olivia. He has never gotten over her. Not in all these years.

JIM

May-June 1991. The love of his life. The man never recovered.

DAVID

Where do you go, when you have met the exact one for you?

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

The person you know for sure is going to be your life.

JANET

So what do we all do about this anyway? Stage an intervention? He has not dated in years.

Jack has a great deal of pride. Comes from hard times in his childhood.

JIM

Just because you deserve better, does not mean you will get it. Life is hard. Married or never married. Divorced. Looking.

JANET

As far as this intervention idea. Are we going through with this?

DON

I think we should vote. 25 people in this company, 10 of us here today, most of the executives.

JANET

OK. Raise your hands if you think we should have an intervention.

Out of the 11 employees, 9 raise their hand.

KAREN

Janet Why not?

JANET

I don't think its appropriate. This is Jack's private life. He might be mad or at least embarrassed.

KAREN

Rich?

RICH

Same answer. What if he gets mad?

KAREN

You have not been here long enough. He will not get mad, but he might get embarrassed.

RICH

His luck with women and dating. Has it all been bad? Has any of you heard him talk about a good date? A good experience. Ever?

KAREN

Unfortunately, most of his dating stories are not good. Some are so bad they are funny.

JANET

He is still looking for another Olivia. Odds are that will never happen. The love of our life, implies one, not several.

KAREN

He is a good man, he is also 65. He deserves some kind of happiness. He is still so afraid of divorce. So afraid of another Olivia and getting devastated.

JANET

Aren't we all?

KAREN

If worrying about divorce, stops you from finding true love. Is it worth it? Is there a real answer here?

RICH

I for one loved hearing about some of those bad dates over the years. Some humor at least.

JIM

Remember Lithium girl?

RICH

One of the better ones.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

Some 30 years ago.

Jack is sitting at a table with a woman. Her name is GAIL.
She is 5'2, and blonde, 31.

JACK

So. How long have you been on it?
Its called Lithium?

GAIL

About 3 years now. It helps, then
it doesn't help.

JACK

What do you mean?

GAIL

Sometimes when I am on it. I still
find myself on my roof.

JACK

What? On your roof?

GAIL

When I get very manic, I sometimes
feel the need to climb something.
Most times. That has been my roof.

JACK

I never heard that before. Then
again, why would I?

GAIL

Most of the time, I am normal, but
I have to take Lithium. Every day.

JACK

What is the longest time you sat on
your roof?

GAIL

The worst one was about day.

JACK

Just didn't want to come down? An
entire day, 24 hours?

GAIL

Yes.

JACK

Wow. I assume it was summer time?

GAIL

No winter.

JACK
Very cold?

GAIL
About 30?

JACK
Degrees? Is that Fahrenheit?

GAIL
Yes.

JACK
That is really incredible.

GAIL
Why do you always seem so amazed?

JACK
Under the circumstances. What
reaction would you prefer?

Gail looks very angry.

GAIL
You mean like this?

Gail stands up and screams at the top of her lungs. Then she jumps on a table, and runs out of the restaurant.

Jack looks at Gail as she exits. Others look on, amazed and stunned.

JACK
Don't worry. I will pay the check.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM. JACK'S SOFTWARE BUSINESS

JANET
That was one of the worst ones.

KAREN
Its part of life, dating, some
crazy people. We all go through it.

JANET
But that many bad dates? It seems
wrong somehow. Too high maybe?

KAREN

Its kind of why we are here. This guy, our boss, our friend for years. Needs help with dating.

JIM

Is throwing in the towel a possibility? We are talking like being in a relationship or married is the holy grail of being alive.

Is that even true, with all the divorce? The arguing. The financial loss. This is all only a good thing, if it works!

DON

Jim is right. Is this the right thing to do? At a minimum this is none of our business. We all love this guy, he is our friend, much more than just the CEO of this growing company.

He deserves to be happy, but don't we all? When or how do we even know if we are overstepping here?

MARY

I don't think we are overstepping. There is nothing wrong with saying something like, "I know someone who might be right for you. I have a friend who you might like".

DAVID

We need to take a vote.

KAREN

A vote? For something like this?

DAVID

He is our close friend but he is also the boss. We have to be careful.

KAREN

There are 11 of us. An odd number, appropriate for such an odd meeting.

Odds are, that this has never happened in the history of any company.

(MORE)

KAREN (CONT'D)

Show of hands, how many of us, want
to help Jack to find love?

Out of the 7 people, 4 vote yes. All of the women and Dave
raise their hands.

KAREN (CONT'D)

OK, for better or worse. What is
the next step?

MARY

Anybody have a women friend and
someone nice? Someone who actually
talks and is not on Lithium? A
normal woman? Not insane, crazy,
belongs in a mental institution?
Sits on her roof?

Nobody responds.

DAVID

I might know someone who knows a
woman who is cute and petite like
Jack likes.

MARY

Do you have a picture?

DAVID

I might have one at home.

KAREN

On Wednesday, lets call a meeting
with Jack. David, will bring in the
picture and lets see what happens.

JIM

This could be a disaster.

KAREN

Depending on how lonely Jack is and
that picture. This just might be a
good idea.

FLASHBACK:

INT. NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANT - NIGHT.

A few days earlier.

Jack enters restaurant and sees JACKIE ACRES, 5'6, brunette,
45 waiting in the lobby.

JACK
Hello. Are you Jackie?

JACKIE
Yes I am. Nice to meet you.

JACK
Nice to meet you too.

They shake hands.

JACK (CONT'D)
Did you hit any traffic?

JACKIE
I encountered some traffic on the way in. Not hit it.

JACK
Its just another way of saying traffic.

JACKIE
Not really.

JACK
I am from New Jersey, we sometimes say that.

JACKIE
I am from New Jersey. Never heard that before.

The Restaurant Hostess walks over to the Jack and Jackie. She is very attractive and catches Jack's eye.

HOSTESS
I will take you to your table.

Jack and Jackie follow the hostess to their table.

HOSTESS (CONT'D)
You may be seated. Can I get you drinks and a menu?

JACK
Thank you, yes.

They sit down as the Hostess walks to the front of the restaurant.

JACKIE
You like her?

JACK

What? What do you mean?

JACKIE

You were looking at her. At her ass, all the way here.

JACK

You were in front of me, how do you know where I was looking?

JACKIE

I could see your reflection in the glass window. Looking at her ass.

JACK

I was not looking at her, or her ass.

JACKIE

I think you were.

JACK

Is that a huge tragedy if I was?

JACKIE

When you are on a first date with another woman. Yes it is. She is also a young child.

JACK

Really?

JACKIE

Yes really.

JACK

Well, based on the angle of the window and the direction we were walking I doubt if you could tell exactly where I was looking. I took a Physics course in college. With the right amount of time, I could probably figure out the Kinematics of this specific situation.

She is a lovely young woman however. I will not apologize for looking at her in any way. However, this is not an admission of ass-looking.

JACKIE

Are you a serial cheater?

JACK
Was your last boyfriend a serial
cheater?

JACKIE
My last husband was.

JACK
So how long were you married?

JACKIE
Two years. 3 affairs along the way.

JACK
Sorry to hear that.

JACKIE
Really?

JACK
Yes really! Nothing worse than a
divorce and cheating. Not all men
are like your husband.

JACKIE
How would you know, you have never
been married?

JACK
How do you know that?

JACKIE
The dating service told me.

JACK
That kind of information should be
off limits.

JACKIE
If its off limits, then don't tell
them when you sign the application.

JACK
That was a required questionnaire.
They should not have told you.

JACKIE
Not how it works. Asked if you have
been married and they told me,
never. And you are 65 years old.

JACK

So, you think its better to be married and divorced a few times - rather than being careful and making sure you marry the right woman?

JACKIE

Anybody would think its weird to never been married at age 65.

JACK

Anyone? You mean you? I have no shame in never being married. I did find the right woman years ago. It did not work out.

JACKIE

Why?

JACK

None of your business.

JACKIE

Nice attitude.

JACK

Within seconds of meeting you, you started with the attitude.

Lady the problem with this very short date is your attitude. From the second we walked into this restaurant.

Meeting way too many women like you, is why I never did get married. This kind of shit, happens to me far too often.

Good Luck and Good Bye! For your sake and the sake of some poor guy, I hope you die alone.

Jack stands up and walks out of the restaurant. Jackie just waves as Jack walks away. The hostess is standing at the front of the restaurant as Jack leaves.

HOSTESS

Leaving so soon? Is something wrong?

JACK

Not really. Just another very bad blind date.

HOSTESS

So sorry.

JACK

Don't be. How old are you by the way?

HOSTESS

Just turned 19.

JACK

Did you think I was looking at your ass when we walked to the table?

HOSTESS

No. I don't think so. It would be hard to tell I was in front of you.

JACK

The windows?

HOSTESS

No, I did not notice you looking at my ass in the window.

Jack points to Jackie who is sipping wine.

JACK

Well I wasn't. Tell her that. Not that she is worth telling her anything. Enough of the crazies.

Jack leaves the restaurant into the parking lot.

JACK (CONT'D)

(Talking to himself.)

Enough of this crap. That was the last one. Just can't stand doing this anymore.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. JACK'S SOFTWARE COMPANY - DAY.

Several days later. 9 AM.

Jack walks into the first floor of his company. He notices several people in the conference room.

JACK

Have we forgotten I am CEO? A meeting I have no idea was happening this morning? A meeting I did not call!

KAREN

This is an intervention Jack.

JACK

A what?

KAREN

An intervention. We all, want to help you with your love life.

JACK

This has to be some kind of a joke.

MARY

How did your date the other night go?

JACK

It was horrible, just like all my blind dates. Too many of them. I am beyond disgusted.

JIM

What happened Jack?

JACK

Walking into the restaurant this nutcase thought I was looking at the hostesses ass.

JIM

Were you?

JACK

No of course not. She thought I was looking at her ass because she could see me in the window. Can you believe that crap?

KAREN

Your track record is not good.

JACK

You think? If bad luck in love increased health, I will be living to 200. I would be alone for that whole 200 year ride.

JANET

We all want to help you. Like you have helped us for all these years working at this company. You are like a father and a brother to many of us.

Jack is visibly moved.

JACK

This problem, has to do with fate. I don't think anyone can help me. Maybe I am better off. I really don't think my health is strong enough for any divorce. Or any more bad dates.

JANET

What about being alone for the rest of your life?

JACK

Nothing I can do about that. I appreciate what you are all trying to do. I still cannot stop thinking about Olivia.

MARY

That is 33 years ago Jack.

JACK

One woman man.

MARY

This is getting kind of crazy. Long past time to move on.

JACK

Its not like that. The fact remains she was the last one who I met who I thought was the one for me.

Since then its been nothing but bad experiences. I am long past tired. Especially after that ass-looking accuser last night.

KAREN

She thought, you were looking at the hostess ass?

JACK

Yes. As I explained.

KAREN

Were you?

JACK

Looking at her ass?

JACK (CONT'D)

No! I even asked her later.

KAREN

Wait a minute. You talked to the hostess later to ask her if she noticed you looking at her ass, even though you were not?

JACK

Yes.

KAREN

Are you crazy?

JACK

By now? Yes.

MARY

David has a photo of a nice woman he knows and Jim may have two pictures.

JACK

Two? What are you a dating service?

JIM

Just two women who my wife knows at work.

JACK

If this is another two disasters and they know your wife at work? How is that going to work out?

JIM

This is a risk. All dating and relationships have risk.

David gives Jack a photograph and Jim gives Jack another photo.

KAREN

I also have a friend. But she was just divorced.

JACK

That might be good or bad.
Depending on about 300 factors. How
recently?

KAREN

Three months.

JACK

I think that is probably too soon.

Jack looks at the 3 photos.

MARY

Well? What do you think?

JACK

First of all, I cannot believe what
you guys are doing. It is both
flattering and insane. Are we all
still at work?

Jack places one photo on the table.

JACK (CONT'D)

I like the way she looks. I think
she is cute. How tall is she, she
looks tiny.

JIM

I met her at a party. She is about
5'1. She is cute.

JACK

Divorced?

JIM

I don't think so.

JACK

How old is she?

JIM

44.

JACK

Never married? Something wrong with
this girl?

JIM

Jack. You are 65 and never married!
Why are you asking this question?

JACK

I don't know. I already said I was crazy a few minutes ago. What is her name?

JIM

Donna.

JACK

I think I like that name. Why the curly hair?

JIM

A question for her. Also a question I would NOT ask her on your date! Why the curly hair - would probably not fly Jack.

JACK

Right. Even I am not that stupid.

Karen gives Jack her photo.

JACK (CONT'D)

Cute. But one at a time. Lets hold that one until next time. Just in case this one is another disaster.

DON

Jack. Think positive! She is cute. Small like you love.

JACK

Your right. David. Tell her OK, and if she wants to meet, give me her phone number and I will call her.

DAVID

OK.

INT. JACKS BEDROOM - NIGHT.

One day later.

Jack is in his bed, laying next to his phone. He dials a number.

JACK

Donna?

DONNA

Yes? This is she.

JACK
Donna this is Jack.

DONNA
Jack?

JACK
Yes Jack. Didn't someone. I mean.
Jim tell you I would be calling
you?

DONNA
Kind of. He was not sure?

JACK
Not sure? I was very clear.

DONNA
Well. We are on the phone now. No
biggie.

JACK
No biggie. How are you?

DONNA
I am fine? How are you?

JACK
I am fine. So. What do you do for a
living?

DONNA
I am a secretary at a local lumber
company.

JACK
Lumber?

DONNA
Yes lumber.

JACK
Do you like it?

DONNA
Most people hate their jobs.
Something like 85%.

JACK
So that is a no?

DONNA

Its a maybe. There are some good people there, but I am always looking for something better. Never easy to find.

JACK

No nothing in life is easy, unless your a Kardashian. How long have you been there?

DONNA

Almost 5 years now.

JACK

Jim tells me you are 44, never married?

DONNA

That is correct. You are 65 never married?

JACK

Yes. Correct.

DONNA

Why is that Jack?

JACK

Never met the right woman, and over time I got pretty tired of looking.

DONNA

That sounds sad Jack.

JACK

It can be. How about you?

DONNA

About the same. I heard someone say. Love is not like death and taxes. It is never guaranteed to anyone. Were you ever close?

JACK

Yes, about 30 years ago. I thought she was the one. You?

DONNA

About 20 years ago. He cheated on me, and we were over pretty quickly after that.

JACK

Sorry.

DONNA

Sorry for you too. Did you love her?

JACK

Yes. Very much. I never really recovered from it.

DONNA

Not something to tell someone new is it?

JACK

It is the truth. How I felt. How I have felt for years.

DONNA

I think when love ends you must move on quickly, because you might miss out on the right one, if you don't move on.

JACK

I hope that is true. I am not serial dater. I don't like trying on many different people.

DONNA

Are you implying that I am?

JACK

No. No way. I was just talking about me, not implying anything.

DONNA

OK.

JACK

Are we OK?

DONNA

OK. But that breakup from 30 years ago, does concern me. Do you think you are ready to move on with someone new.

JACK

Yes. I know I am.

DONNA

Well that is good news. Why do you think this has taken so long?

JACK

Some bad luck. Not really sure. As CEO of my own business, my time has been limited. So much work, so little time.

DONNA

So you still see her face?

JACK

Interesting question. Sometimes I do.

DONNA

You still love her?

JACK

Yes. I have to tell the truth. I will always love Olivia.

DONNA

I don't think this is a good idea. You are still stuck in 30 years ago. That is not healthy.

JACK

No that is not true. I am ready to move on.

DONNA

I don't believe you. You are still thinking of those times with her. Her face. Other things.

JACK

Can we start over?

DONNA

Why?

JACK

You asked me some of the wrong questions and I gave the wrong answers.

DONNA

Jack. I have to do some errands OK?

JACK

You sure give up fast.

DONNA

I have been down this road once before. I don't need another dating nightmare with some guy who is still obsession about some other woman. Good luck getting past her Jack. One day.

JACK

OK. Bye.

DONNA

Bye.

INT. SAME CONFERENCE ONE DAY LATER - DAY.

Jack walks down the main isle of the office building and sees Karen walking from the other direction. They both walk into the conference room, with several employees already sitting.

KAREN

Jack.

JACK

Karen.

KAREN

I know your the CEO here and all that stuff. But can I ask you a personal question?

JACK

Sure.

KAREN

Are you out of your fucking mind?

JACK

Most likely. When it comes to love and dating.

KAREN

Are you even a person we can help? All your employees. Your close friends.

JACK

Donna asked me questions. I gave honest answers.

JIM

Honesty about your previous love from so long ago? Why Jack?

JACK

I just could not lie.

MARY

You don't have to lie. Just talk around it. Change the subject. Shoot off a fire cracker! Cut your wrists!

Deflect. Donna told us the conversation lasted about 10 minutes and already she knew you were a lost cause.

JACK

That just might be true guys. I might be a lost cause when it comes to love.

MARY

You are going to ruin the rest of your life, because of something that happened 33 years ago.

KAREN

I know that everybody in this room. Thinks I have a foul mouth. But Jesus fucking Christ.

JACK

I think its time that all of us get a new project to work on. I am probably a lost cause guys.

JIM

So you want us to stop setting you up?

JACK

For now yes. Meeting over.

Jack walks out of the room.

Mary looks like she is about to cry.

MARY

I find this entire thing. So very sad.

KAREN

Fucking sad is right.

Jack comes back into the room.

JACK

Karen. You said you had a woman you know last time. You gave me her photo. Can you set something up?

KAREN

Are you sure? So soon after this?

JACK

I am not getting any younger.

KAREN

I will call her tonight OK? Promise me. No mention of anything from your dating past. Learn from past mistakes? Like you tell your employees? Remember?

JACK

I will just say, I don't talk about past relationships.

KAREN

Given your history, that is your only shot.

INT. KARENS HOUSE - DAY.

Some 5 hours later. Karen is on the phone, talking to her friend MELISSA JOHNSON, 45.

KAREN

Yes. He is my boss. He is a good guy. No never married.

MELISSA

Something wrong with this guy?

KAREN

No. He was in a relationship years ago, it just never led to marriage. Remember, he was also never divorced. That has to count for something.

MELISSA

I guess so.

KAREN

What does he look like? I just sent you a photo. He is 65, 6'1, about 220 pounds. In shape.

MELISSA

I have the photo. He is kind of cute.

KAREN

Great! So you want to meet him?

MELISSA

Yes. Maybe Thursday night?

KAREN

What time?

MELISSA

About 8 PM?

KAREN

OK. I will tell him. Thanks for this.

MELISSA

No problem. I appreciate the call. Dating anyone nowadays is always a potential nightmare.

KAREN

That what I have always heard. Makes me glad I am married. Not happily of course, but at least I am not dating.

MELISSA

Who likes dating? Its mostly a pain in the ass.

KAREN

I hope you guys hit it off. He is the best boss I have ever had. A good person. Lucky with money and business, not in love.

MELISSA

Has he ever been close?

KAREN

Yes, but that is not a subject to ask him. Keep with current times. Its best for both of you. Think about now, not what could have been for either of you.

MELISSA

OK. I will do that.

KAREN

Good luck.

MELISSA

Thanks.

INT. JACKS HOUSE - NIGHT.

The next night.

Jack dials the phone.

JACK

Can I talk with Melissa?

MELISSA

Yes. This is she.

JACK

This is Jack. Karen said this was a good time?

MELISSA

Yes, this is a perfect time. How are you?

JACK

I am fine. How are you?

MELISSA

I am fine.

JACK

You have a nice face. Karen showed me your picture.

MELISSA

Thanks. I wish I could say the same. I don't have your picture.

JACK

Sorry about that. I should have given one to Karen.

MELISSA

That's OK. I am not superficial to believe that relationships are all about looks. Looks fade. What is inside does not. However. How tall are you?

JACK

That is true. I am 6'1, black hair.

MELISSA

So I know you are the CEO of your own company. That must have taken some guts.

JACK

Bank loans, payments that have to be made. Clients that pay and then some who do not pay.

To get rolling and actually profitable. Took around 4 years. That was a happy day, and we have not stopped growing since. That was 12 years ago.

MELISSA

Wow. That is very impressive. Karen spoke very highly of you as a boss.

JACK

I never think of myself as a boss.

As an employee for years, and not treated very well, the word boss has always bothered me. We are a team, we work together. I make the final decisions. Nothing more than that.

MELISSA

I wish I had a boss like you.

JACK

What do you do?

MELISSA

I am a clerk for Williams Shipping. Here in town. About 3 years now.

JACK

Like it?

MELISSA

No.

They both laugh.

JACK

I love the honesty. Most people would give the political answer.

MELISSA

If you cant be honest to a total stranger, then who?

JACK

Exactly. Do you have children?

MELISSA

No. I was married once. It did not work out. Thank God we did not have any children.

JACK

Children should have two parents. There are too many single mothers in this world.

MELISSA

Very hard to raise a child alone.

JACK

Karen probably told me I have not been married.

MELISSA

She mentioned that talking about the past should be avoided. Lets talk about now.

JACK

Karen is a smart person. One of my best employees.

MELISSA

She has been a good friend for 5 years now.

JACK

The company I started, now so long ago. Has only been successful because of the people I hired. That starts with Karen and so many others. We are all lucky to be working together.

MELISSA

That sounds so great. I would love to be part of a company like that.

JACK

Who knows maybe that will happen. I hope that for you.

MELISSA
Would you like to meet me?

JACK
Yes. Definitely.

MELISSA
Do you have a favorite restaurant.

JACK
Not really. Do you?

MELISSA
Yes I do. The Applebeas off of
route 1?

JACK
That one? Lets avoid that one for
now.

MELISSA
Why?

JACK
I had an incident.

MELISSA
What happened?

JACK
Can I tell you at the date? Its
rather a stupid story. How about
Fridays?

MELISSA
Fridays is fine. The one off of
route 27?

JACK
How about this Friday at 8? At
Fridays.

MELISSA
Sounds good. Look forward to it.

JACK
Me too. See you then.

MELISSA
See you then.

INT. MAIN FLOOR OF JACKS SOFTWARE BUSINESS - DAY.

Next Morning.

Jack walks down the hall and runs into Karen.

KAREN

Well?

JACK

Fridays, tonight.

KAREN

The dive on route 96, or the good one on route 27?

JACK

The good one.

KAREN

Try not to blow this one up? For all of our sakes!

JACK

I will try.

KAREN

Come on Jack. Try? What did you tell all of us about trying? Do I have to do my famous Yoda impression again? "Do or Do not, there is no try."

JACK

That was even more right on than last time. I hope you do not practice that.

I will do my best. Even Yoda can't object to doing your best. That is all there is.

She has to like me. I have to like her. Its always a two way street. For me, for everybody. Nothing more I can say. I appreciate your help.

KAREN

Want me to tell the gang?

JACK

No, this white hot focus on my personal life. Lets start to tone it down.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

We are here to work remember? At least that is the recent rumor.

KAREN

OK. But why? I thought you liked this?

JACK

Whatever gave you that impression?

KAREN

Your face.

JACK

My face? What face I was making?

KAREN

A blushing red happy one.

JACK

Next meeting. Bag over my head.

Jack heads down the hallway, Karen looks back at him smiling.

EXT. PARKING LOT. FRIDAYS. NIGHT

Jack is standing outside the restaurant. Waiting for MELISSA JOHNSON, 45, 5'2. Brunette.

MELISSA

Hello Jack?

JACK

Hello. How are you? Glad you could make it.

MELISSA

The traffic today.

JACK

Yes, pretty bad. So nice to meet you.

Jack hugs Melissa.

JACK (CONT'D)

The reservation has been made. They have a table for us.

MELISSA

Great! Nice to meet you too! Karen told me so much about you.

JACK
Hopefully all good?

MELISSA
Well mostly good.

They both laugh.

Melissa and Jack walk up to the head waitress and they are taken to their table.

WAITRESS
This OK for you?

MELISSA
Yes its fine.

JACK
Looks good.

Jack notices the view from the window next to them.

JACK (COT'D) (CONT'D)
Look at that. For a Fridays, that is a nice view.

MELISSA
I'll say. Nice trees and garden.

JACK
We got the best table.

MELISSA
Yes I think so.

JACK
So it is nice to finally meet you.

MELISSA
You as well.

JACK
So what did Melissa tell you. About me?

MELISSA
You own your own company. Very impressive. You have never been married. May have met the right woman, or so you thought years ago. That's about it.

JACK
As far as talking about past relationships or dates, for me that is off the table.
(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

The important thing about life is, what is happening now. The past is in the past.

MELISSA

That is OK by me.

JACK

If you want to talk about your past stuff like that, that is OK.

MELISSA

I assume Karen told you I was divorced. After 8 years. It wasn't really working out.

JACK

Sorry to hear. Do want to talk about? What happened? OK if you don't.

MELISSA

He was the kind of man who made disapproving faces. All the time.

JACK

Really. Never heard that before.

MELISSA

I would come in with packages from Target. Or Shop Rite. He would make these faces. Over years. It really got annoying. Driving somewhere. A face. In bed. Can't sleep. A face. It was driving me crazy.

JACK

That really sounds like it would grate on anyone's nerves.

MELISSA

It sure did mine. No verbal or physical abuse. I guess it was face abuse.

Jack smiles and laughs a little.

JACK

There is some humor there. I want to Google that when I get home.

MELISSA

From the outside, maybe. Its amazing that when love is young.

(MORE)

MELISSA (CONT'D)

How good it can be. But then,
things change.

JACK

If there is a higher power. And I
sure hope there is. You would think
that God, the creator would make
love and procreation, easier.

MELISSA

It is a continuing compromise. Some
luck is always involved. A long
term powerful connection that only
waned a little. Never dies. That
requires a real connection.

JACK

I totally agree. Why is it all so
hard?

MELISSA

I really do not know.

The waitress comes over.

WAITRESS

Can I take your order?

MELISSA

Yes. I will have the salmon. And
the chicken and rice soup.

JACK

I will have the same. And a bottle
of this wine.

Jack points to a bottle of red wine in the menu and shows the
wine to Melissa.

MELISSA

I approve. That is a good one.

JACK

You have had this one before?

MELISSA

Yes I have.

JACK

I like wine, but. I have no ability
to taste the difference between
them. Red and White, yes, but
different kinds. Expensive, cheap.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

I have no clue. Its all the same to me.

MELISSA

I am sorry.

They both laugh.

JACK

Did we talk about your job?

MELISSA

A clerk for Williams shipping.
About 3 years.

JACK

Yes right you did mention that.

MELISSA

My boss is both rude and very demanding. I have been looking around for about a year now.

JACK

Any luck?

MELISSA

Almost none. Not a lot going on around in this town or nearby. I don't want a bad commute. I have had those. Never again.

JACK

That is too bad. Keep looking. Something will come up.

MELISSA

I hope so. Before one day I lose my temper and quit. Or I am fired.

JACK

There are courses for dealing with difficult people. It is an extremely common problem. One of the many reasons why I started my own company.

This is a situation that I will never allow in my own company. We are an family and everybody is treated with respect.

MELISSA

Two years ago I took one of
difficult people courses.

JACK

Did it help?

MELISSA

Very little. This guy I was dealing
with was outside the bounds of what
they taught.

JACK

How do you mean?

MELISSA

Just so rude, that the only thing I
could have done was quit, or lose
my temper and then lose my job.
When this was all going on, my God
did I want to have my own company.

JACK

I started my own company years ago.
Mainly because I just could not
stand having a boss. I had more
than my share of bad ones.

MELISSA

Such a big risk.

JACK

It was for a long time. We are
lucky to have survived the early
bad years.

MELISSA

What happened?

JACK

Bank loans. Wrong employees. Sales
not going as we promised the bank.

MELISSA

How bad was all of that?

JACK

I could not sleep. I thought I was
going to have a heart attack.

Then one day, we made a big sale
and we have been working with this
company ever since.

MELISSA
Congratulations.

JACK
Thank you. We all want to be in charge of our financial destiny. We all want to have no boss. Many forget how difficult it all is.

MELISSA
You watch Shark Tank?

JACK
Every week. Even the reruns.

MELISSA
The risks some of these people take. Credit card debt. Second mortgage on their homes. Many of them are standing up there crying. Risking everything. There is no better example of wanting to be your own boss so badly, than these desperate people.

JACK
I would never decide, especially with children, to take risks like these.

There is such a thing as too risky. For our company at the start. There was a bank loan. I did put my home up for collateral. But no credit card debt. If I had to use credit cards, considering those interest rates, I would have stayed a full time employee.

MELISSA
And you would have been miserable.

JACK
Very unhappy. I have to be a free man.

To never rely on the ever changing and far too often inaccurate opinions of other people. For me, that is what having your own company is all about.

MELISSA

I think they should have a Shark Tank show, that follows all of the contestants who tried very hard and for whatever reason, it didn't work out for them.

JACK

There is nothing easy about starting your own business. If it doesn't work out, you can lose everything. A show like Shark Tank should be legally obligated to show both sides.

MELISSA

If it didn't work out for you. Knowing all your know now. Would it have been worth it?

JACK

I had what I thought was a great software idea. I had the ability to develop the idea. I had to try. No matter what.

I was 29. I took the chance. It was worth the risk, even if I lost everything.

MELISSA

The worry about losing everything has to be less than the desire to be in charge.

JACK

Not a good idea to risk it all after a certain age. Probably 40-45 is your last window. If you have kids, then that age is lower. You cannot bring kids into a failed business. They deserve security.

MELISSA

Too many have children who are not able to afford them. Too many have children, hoping to rescue a bad marriage. Kids are when you met the right person.

JACK

Seems like we agree on many things Melissa.

MELISSA
Yes it seems we do.

JACK
Have you dated much lately?

MELISSA
No not much. You?

JACK
The same. Not much. It seems my employees are into my finding love. They staged what seemed like a love intervention.

MELISSA
Really? You are that close to your employees?

JACK
We are all very close. Its the only reason why the company survived. I treat all of them, like I would want to be treated as an employee and never was.

MELISSA
That is really great.

JACK
Communication is the key. In this case with them caring about my personal life. This can at times feel like its too much.

MELISSA
Its the reason why we are here tonight.

JACK
I am enjoying the evening and the conversation.

The waitress brings over the food.

JACK (CONT'D)
This all looks good.

MELISSA
This salmon looks great. Perfect actually.

JACK
Just about the best food there is.
My favorite.

MELISSA
Mine too.
(To the Waitress)
Can we have more bread please?

WAITRESS
Of course, I will bring it right
now.

JACK
Some water and ice too thank you.

WAITRESS
No problem.

The waitress walks away.

MELISSA
Did she seem a bit moody, or off
putting to you?

JACK
No not really.

MELISSA
OK. From my side of the table, she
did seem a little snappish.

JACK
Snappish?

MELISSA
Yes. A little.

JACK
I have huge respect for people who
have jobs like her.

Its hard work, rude customers,
difficult bosses. My lean years
when I was in my early 20s gives me
so much respect for young people
trying to make their way.

MELISSA
Are you saying I don't?

JACK
Don't what?

MELISSA

Don't have respect for people who have jobs like this?

JACK

No. No way. Definitely not.

MELISSA

OK.

JACK

Are you OK? I was just talking about my perspective. Only specifically about my experiences.

MELISSA

OK.

JACK

OK. Well the soup looks great as well. Would you like some wine?

MELISSA

Yes please.

Jack pours the wine.

JACK

Are you sure you are OK? You seem a bit upset.

MELISSA

Well to be honest I did not like what you said.

JACK

What exactly?

MELISSA

I said she looked moody and you come up with a story about respecting people with challenging jobs.

JACK

It was a generic comment. It nothing to do with what you said. It was entirely about my lean years in my 20s and bad jobs.

MELISSA

It did not sound generic.

JACK

I meant it as a generic comment about my life experiences. My respect for so many millions of young people starting out in life.

MELISSA

I am one of those people with a horrible bad job.

JACK

I did not realize that you considered your job that bad.

MELISSA

That should have been clear from our earlier conversations.

JACK

Sorry.

MELISSA

Why did you not offer me a job with your company?

JACK

What?

MELISSA

You heard me.

JACK

Because this is a date. Not a job interview.

MELISSA

Not what I thought.

JACK

How could you have thought otherwise? Did Karen say something?

MELISSA

She implied.

JACK

This is a date. A date that was going great before this issue with the waitress. Do you think it is possible for us to get back to normal? Where we were 5 minutes ago?

MELISSA
Probably not.

JACK
Do want to box up the salmon and
soup and get out of here?

MELISSA
Yes.

JACK
OK.

Jack signals the waitress to come over to their table.

WAITRESS
Yes?

JACK
We will not be staying. Can you
bring over the bill and box up our
food? We will be leaving.

WAITRESS
So sorry to hear.

JACK
No problem. Thank you for your
great service. What is your name?

WAITRESS
Cindy.

JACK
You did great thank you.

Cindy walks back to her station.

MELISSA
Another shot at me?

JACK
Oh now I get it. You are crazy.
Insane. Off the wall. Out of your
tree. NUTS! You think you are the
center of the entire universe. Do
you also have your own
gravitational pull?

MELISSA
So you also think I am fat?

Melissa gets up and walks out of the restaurant.

JACK

My holy God in heaven. This one is impossible to believe. Even for me.

Several other customers look over at Jack as Melissa leaves.

Cindy comes back over with the boxes and the bill.

CINDY

So sorry.

JACK

Don't be. When something is not going to work out. The sooner it bombs, the better.

Cindy laughs.

CINDY

I have had my share of bad dates too.

JACK

I am becoming famous for bad dates. How old are you dear?

CINDY

20 years old.

JACK

So young. I was once your age. Unfortunately dinosaurs were still roaming the earth and eating people.

Cindy laughs.

CINDY

So how old are you?

JACK

65.

CINDY

Wow.

JACK

Wow old? Or wow good age?

CINDY

A little of both.

JACK

I could be your grandfather. You did a great job. Are you in college?

CINDY

Yes.

JACK

Studying what?

CINDY

English.

JACK

Good for you. What career interests you?

CINDY

Being a teacher.

JACK

The most noble profession that never pays enough.

CINDY

I know. But I love helping people and kids.

JACK

I wish you all of the luck in the world young lady.

CINDY

Thank you.

JACK

Thank you. I will leave you a nice tip.

CINDY

Thanks.

Cindy walks away and Jack leaves her a tip of 25 dollars.

JACK

Jack looks at Cindy walk away. With a tear in his eye.

INT.JACK'S SOFTWARE BUSINESS - DAY.

One day later.

Jack walks from the elevator into a conference room. Karen is there, along with Jim, Mary, Janet and David.

JACK

Wow. A full house.

Something I should have said some time ago. Thank you for your concern. Today is the end of this love intervention.

The last one, was a bad one. Karen, did you fill them in?

KAREN

Not all of it.

JACK

Did you tell her I would be interested in hiring her as an employee?

KAREN

She told me how much she hates her job and I may have given her the wrong impression.

JACK

So my bad date, that started out so well, was really some kind of a job interview.

KAREN

Is that their only reason why it did not work out?

JACK

No, I complimented the young waitress there. About how much I respect people with jobs like that and she went completely off the deep end. Totally crazy. Insane.

She thought I was insulting her because she said the waitress was moody. I told her, several times. I was just making a generic statement about young people with low paying and difficult jobs.

MARY

One thing about some women. They can think that men make backhanded comments like women do.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

Most men tend to say what they mean. Women tend to be more backhanded with their comments.

JACK

All I can do is tell the truth. I do not like being called a liar. She did not believe me, so she just got up and left.

I am now officially done dating. She went on this date to get a new job. Not to find love.

KAREN

This is really not my fault. I will talk to her. I never told her that this date could also be considered a job interview. We are no longer friends.

JACK

I have accepted being single for the rest of my life. I have been through it all except missing out on divorce and financial ruin. I don't have the strength to deal with this anymore.

JIM

I can understand that. We will abandon all of this.

JACK

Please. For my sake.

Jack stands up and walks out of the conference room.

JIM

Maybe when it comes to love. Some of us are either cursed. Or it is just not meant to be. For love in this world, you have to be OK with the good side and the bad side. I think Jack has had more than his share of the bad side. This is just fate.

DAVID

We all work for this guy. He is a great person boss. We tried. We failed. Time to move on.

We have interfered enough.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

Lets be happy he never got divorced. Anybody have Kevin Costner on speed dial? 25 years and she wanted all of his money, cloaked as child support payments.

JIM

That can happen to any of us. Maybe Jack is just better off giving up the chase. Some people are just better off alone.

MARY

I agree.

KAREN

I agree.

INT. JACK IN HIS CAR - DAY.

10 minutes later. Jack is driving.

There is a tear in Jack's eye, as he starts to think about Olivia, from over 30 years ago.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY.

Winter Garden Theater.

It is late November 1991. Jack and Olivia's second date.

Jack and Olivia are waiting in line for the play CATS.

The air is cold enough to see breaths of air. Jack looks to his right at Olivia and then down to her feet.

JACK

Olivia. Your feet.

OLIVIA

What about them?

JACK

They are so tiny and cute.

OLIVIA

So you think. That both my hands and feet are cute now?

JACK

Yes I do.

OLIVIA

I think you have a tiny fetish
Jack. Or a big fetish about tiny
things.

JACK

More like a cute fetish. I found
out recently that I have a very
high protective quotient.

OLIVIA

What is that?

JACK

I want to protect the woman I love.
And you being so cute and petite.
Its an instinct, something deep
inside.

OLIVIA

Did you say Love?

JACK

Yes I did. You only live once. I
wanted to tell you.

Jack hugs Olivia.

JACK (CONT'D)

Is that how you feel?

OLIVIA

I am attracted to you. But so soon
after my last boyfriend. Love? I
don't really know yet. So sorry.

JACK

That is OK. I knew it was a risk to
tell you how I feel this soon.

I just had to tell you now. I am in
Love with you.

Olivia smiles up at Jack. Jack smiles back.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. THERAPIST OFFICE - DAY.

Later that day.

Jack Solomon, is talking to his long time therapist, Molly.

JACK

I think that is the point in time.
When I lost Olivia forever.

MOLLY

When you told her you loved her?

JACK

Yes.

MOLLY

This is part of finding love. The
pain is always there. So is the
risk. For everyone.

Especially for Olivia. She just got
hurt badly Jack right before you.

JACK

I was so overwhelmed with love for
her. I could not help myself. I
could hardly breathe. I will always
regret that moment in time for the
rest of my life.

MOLLY

You told someone you loved deeply,
how you felt. Regret? I don't think
you should regret loving someone
that way.

Had this relationship lasted much
longer. You might have never
recovered. Its been 33 years and
you still think about her every
day. You must know that this is not
healthy.

JACK

Had we been together longer longer.
I might have never been able to
function, or keep this business
going. She was the love of my life.
My one in a billion.

MOLLY

You told me over the phone that you
have moved on. You never want to
date again?

JACK

I have had enough of being tortured
like a dog to find love.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

I have a company to run and people I care about.

This has been far too distracting. I am exhausted. I am disgusted.

MOLLY

Most people feel overwhelmed about finding love at some point in their lives..

JACK

How many dates? How many bad experiences. How many stories of other people going through a horrible divorce. Financial ruin does it take to finally call it a life?

MOLLY

That question. I do not have an answer to.

JACK

Even the employees of my own company. Trying to set me up.

If I am not cursed with trying to find love. Then who is?

MOLLY

Vladimir Putin?

They both laugh.

JACK

When I think back in time. So long ago. I never would have guessed that something that important and incredible. Would only happen once in my lifetime. One true love. One chance.

MOLLY

You don't know that. Jack you are still alive.

JACK

Sometimes. I think, just barely.

MOLLY

Everybody goes through problems trying to find love.

(MORE)

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Its the rare few that find love in high school and it lasts forever. The rest of us. It takes time and work and strength to endure the highs and lows.

JACK

How about you?

MOLLY

Dated for many years. I was 45 and finally found the right one. And I was divorced once before him. A short marriage.

JACK

Some dues paid there.

MOLLY

Dues paid by everybody. Never think you alone.

JACK

I really don't. As a matter of fact I don't know how so many people can get married and divorced so many times. For me its one. Only one. For life.

MOLLY

And she was over 30 years ago.

JACK

I don't know what to tell you. Its who I am.

MOLLY

If someone comes along naturally. Organically. Like a meeting in a Shop Rite. Are you open to that?

JACK

I always have been. But that doesn't happen to me.

MOLLY

Why?

JACK

I honestly do not know. I wish I did. I cannot stop think about Olivia.

MOLLY

We have discussed this unhealthy problem.

JACK

It's been an infinite loop for 33 years.

MOLLY

For next time. Lets talk about ways to break free from thoughts that are hurting you.

JACK

(Long Pause. Jack sits and reflects).

MOLLY

Jack?

JACK

That sounds like a good idea for next time.

MOLLY

Lets do that. Two weeks?

JACK

OK next time. Two weeks. Yes.

Jack gets up and starts to leave.

JACK (CONT'D)

Regardless of progress, or no progress. I have needed you to talk to all of these years.

MOLLY

Thank you. Its been about 11 years now.

JACK

11 years. I just cant believe it.

Jack leaves Molly's office.

INT. JACKS SOFTWARE COMPANY - DAY.

Some days later. Jack enters his offices.

Karen walks up to him in the hallway.

KAREN
Have a few minutes?

JACK
Yes. What about?

KAREN
Its about Melissa.

JACK
This conversation will be like root canal.

Karen and Jack both walk into a small private conference room.

KAREN
I got Melissa on the phone. Turns out that the entire date was about her getting a new job. I will never talk to her again. I thought I knew her.

JACK
Consider her desperation over having a job so bad, she would do anything to get out of it. I have been there. So have you.

KAREN
Aside from all of that, you just do not do something like this. To anyone. Not ever. You are trying to find love, not a job for a depressed employee.

JACK
I hired you for many reasons. You remind me of those reasons all the time. Like for instance now. What you just said.

KAREN
Thank you Jack.

Karen and Jack stand up and hug each other.

JACK
Thank you.

KAREN
No problem. Clearly. I have to be more careful in picking my friends.

JACK

Sometimes we think we know someone. Then we find out that we really don't. This is not the case with all of you who work here.

KAREN

Are you sure you are so disgusted you want to stop dating for good?

JACK

Let me think about it. Give me a few days. I am just burnt out. I am not someone who drinks, but sometimes. You know what I mean.

KAREN

OK.

Jack and Karen hug and leave the conference room.

INT. KARENS HOUSE. NIGHT

Same day, 8 hours later. Karen calls Mary. She is sitting on her couch. Its 7 PM.

KAREN

Hi Mary.

MARY

Hi. What's up?

KAREN

I did something that might get me fired.

MARY

What?

KAREN

Don't judge me.

MARY

I won't.

KAREN

I hired someone to track down Olivia.

MARY

You mean like a private investigator?

KAREN

This whole thing with Jack is tearing our hearts out. Something has to be done to have him finally find love.

MARY

How the hell is finding Olivia going to help?

KAREN

If it amounts to nothing, then I will never tell him. I was thinking that this could be a win-win. If we find out how she turned out bad then maybe Jack will not think of her as the all time ultimate perfect opportunity that got away. If we find her and she is OK, then who knows.

MARY

How many win-wins have we seen go down the drain?

KAREN

Too many. But this is not about work. Its about Jack. The boss that we all love.

We owe him something like this. God knows I do. He has helped me so many times.

I also have noticed Jack does not look good lately. His love sickness is causing him to look a little ill.

MARY

He seems a little thinner.

KAREN

The private investigator has not called me back yet. I hired him a week ago. He is tracking her down in Manhattan.

MARY

Suppose the news is bad. Then what?

KAREN

I just will not tell him.

MARY

What if he finds out.

KAREN

He wont. And you will not tell. I trust you.

MARY

To tell you the truth, I am curious. Its been 30 years. What happened to Olivia?

KAREN

Maybe she also never found anyone.

MARY

Is there anyone alive who understands true love? The pain or the happiness it can cause. Why it has to be so hard for so many good people.

KAREN

What I do know is how unfair it all is.

MARY

Good luck. I hope nothing goes wrong.

KAREN

Just don't tell anyone.

MARY

You know me for 10 years. I will not tell anyone.

INT. JACKS SOFTWARE BUSINESS - DAY.

3 weeks later.

Main conference room.

Jim, Mary. Don. Janet, Karen, Rich and David are in attendance.

JIM

Karen. You called this meeting. I am more than a little curious.

RICH

What is going on anyway?

KAREN

My private investigator sent me a report. He found Olivia.

DON

What?

KAREN

No. I had to do something. Call it empathy. Believing in true love. I had to find out. Mary also knows about this.

JIM

You are taking a big risk. Obviously you have not told Jack.

KAREN

Not yet. I have a plan.

MARY

What plan?

KAREN

I will not tell him about this. I want to arrange them to meet at random. Somewhere in New York City.

DON

That sounds very hard to pull off.

KAREN

It is. Which is the reason for this meeting.

JIM

You realize if Jack finds out about this he might fire you.

KAREN

I don't care. I did this out of love. My love for the greatest boss in the world and the greatest unrequited love I have ever seen.

MARY

Where is Olivia?

KAREN

Still in Manhattan. Never married.

MARY

Not in all these years?

KAREN

She has had her share of breakups and experiences, as far as Joe, the investigator could find out. She looks.

MARY

Looks? What do you mean?

KAREN

Tired. Like a depressed woman. Who has been through too much.

JIM

It sounds like. Both of them have had nothing but heartache. Karen. Maybe them meeting, somehow. At random. Might be the right thing to do.

KAREN

Jack must never know that we arranged this meeting with Olivia. If it all works out then I will tell him what I did. Otherwise, there is no reason for him to know.

DAVID

This will require. A huge amount of thought.

Jack could have some kind of a meeting in New York City. Some way they meet? Somewhere in the city?

KAREN

The best idea right now. Is for all of us to think about this by ourselves. For a few days. Lets meet again in a few days?

DON

Where is Jack?

KAREN

He has a dentist appointment right now.

JIM

While I don't agree with the risk you are taking. I do like you trying so hard to help this guy. No matter what happens. I can only hope this breaks his obsession.

Its been over 30 years. Like the rest of you. I have never seen love like this before.

MARY

Neither have I.

KAREN

Thanks Jim. Lets meet here in a week. By then we should have a plan.

DAVID

We will need the private investigator you hired to get some help with this.

KAREN

I already called him this morning.

INT. LOCAL DINER - DAY

Two days later, Mary and Karen meet with JOE COLLINS, 70, a private investigator.

Mary and Karen are sitting at the booth across from Joe.

MARY

So you were a Newark Police officer?

JOE

Yes I was. 32 years. Retired 5 years ago.

MARY

You must have seen some action.

JOE

Never shot my gun. However my car was hijacked 2 years after I retired and I shot my gun for the first time at my hijacked car. I missed.

KAREN

Wow.

JOE

The guy got away, but we caught him a week later. My car was gutted unfortunately.

KAREN

Thank God for insurance.

JOE

You said it.

MARY

So how unusual is our assignment?

JOE

People trying to find their lost love. The one that got away is very common. However over 33 years? That I have not heard of before.

KAREN

Can you do it?

JOE

Sure. With the right contacts and knowhow, you can find anybody in the world. As I told you over the phone, we know where she is, but now we have to connect these two people and make it look like a chance meeting.

KAREN

Mary and I have racked our brains on this one and keep coming up empty.

JOE

I did something like this years before with a colleague. It is a matter of timing and logistics. It is not easy, but it can be done.

KAREN

Jack is the CEO of our software company. So many events are in New York City, involving some kind of a software conference. Something like that?

JOE

The problem is Olivia is not in the software business. She works in publishing. She would not go to a conference like that. I am still working on the best idea, will let you know in a few days.

KAREN

Is there a money back guarantee if the meeting fails?

JOE

I will only charge for my hours setting it up, not an item fee if they do not connect. Is that OK?

KAREN

Yes, that will be OK.

JOE

I have to go, nice meeting both of you.

MARY

You too. Thanks for your help. You are doing something that could wind up saving two lives.

JOE

I will guarantee that Jack or Olivia will never know that this has been set up.

KAREN

God knows how Jack would react if he knew that I even thought of something like this.

MARY

His love for her has never died. Its been 33 years.

JOE

I admit, when I first heard this story, I was very moved.

KAREN

You will call me in 2 days?

JOE

Two days. I should have a workable plan by then.

Joe, Mary and Karen shake hands. Joe leaves the diner.

KAREN
Well this is it.

MARY
Have you thought of us witnessing
this meeting with Olivia and Jack?
Assuming Joe can pull this off?

KAREN
What?

MARY
High powered binoculars? Something
like that?

KAREN
I did not think of that. That might
be a good idea. However, we have to
be so careful he does not see us
spying.

INT. JACK'S SOFTWARE BUSINESS - DAY.

Mary and Karen are in the conference room talking.

KAREN
Joe sent me an e-mail. I printed it
out.

Karen hands the printout to Mary.

KAREN (CONT'D)
He has a plan. Its crazy and
insane, but it just might work.

Mary reads the printout.

MARY
That huge software conference in
New York City next week. How do we
convince him to go?

KAREN
That is a problem, but he has gone
to these before.

MARY
Not in years.

KAREN

An incentive would be to get new business for the company.

MARY

Is that possible for this conference?

KAREN

We will have to make it possible.

MARY

I think we can talk him into going. Lets look over the list of companies attending.

Karen shows Mary a list of companies attending next weeks conference.

KAREN

There has to be one in here that is related to our accounting software. Here. We can use this one.

INT. ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE INTERNET CONFERENCE - DAY.

Wall Street New York City.

Two weeks later.

Jack is standing on an open atrium on his cell phone.

JACK

Mary, I can see the booth.

MARY

What floor are you on?

JACK

Its the main atrium. First floor. This one has all the booths.

MARY

The company is, Arexco Accounting Software. They are one floor up.

JACK

OK.

MARY

And Jack. Please be sure to check out the cafeteria there.

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

They have this rotisserie chicken that I hear is fantastic.

JACK

When or where did I tell you of my love for rotisserie chicken?

MARY

Years ago? Don't you remember?

JACK

No. Rotisserie chicken? What? That is crazy. However I will check it out OK?

MARY

OK. You will love it.

JACK

You tried this chicken?

MARY

About a month ago. Its J.W. Rotisserie.

JACK

Look how long we are talking about chicken?

MARY

Good luck with the vendor.

JACK

Thanks.

Jack hangs up his cell phone and takes the elevator up to the second floor.

Jack walks to the open area, looking for the Arexco Software Solutions booth.

STEVEN SMITH, 32, black hair, is behind the booth.

JACK (CONT'D)

Hi. I am Jack Solomon, we talked the other day. Are you Steven?

STEVEN

Yes, nice to meet you.

Steven and Jack shake hands.

JACK

Some people in my company have recommended you. We just might have a deal in our future?

STEVEN

I hope so. We are a startup. About 1 year old. We heard that you are in the same area of accounting software. Are you into AI yet?

JACK

No. We are not there yet. Maybe in a few years. That is a big transition for us.

STEVEN

Its the next phase of everything in accounting.

JACK

AI is the next phase of life on planet earth.

STEVEN

That it is. We have about 5 of our people just working on AI.

JACK

You know what. If we collaborate, or make some kind of a deal, you could be our entry point into AI.

STEVEN

Here is my card. We are here in New York City. Lets meet sometime next week.

JACK

Lets do that. I will bring 2 or 3 of my top people. Nice to meet you.

STEVEN

Nice to meet you too. Looking forward to next week.

The two men shake hands.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Have you had the Rotisserie Chicken downstairs in the cafeteria?

JACK

No. My associate Mary. She just mentioned that place. Strange that you would mention this. This must be some fantastic chicken.

Thanks for letting me know.

STEVEN

See you next week.

JACK

Yes. For sure.

Jack walks towards the elevator and arrives at the bottom floor cafeteria.

There is a long line for at the cafeteria check out, and another long line at the Rotisserie chicken vendor. Jack enters the cafeteria food area and stands in line for the chicken. He stands behind STAN DAVIS, 34, heavy set, brown hair.

JACK (CONT'D)

Why is this such a huge deal?

STAN

I have been hearing about this for months. Some kind of a special sauce or spices.

JACK

Long enough line.

STAN

Looks about 15 minutes.

Behind the Rotisserie booth is a conference room with a sign, "Reynolds House - Publishing Conference".

JACK

Reynolds House?

STAN

Yes. I am with them. A mid size publishing house in the city.

JACK

They here for the chicken?

Jack laughs.

STAN

Believe it or not, they are working with this Rotisserie company with their advertizing division. We are here to try the chicken and meet some of the executives.

JACK

Amazing.

From a distance, Jack looks into the conference room and recognizes a face. A brunette woman, late 50's.

JACK (CONT'D)

No. Cant be. Impossible.

STAN

Excuse me?

JACK

Its nothing. Talking to myself. Thought I recognized someone.

STAN

I know everybody in that room. Who do you recognize?

JACK

The little brunette. Over in the corner, talking to the blond woman?

STAN

Oh that is Olivia Donovan. One of our managers.

JACK

Olivia Donovan? Does she live in New York City?

STAN

Yes she does. Know her?

JACK

No. No that is OK. Its not her. Thanks.

STAN

No problem.

Stan and Jack get their chicken and then walk to the check out line.

STAN (CONT'D)

Nice meeting you Jack.

JACK

You too.

STAN

Would you like to join our group
for lunch?

JACK

Oh no, thank you. I have a group I
will be meeting in a few minutes.
Thanks for the invite.

STAN

Next time?

JACK

Yes. Great.

Jack looks into the conference room again, and suddenly locks eyes with Olivia, for the first time in almost 33 years. Olivia looks back and then quickly walks to another part of the conference room.

JACK (CONT'D)

My God. Its her. I cannot believe
this is happening.

Jack walks to the back of the cafeteria, so he cannot be seen. He sits at a table.

Mary and Karen walk into the cafeteria and join Jack.

JACK (CONT'D)

What are you guys doing here?

KAREN

We are here for you Jack.

JACK

What do you mean?

KAREN

We set this whole thing up.

JACK

What thing up?

KAREN

Olivia. Her company. The chicken
vendor.

JACK

You are kidding.

MARY

No. This started weeks ago.

JACK

Why? Why would you do something like this?

MARY

Because we love you. You have loved this one woman for 33 years. All you have been through. So many bad dates. The depressing stories.

KAREN

Someone had to step in and do something. If you want to fire us, if you are mad. We don't care.

JACK

This is insane.

KAREN

Unfortunately. Insane was the only way to try and save your life.

JACK

What the hell does that mean?

KAREN

You are too proud to contact her yourself. She is too proud. Both of you have suffered for 3 decades. Now, before its finally and forever too late.

Its time to walk over there and end this!. Fix, what broke so long ago!

JACK

Did she ever get married?

MARY

From the private investigator we hired, she has not only never been married, but has had a long list of bad relationships. Just like you Jack.

JACK

I always wanted her to be happy. I am so sorry to hear this.

KAREN

Are you going to stand up, and walk over there? Do we have to both shove you over there!

JACK

For the record.

(Long Pause.)

I will not fire you two. But I am angry. No matter what happens next. Don't ask me for a raise any time soon.

KAREN

Go over there! Save your life!

Jack is close to tears as he stands up, and walks towards the conference room slowly.

As he enters the room, he sees Olivia, who blushes and looks away.

JACK

Remember me?

OLIVIA

Of course I do. What are you doing here?

JACK

The truth is. We were both set up.

OLIVIA

What do you mean set up?

JACK

This meeting was arranged by two women who work for me.

OLIVIA

Why?

JACK

Why do you think?

OLIVIA

Don't do this to me. I am at work here. Please.

JACK

Can we go to somewhere private?

OLIVIA
Why? What can we say to each other
after 33 years?

JACK
I don't know. But if I don't say to
you everything I have always wanted
to say. I will not be able to go
on. I will probably go insane.

OLIVIA
There is a gazebo outside behind
the patio. We can go out there.

Olivia walks with Jack outside, to the patio and walk inside
a private gazebo.

EXT. OUTDOOR GAZEBO - DAY.

JACK
How have you been?

OLIVIA
Fine you?

JACK
Did you ever get married?

OLIVIA
No. I never did.

JACK
Why?

OLIVIA
You want a 33 year list about all I
have been through Jack?

JACK
No I don't. You are incredibly
beautiful. Its like you never aged.

I am still overwhelmed by you. One
of the problems I had so long ago.
There were times I could barely
think or talk. I was so in love
with you.

Olivia starts to lose her composure.

OLIVIA
Please don't do this to me. Please.

JACK

Do what to you? Tell you the truth?
Like I tried so long ago?

I never thought I would see you
again.

I never thought I would meet the
exact women I will always love from
a dating service, 33 years ago.

I cannot believe I am standing in
front of you. I feel the exact same
way I did then.

I think about you every day.

Olivia is crying. She turns around and hugs Jack.

OLIVIA

You are killing me. Please. I am so
sorry I hurt you.

JACK

The last thing you said to me on
the phone. The last time we talked.

OLIVIA

I told you on our first date. At
that bar. That my previous
boyfriend hurt me.

JACK

That creep in the Navy. He just
called you up after 3 years and
said, he did not want to see you. I
remember what you said exactly.

OLIVIA

You never said anything. Why?

JACK

That has haunted me for the last 33
years.

Maybe I did not want to upset you
by asking questions about what
happened. I honestly do not know. I
should have asked you many
questions.

OLIVIA

I did think it was weird you did
not want to know more.

JACK

I will ask you now. How recently did you join the dating service after he hurt you.

OLIVIA

About a month.

JACK

You were rebounding. Not ready for anyone new. It was too soon.

OLIVIA

I guess so. Why were you in love with me so fast?

JACK

A question impossible to answer. I was overwhelmed by you almost immediately. Everything about you. Your voice, your face, those tiny earlobes, your eyes are so incredible.

Then I noticed those cute little hands. There was no turning back. I was so in love with you, it was painful.

OLIVIA

You scared me.

JACK

You scared me. It was too much too soon. I just could not help it.

Seeing the play Cats on our second date. Too soon for a play on Broadway.

OLIVIA

I knew you were in love with me Jack. It scared me. I did not want to get hurt again. I did not want to hurt you.

JACK

I finally knew that, when I called you 6 months later. So many years ago.

OLIVIA

So sorry I hurt you.

JACK

Sorry I tried too hard. I scared you off. You were rebounding from a very bad experience. I should have known better. I did everything wrong.

You are and will always be the love of my life.

OLIVIA

We were both so much younger then.

Jack and Olivia hug.

JACK

One thing is for sure.

OLIVIA

What?

JACK

We sure have a great deal to talk about.

OLIVIA

I sure agree with that.

Olivia hugs Jack again.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

It sure feels good to hug you.

JACK

Oh yes it does. I could do this forever.

Olivia and Jack hug and kiss and then walk off onto a walking trail.

Mary and Karen are looking out the window at Jack and Olivia. They are both crying.

KAREN

Looks like we just might have done something good.

MARY

It looks like true love. Even after so long.

KAREN

I sure hope so, for both of their sakes.

EXT. GAZEBO - DAY.

JACK

Do you think I called you cute too many times?

OLIVIA

You did seem to love that word.

JACK

Its a word so unique because the word cute - has a cute sound. The word cute is cute.

OLIVIA

I never thought of that. But you are the expert on cute aren't you?

JACK

I found you didn't I?

OLIVIA

I am less afraid now Jack. I am glad we met again.

JACK

You were terrified. So was I, so I tried too hard.

I also wanted to tell you, that I really hated the play Cats.

OLIVIA

Yes I could tell.

JACK

Why didn't you tell me that you saw that horrible play before?

OLIVIA

How did you know I saw it before?

JACK

Your comments about show stoppers coming up during the play.

OLIVIA

Well, I actually did want to see it again.

JACK

Did you see the movie Cats?

OLIVIA

Yes I did.

JACK

You didn't like it, did you?

OLIVIA

No, not that movie. It was bad.

JACK

The best review I read about that movie, "The worst thing to happen to Cats since Dogs"

Olivia laughs.

JACK (CONT'D)

You said you had cataracts. Why did you not fix that problem?

OLIVIA

I did some years later. I waited because I was so afraid of the Lasik surgery. I had a friend who had a bad experience.

JACK

Is that why you wanted to live in New York City? Because you could not drive?

OLIVIA

I never had a drivers license. The excitement of the city. I think that would have been a problem with you Jack. You would never want to live in New York?

JACK

At the end of our first date, I said, "you would have to live in Manhattan". Just one of so many stupid comment I made.

You said you were a slob, I said I was immaculate. I am average, never immaculate. You really had an effect on my brain. I became quite stupid around you.

Olivia smiles and laughs, looking up at Jack.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

As far as moving here, with the rude people and criminal landlords, my life would have been so different. A life that led me to my own business in New Jersey.

The way I felt about you, I would have done anything to make you happy. Including sharing an apartment with you in New York City.

OLIVIA

I was afraid to be in love with you Jack.

JACK

After 3 years of dating, and that last boyfriend really hurt you.

I have thought over these last 30 years, that this one man, caused both of us so much unhappiness. I was never in love again, after you.

OLIVIA

I hate dating. Gave it up for good about 5 years ago.

JACK

So did I, but my employees staged an intervention. The experiences, recently, have not been good.

OLIVIA

Want to talk about it?

JACK

Not a good idea.

OLIVIA

I always thought of you.

JACK

Really?

OLIVIA

I never stopped. I was hurt so badly Jack. I was terrified.

Jack hugs Olivia a long time.

JACK

With me. There will never be a need to be afraid ever again.

Olivia starts to cry in Jack's arms. Jack looks into her eyes.

JACK (CONT'D)

I love you today. The same way I loved you 33 years ago. That will never change.

Jack looks at Olivia, and holds her face in his hands.

JACK (CONT'D)

About my two employees who set all of this up.

OLIVIA

How did they do that?

JACK

I don't know. Once their intervention failed. It was probably some kind of a hail mary. They called a private investigator.

OLIVIA

They must really love you.

Jack kisses Olivia's forehead.

JACK

We are not a company, more of a family. I have grown up with these people since this all started over 20 years ago.

OLIVIA

What kind of a business do you have?

JACK

Accounting software.

OLIVIA

It must have been hard to start a business like that.

JACK

That it was. The non stop work for so long, had a positive side. It got my mind off of losing you.

I have never been more in love than
I was with you. You were my first
and only love.

OLIVIA
Our timing was so off. I ran away
Jack.

JACK
I know. Why does love have to be so
difficult?

OLIVIA
I don't know.

JACK
I love you.

OLIVIA
I love you too.

JACK
Really? This time?

OLIVIA
Yes. We have time in our favor now?

JACK
I sure hope so.

OLIVIA
I can drive now. My eyes have been
fixed for 20 years.

JACK
What about New York City?

OLIVIA
What about it? I have had my fill.

JACK
I have a nice house in New Jersey.

OLIVIA
I am sure you do.

JACK
Its not a mansion. Its nice and
cute, like you.

Olivia and Jack embrace again.

OLIVIA

I want to see it. We have 30 years of time to make up for.

JACK

Love and timing. We both had to learn so much before we are here again.

Want to walk back?

OLIVIA

OK.

Jack and Olivia walk back to the cafeteria.

JACK

Want to have some of this famous chicken? I hear its great.

OLIVIA

Its good. Not great.

JACK

I have a better idea, lets have dinner tonight. Here in the city.

OLIVIA

Sounds good.

JACK

Whatever your favorite restaurant is in New York City.

OLIVIA

I have several favorites. After dinner, want to see Cats again?

Jack laughs.

JACK

Now that was funny. I would rather have root canal.

OLIVIA

You're not the only one who is funny.

JACK

What time tonight?

OLIVIA

7 PM is the best time for this place. I will text you the address.

JACK

Here is my cell phone number. You want to meet me there. Like 33 years ago?

OLIVIA

Yes, sure. Looking forward to tonight.

Olivia and Jack hug for a long time. Jack looks at Olivia while holding the sides of her face.

JACK

You are so beautiful. So adorable.

OLIVIA

So are you.

Jack and Olivia part and go their separate ways.

Jack has a hard time letting go of Olivia as they part.

Jack leaves the conference building and runs into Karen and Mary, waiting outside.

KAREN

So? What happened?

JACK

Dinner tonight. Here in the city. She will text me.

KAREN

That is great!

MARY

Did you kiss? Did you hug?

JACK

Yes of course we kissed and hugged. I know I am bad at dating, but under these circumstances I do have some tiny amounts of game.

KAREN

Where are you going tonight?

JACK

Some restaurant she likes in the city. She will text me.

KAREN

What did she tell you about 33 years ago.

JACK

What I always knew. She was hurt badly after a 3 year relationship and was terrified of getting hurt again. How many people go through their lives in fear of the pain of someone hurting them?

MARY

Too many Jack.

KAREN

Does this make you feel better?

JACK

I just didn't ask enough questions. I get so overwhelmed around her sometimes. I think my brain stops functioning.

MARY

Did you get her phone number?

Jack pauses for a long time.

JACK

No. I forgot. I was so overwhelmed again. I can't believe I forgot.

MARY

Maybe she sent you a text.

Jack checks his text messages.

JACK

Nothing yet. Oh here it is. I thought I was going to relive the ghosting of 33 years ago.

KAREN

If that was going to happen, then you would know for sure, that she was never the woman for you. And you will finally move on.

JACK

Looks like I have a dinner date tonight. As far as what you two did. I am OK with it now. However, lets never go to extremes like that again OK?

KAREN

OK.

MARY

OK.

MARY (CONT'D)

Its just that we really love you Jack. We hate to see you suffer. You have been the best boss. The best friend to all of us.

KAREN

The best boss in the world.

Jack looks at Mary and Karen and they hug.

INT. HIGH LEVEL RESTAURANT NYC - NIGHT.

Jack walks up to the hostess.

JACK

I have a reservation. Olivia Donovan. Tonight at 7 PM. She is not here yet.

HOSTESS

Would you like to wait here, or I can walk you to the table?

JACK

I will wait here for a few minutes. She is probably very close.

HOSTESS

OK. You can sit there.

Hostess points to an sitting area off from the main lobby.

Jack sits down and starts to look at some magazines.

Jack is very well dressed, with a nice blue suit.

Olivia arrives, turns and smiles at Jack. She is wearing a flowing skirt and blouse.

Jack stands and hugs Olivia.

JACK

You look great.

OLIVIA

So do you. A little late. Sorry. Nice suit!

JACK

We have the table. Perfect dress.

OLIVIA

Thank you.

Jack and Olivia follow the hostess to their table.

They sit down at a table next to a large window, overlooking a park in New York City.

JACK

Wow. This has to be just about the best table here. Have you been here before?

OLIVIA

Only twice. This is number three.

JACK

You look so beautiful.

OLIVIA

Thank you. You are as handsome as I remember.

JACK

A long time to make up for. Honestly. I do not know where or when to start.

OLIVIA

I would love to hear about how you started your company.

JACK

Year 2000. I got sick of being an employee, or the workaround - a contractor, that has its own set of problems. I had to try and being the CEO of my own life. Before it was too late.

OLIVIA

I admire anyone who tries to start their own business.

JACK

So did I. After years of tough times, I admire it even more. There is nothing easy. Real life is not like Shark Tank.

OLIVIA

I love that show.

JACK

How about you and your career?

OLIVIA

Still in publishing. Since we first met about 4 different companies. This last one is where I will retire one day. Maybe soon.

JACK

Tired?

OLIVIA

Yes. There has to be more to life than cubicles, offices and stress. Too many bad people in my career.

JACK

After 33 years. We both have stories. The bad people I had to tolerate for too many years. That was the main reason why I started my own company.

I just have to be in charge of my own destiny. As the CEO, I get to choose who I work with.

OLIVIA

I never had the courage to do what you did Jack.

JACK

It was a big risk. If I was married with kids. I never would have had the courage either.

OLIVIA

If it worked out with us 33 years ago. Maybe you never would have been in charge of your own destiny?

JACK

Speculating about what could have been 33 years ago. Especially starting my own company. Its just too complicated to even try.

OLIVIA

Could you have commuted into New York City many times?

JACK

In my entire life. I don't remember saying anything as stupid as "you would have to live in New York" on our first date. I never should have that said. It was so stupid.

OLIVIA

Then I said I was a slob.

JACK

And I said I was immaculate. That was even stupider. I am just average. I was so overwhelmed by you.

After all these years, I want to finally apologize.

OLIVIA

Its so long ago Jack. No need to apologize to me, about anything.

JACK

I am sorry you had to go through so many years of not finding the right person. I never found the right person.

Maybe the only explanation is that we should have been together, but the time was not right so long ago.

OLIVIA

At the time I was too messed up to get serious again.

JACK

Your last boyfriend did some real damage. To both of our lives.

The waitress comes over to the table, MARIA, 23 years old, blonde.

MARIA

May I take your order?

Jack points to an expensive bottle of red wine.

JACK

You like red wine?

OLIVIA

Yes.

MARIA

That is our best bottle. Good choice.

OLIVIA

I will have the salmon and the rice pilaff.

JACK

The same for me.

MARIA

Thank you for your order.

Maria walks away.

Jack looks at Olivia for a long time.

JACK

I think this has to be the most surreal moment I have ever had in my life.

I have thought about you, dreamed about you. Cried over you and what could have been. Called out your name. And here you are. This is impossible to believe.

OLIVIA

I feel the same about you.

JACK

You have thought about me too?

OLIVIA

Yes.

JACK

A lot?

OLIVIA

Yes so many times. Why did you give up?

JACK

What?

OLIVIA

You gave up so soon.

JACK

When I called you 6 months later in January 1992. I could not talk.

OLIVIA

What do you mean?

JACK

I was so in love with you. I was too choked up.

I thought if I called again asking for another chance. You would not respect me.

OLIVIA

My God Jack.

JACK

So you wanted me to call you again?

OLIVIA

Yes I did.

JACK

Is there any wonder why nobody understands women. Why didn't you call me?

OLIVIA

Because I am a woman. There are known rules?

JACK

Its those known rules. Ego, fear, the woman code. These cause many people to die alone.

Or settle for the wrong person. When it comes to finding love. You should have called me. I had no way of knowing what you wanted.

OLIVIA

I know that now.

JACK

Were you ever close to getting married?

OLIVIA

After you. Five years later. I thought I was close, but that did not work out.

JACK

Why not?

OLIVIA

I don't really know. Conversations kind of died over the phone. Nothing in common. It was difficult.

JACK

So sorry.

OLIVIA

How about you?

JACK

I did some dating after you, but about 25 years ago, I gave it all up. I concentrated on my employees and my company. I just accepted that this was not for me. The pain of losing you, never left me.

Olivia has a tear in her eye.

OLIVIA

I was so terrified.

JACK

I should have asked you so many more questions about the man before me. He was in the Navy, and after 3 years.

OLIVIA

He just called and ended it.

JACK

Was he blind? Stupid? Crazy? I don't understand. Three years is a long time. What the hell did he say?

OLIVIA

I was devastated. Nothing much, he was rather rude.

JACK

Anybody would be devastated. I should have gave you a long time to heal. Maybe he didn't like cute?

OLIVIA

I don't have large breasts. I thought that was a reason.

JACK

If its not extremely obvious already, I like petite. I do not like large breasts. I was in love when I saw your tiny hands for the first time.

OLIVIA

Are you kidding?

JACK

In our second date. You were sitting across from me at one of the places we went to, and I saw your hands. I was in love with you, just from seeing your hands. I wanted to protect you.

OLIVIA

Protective?

JACK

Did you ever see the movie "The Blind Side"?

OLIVIA

Yes. Sandra Bullock. It was very good.

JACK

They tested the offensive lineman and found out he has a very high protective instinct. I never knew they could test for that.

OLIVIA

I wish you could have told me this, so long ago.

JACK

Another thing I never got the chance to tell you, was that I was going through hell at work.

I was working with an insane employee, I was a contractor, and two other rotational employees were trying to get me fired.

OLIVIA
Rotational?

JACK
Employees of a major client of
ours. He wanted my job and the both
of them, tried to undermine
everything I tried to do.
Backstabbing me with the managers.
Trying to get me fired so one of
them could take over my job.

It was hell and caused me major
problems. I was not my best. You
never met the real me I will
regret that for the rest of my
life.

OLIVIA
I remember you had dark circles
under your eyes. You seemed so
tired and depressed.

JACK
I was not getting anywhere near
enough sleep. The pressure I was
under, to develop impossible
software. I am sure I was pre-
Diabetic.

Jack is close to losing his composure.

OLIVIA
I wish I could say I am sorry a
million times.

JACK
I did everything wrong. When you
told me over the phone you liked my
voice.

OLIVIA
And they you told me how much you
loved my voice.

JACK
That was too much too soon. What I
said to you must have sounded
crazy.

OLIVIA
It scared me because I knew that
you loved me.

The waitress comes over with the wine, and dinner. She opens the bottle and pours two glasses for Jack and Olivia.

JACK

Thank you. What is your name?

MARIA

Maria. I just started here 2 weeks ago.

JACK

I have always loved that name.
Thank you for being a very good waitress.

MARIA

You are welcome. Is there anything else I can get for you?

JACK

Not right now. Thank you.

Maria walks away.

JACK (CONT'D)

I complimented a waitress recently on yet another one of my bad blind dates. And believe it or not. This created big argument.

OLIVIA

Why?

JACK

She said the waitress seemed snappish and I said I respected all people with jobs like hers. The conversation did not go well after that.

OLIVIA

We have all had our share of bad dates.

JACK

You too?

OLIVIA

My share.

JACK

There is nothing easy about finding love.

OLIVIA

True.

JACK

I knew that I found it with you. I was sure of it.

Are you open to finding love now?
After all these years?

OLIVIA

I think I am. I am in a much better place.

Olivia smiles.

JACK

How is rent where you live?

OLIVIA

I got extremely lucky many years ago. I got a rent controlled apartment. But I have always had a roommate or two.

JACK

So you are still in the same apartment when we first met?

OLIVIA

I am.

JACK

I sure hope you like it there.

OLIVIA

Its just OK. I could not afford the outrageous rents in New York.

JACK

I always admired you for living in New York City by yourself.

OLIVIA

Why?

JACK

You're a very cute and petite woman. There are crazies all around this city. I always worried about you.

OLIVIA

I am never out at night and to and from the subway and work. I am always in a large crowd. No need to worry.

JACK

Its my protective instincts again.

OLIVIA

I know, its very sweet.

JACK

I think I called you cute too often.

OLIVIA

I have never been called cute that many times.

JACK

I could not think straight. You said I was embarrassing you.

OLIVIA

It was just too fast for me.

JACK

I know that now. Did you love the guy before me like this.

OLIVIA

I sure thought I did. I was very sad for a long time.

JACK

When you are in love, your sense of self. Well being are no longer in your hands. They are in the hands of someone else. They can return your love, or hurt you badly. This is part of life. There is nothing much any one of us can do about this fact.

OLIVIA

It can be so painful.

Jack holds Olivia's tiny hand and is close to losing his composure.

Olivia is close to crying.

OLVIA
Remember. Too much too soon?

JACK
Yes. I remember. I love you.

OLVIA
I love you too.

JACK
A love story too insane for any
movie or Broadway play. Nobody
would believe this story. How could
they?

OLVIA
We don't believe it.

JACK (CONT'D)
We don't believe it.

(CONT'D)

Jack and Olivia both laugh.

JACK
Finishing each others sentences,
has to be a good sign.

OLIVIA
I would say so.

JACK
I love looking at you. Just like so
many years ago. You are so
beautiful.

OLIVIA
No longer cute?

JACK
I took a chance, that maybe you
were sick of all the cute comments.

Olivia smiles and holds out her hand to Jack at the table.

OLIVIA
I think it just might be time. To
maybe eat our dinner?

JACK
Its probably so cold now. They look
like they are about to close this
place.

Jack and Olivia start eating and drinking wine.

JACK (CONT'D)
Just one question.

OLIVIA
What?

JACK
Will you be my girlfriend?

OLIVIA
Yes I will.

JACK
One more question? Something I
never did so long ago, that I
always regretted.

OLIVIA
What?

JACK
May I hold your tiny hand?

Olivia holds out her cute tiny hand to Jack.

OLIVIA
It may be hard to eat.

JACK
I don't care.

Olivia smiles.

OLIVIA
What will you tell your two
employees about our date?

JACK
Its all too hard to believe. I
never thought I would see you
again.

OLIVIA
What about dating in New York City?

JACK
I will hire a limo. I hate the
train. Not a problem now.

Olivia smiles.

OLIVIA
You're as funny as I remember.

JACK

Starting my own company, and all the problems we had when we started. Humor saved me. It saved me 33 years ago when I was trying to get over finding and losing the love of my life.

OLIVIA

How did you know so soon, that I was the love of your life?

JACK

It was instinct. A feeling so strong. I never had it again. Never had it before. I just knew that you were the one.

OLIVIA

Were you ever close to getting married?

JACK

No, and for many years I gave it all up. All of this, and my recent bad dates are because of my employees.

They are my family. This happened over many years, and many tough situations we overcame as a group.

Sometimes very late at night. Over the weekend. Seven day weeks when we were all so tired. We bonded.

OLIVIA

That is so amazing Jack.

JACK

We are always so busy. But I will always find time to see you.

Desert?

OLIVIA

I am Diabetic, type 2. So no thank you.

JACK

I am Diabetic. Type 2.

OLIVIA

What a convenient and horrible thing to have in common.

Mary shows the Freestyle Libre 3 on her upper arm. Jack lifts up his shoulder and shows Olivia his Libre 3.

JACK

I just started with this, 2 months ago.

OLIVIA

I was 6 months ago. It has changed my life.

JACK

To know what your blood sugar is. All the time. Is so amazing. I lost 16 pounds in 2 months.

OLIVIA

I lost about 5 pounds, but I feel so much better now and about having this problem.

JACK

The device and the software on the smartphone, is extremely impressive.

Jack notices Olivia's hands.

OLIVIA

Back so long ago. I don't think it would have worked. I was a mess. You you having to travel to New York.

JACK

I could have made it her on the weekends.

Jack looks around the restaurant.

As I look around this place, it seems that we are just about the last people here. They are giving me a bad look. I think its time to pay the bill and leave.

Jack holds up his credit card, the waitress comes over, the bill is settled.

Jack and Olivia hug each other outside the restaurant, for a very long time.

Olivia looks up at Jack.

OLIVIA
So what will you tell your employees tomorrow?

JACK
Good things Olivia.

Jack and Olivia embrace and kiss.

JACK (CONT'D)
I will call you tomorrow.

OLIVIA
What time?

JACK
What time would you like?

OLIVIA
7 PM?

JACK
7 PM it is. I will call you tomorrow.

Jack and Olivia hug for a long time in front of the restaurant.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY.

Jack walks into the main floor of his company's building.

9 AM. Jack sees his employees sitting in the large conference room.

JACK
I am the still the CEO? Or was I replaced?

KAREN
We all wanted to hear how it went with Olivia.

JACK
This entire situation is so abnormal. My personal life is a company game show.

MARY

Well?

JACK

It went very well. I got to say the things I always wanted to say. I got to ask all the questions I always wanted to ask. That I should have asked 33 years ago.

Trying to figure her out. Turns out I guessed correct most of the time.

KAREN

What do you mean?

JACK

She told me she had cataracts. This is the main reason she lives in New York City. Her eyesight is not good enough to drive. Her boyfriend previous boyfriend, broke up with her only a month before me.

MARY

She was rebounding.

JACK

Had I known any better. I would not have tried so hard. I did not know how to play it cool all those years ago.

JIM

Everything happens for a reason. Maybe then was not right. Hopefully now is the right time for you and Olivia.

JACK

I cannot believe that I feel this way. Its like no time has passed. I am still in love like I was 33 years ago.

KAREN

What is next?

JACK

A phone call tonight at 7. Last time I called her at a planned time at 7 PM, she was not there. Trying to send me away. That worked. I just left her a goodbye message.

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

The most painful message I have ever left.

MARY

This is different now Jack.

JACK

I love her, that I know, but I have never been able to figure her out. She said she wondered why I gave up so easily?

JIM

What?

JACK

She wanted me to try again? I thought if I tried again she would not respect me.

JIM

Nobody understands women Jack.

JACK

Exactly what I said to her.

DAVID

Tread lightly my friend. Nobody here wants to see you get hurt again. When it comes to love, you have paid more than your share of dues.

JACK

Thanks man. I appreciate that. The phone call tonight, is important. After that, we will see.

KAREN

Did you tell her you loved her?

JACK

Yes. Something I always wanted to say.

KAREN

Did she say she loves you?

JACK

Yes.

KAREN

Can you conference us all into your call tonight?

JACK

Oh sure I will do that! And no.

The group laughs.

JACK (CONT'D)

I just had a thought. Maybe. Just maybe we all have work to do today? Unless you all want to write a new Lifetime Romance screenplay?

More laughter in the group as they leave the conference room.

JACK (CONT'D)

Guys. Thank you. I appreciate. All that you have done.

Mary and Karen hug Jack who has a tear in his eye.

JACK (CONT'D)

Can we get back to work guys?

More laughter as Jack's employees leave the conference room.

INT. JACKS BEDROOM - NIGHT.

Jack calls Olivia. There is no answer.

Jack calls Olivia again, 5 minutes later. No answer.

Jack calls Olivia again, 10 minutes later. No answer.

JACK

I cannot believe she is doing this to me again. Jesus Christ!

Jack calls Karen.

KAREN

Hi Jack?

JACK

She is doing it again.

KAREN

What?

JACK

She said to call her at 7PM. She is not there!

KAREN

Oh Jack. My God. Do not call her again. This is like playing tennis. You cannot run back and forth hitting the ball on both sides of the damn net. If you call again, she will lose respect for you.

JACK

After the dinner we had. I cannot believe this is happening. Who the hell is this woman I have loved for 33 years?

KAREN

You might just be better off. Life is short Jack.

JACK

I will not call her again.

KAREN

Promise?

JACK

Yes I promise. I have some pride left.

KAREN

Good. Try and get some sleep. Or maybe even get drunk. Just don't drive. Stay home. This woman has problems. You don't need this person in our life. Nobody does!

JACK

Thanks for being a great friend.

Lets keep this between us for now. No need to broadcast this to the damn world. I feel bad enough.

KAREN

OK. You have my word.

JACK

We will talk tomorrow.

KAREN

OK.

INT. KARENS HOUSE - NIGHT.

Karen dials her cell phone, calls Joe Collins, the private investigator.

JOE

Hello?

KAREN

Hello Joe, its Karen.

JOE

How can I help you?

KAREN

Is there any news about Olivia?

JOE

I was about to call you. She is in New York-Presbyterian hospital.

KAREN

What for?

JOE

My contact just called me. Some kind of a car accident.

KAREN

Oh my God. Is it serious?

JOE

We do not know yet. The doctors are not talking to anyone but her immediate family. I will keep trying. My contact is calling the police.

KAREN

What do I tell Jack? He thinks she is ghosting him again.

JOE

I would wait until you have all the facts. At this point, he might do something stupid. There is nothing he can do at the hospital now anyway.

KAREN

Please keep me informed. I am frantic! Jack is my friend!

JOE
I understand. I will call you
immediately.

Karen calls Jack.

INT. JACKS HOME OFFICE - NIGHT.

JACK
Karen?

KAREN
Jack. She is in the hospital. New
York-Presbyterian

JACK
What?

KAREN
Some kind of a car accident. We do
not know any details. Joe is trying
to find out how she is and what
happened.

JACK
My God. I cannot believe it. What
did she attempt suicide or
something?

KAREN
Jack, don't go crazy. Why would she
try to kill herself?

JACK
She is so terrified of getting hurt
again, who the hell knows.

KAREN
She cannot be that crazy Jack.

JACK
It was one guy 33 years ago, who
broke her heart. That caused me 33
years of bad dates and thinking
about the one love of my life.

KAREN
Jack. Please try and hold it
together. Joe has someone he works
with, who is calling the police.
When he finds out what happened and
how she is doing. I will call you
OK?

JACK

Karen. I don't know if I can live with losing her again.

KAREN

Jack. You have so many friends who love you. Please. Let me talk to Joe.

JACK

OK.

INT. KARENS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT.

Phone Rings.

JOE

Karen? This is Joe.

KAREN

What is the news? Please don't tell me she is dead.

JOE

She was hit by a car outside of her apartment. She is in intensive care. We don't know for how long.

KAREN

Will she live?

JOE

That we do not know. The doctors are still not talking to anyone outside of the immediate family.

KAREN

What the hell do I tell Jack?

JOE

As far as Jack, he should know she is injured and in intensive care. There is nothing else to tell him.

KAREN

He will go crazy and try go get to the hospital.

JOE

You must convince him not to do that. He will not get anywhere near her.

KAREN

I will try. He is headstrong. He really loves this woman.

JOE

From all that I have seen and heard this is one hell of a love story. I will call you in one hour.

KAREN

OK.

INT. JACKS HOME OFFICE - NIGHT.

Jack calls Karen.

JACK

Karen. Any news?

KAREN

Jack, I am afraid to tell you what is going on. Do not go insane here, OK?

JACK

Karen. Just tell me.

KAREN

She was hit by a car near her apartment. She is in the hospital, but only family members are allowed to visit right now.

JACK

Jesus Christ.

KAREN

You still cannot see her.

JACK

I will see her.

KAREN

Are you going to climb into a window to visit?

JACK

I may just do that.

I will not go there tonight, if that makes you feel any better.

KAREN

Nothing makes me feel any better after this latest nightmare in your personal life.

JACK

As the expression goes, lucky with money, unlucky in love.

KAREN

Well, you have been very unlucky in love. I give you that.

JACK

Is she in a coma?

KAREN

This hospital is being a real pain in the ass with information. She is in intensive care, that is all we know now. When Joe calls, I will call you.

JACK

This is killing me Karen.

KAREN

I know it is. None of us who know you and love you, have ever seen a love like this before. My God, its been 33 years.

JACK

Maybe Olivia and I are cursed.

KAREN

I do not believe in curses.

JACK

Maybe you should after all of this.

KAREN

Jack. Please hang in there.

INT. HOSPITAL MAIN FLOOR - DAY.

Next Morning.

Jack runs into the main floor of New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

JACK

I am here for Olivia Donovan.

NURSE

Are you a family member?

JACK

No. I am her boyfriend.

NURSE

Sorry, in this instance, you are not allowed to see her. She is still in intensive care.

JACK

Is she in a coma?

NURSE

Yes. Due to brain swelling, a coma was introduced temporarily.

JACK

Can I at least look into a window?

NURSE

Not even that sir. We have rules.

JACK

Rules always have exceptions.

NURSE

Not for Hospitals. Family members only. Her family just left about an hour ago.

JACK

Do you know what happened?

NURSE

She was hit by a car, in front of her apartment. That is all I know sir.

JACK

Can you take my cell number and call me when her family comes back? Please?

NURSE

OK. What is your number.

Jack gives his cell phone number to the Nurse.

A second nurse comes over to Jack.

NURSE 2

Are you Jack?

JACK

Yes.

NURSE 2

Olivia's sister was here a few minutes ago. She just went down to the cafeteria. She will be back soon. Oh here she is.

Olivia's sister JANET WALKER 56, blonde, 5'2 walks towards the main desk.

NURSE 2 (CONT'D)

Jack, this is Janet, Olivia's sister.

Jack reaches out his hand to Janet.

JACK

Hello. Nice to meet you.

JANET

Nice to meet you too.

JACK

So what happened?

JANET

She was hit by a car outside of her apartment.

JACK

Will she be OK?

JANET

They think so, but they are not sure. They put her into a coma, and she has to wake up and be OK. Its been about 12 hours of waiting. This has not been easy.

JACK

I can imagine. What a nightmare. I was on a date with her night before last.

JANET

She told me.

JACK

What else did she tell you?

JANET

She told me, she could not believe you met again, and went on a date. She does love you Jack, but she was hurt so badly. David from the Navy and some other jerk, about 10 years ago. She is absolutely terrified of getting hurt.

JACK

I know. This is the tragedy of our relationship over so many years. As I told Olivia, I never got over her.

JANET

From our conversation the other night. She feels the same about you.

JACK

I hate to ask you this. Please tell me this was an accident.

JANET

Do you mean, maybe she tried to kill herself?

JACK

I hope not. Did they arrest the person who hit her.

JANET

From what I was told, it was a no fault accident. The driver just gave his statement. He was not drunk. These things happen all the time in New York City.

JACK

Lets hope she wakes up soon.

Jack's cell phone rings.

JACK (CONT'D)

This is Karen, I have to take this call.

JANET

OK.

JACK

Hello Karen?

KAREN

Joe just called me. The statement from the police is that Olivia just came out of nowhere and was hit on her side and hit her head on the hood of the car. The driver was not drunk. The accident is registered as no fault.

JACK

Olivia's sister Janet is here. She said about the same thing. What I do not like hearing is this coming out of nowhere statement. What does that mean?

KAREN

I would not speculate about anything until she wakes up.

JACK

She has been in a coma for over 12 hours now. We are all hoping she does wake up and will be OK.

KAREN

Hang in there Jack. I am glad you are talking to her sister.

JACK

Olivia told Janet that she does love me.

KAREN

That is great to hear Jack.

JACK

I just have to talk to her soon. This is driving me insane.

KAREN

Do you want me to come there?

JACK

No, that is OK. I will call you, when she wakes up and I can talk to her.

KAREN

I said this before. Hang in there.

JACK

I will. Thanks for being a good friend.

KAREN
You can always bet on that.

JACK
I know I can.

Jack has a tear in his eye, as he hangs up his cell phone.
Janet walks over to Jack.

JANET
I just spoke with the doctor, it looks like she has turned a corner and will be waking up soon.

JACK
Thank God!

JANET
He said I can go in, in about 10 minutes. I will let you know how she is doing.

JACK
Thank you Janet. It has been great to meet you.

JANET
You too Jack. You are everything Olivia said you were.

Janet follows the doctor to Olivia's Hospital room.

INT. HOSPITAL MAIN FLOOR

20 minutes later.

Jack is waiting by the vending machines.

Janet comes out.

JANET
Jack.

JACK
Is she OK?

JANET
Yes. She wants to see you.

JACK
She does?

JANET
Yes.

JACK
Now?

JANET
Yes Jack.

JACK
What room is she?

JANET
504.

JACK
OK.

Jack slowly walks down the hallway and enters Olivia's room.

JACK (CONT'D)
Hi.

OLIVIA
Hi.

JACK
What the hell happened to you baby?

OLIVIA
I am not sure Jack.

JACK
Under the circumstances. I don't know what to say. What do you mean you are not sure? You were hit by a car in front of your apartment, right?

OLIVIA
Yes. But, I cannot remember, how it happened. Its so strange.

JACK
All that matters is that it was just an accident and you are OK.

OLIVIA
They tell me I was in a coma.

JACK
For about 12 hours.

OLIVIA

They checked me. I don't have brain damage.

JACK

Thank God for that.

OLIVIA

I feel OK, just a broken rib and my head hurts a little.

JACK

Did they do an MRI?

OLIVIA

Yes. It showed no damage, but my brain was swelling.

JACK

That is normally when they induce a coma.

OLIVIA

Are you OK?

JACK

No, I am not OK. I have been frantic for the last 20 hours! I have been a disaster, worrying about you. I love you.

OLIVIA

I know you do Jack.

JACK

Loving you for all these years has not been easy.

OLIVIA

I know. I am not an easy woman to love.

JACK

You are afraid Olivia, but what you don't fully know yet is that with me, you have nothing to be afraid of.

OLIVIA

I am still terrified Jack.

JACK

I know. I know you are. I am too.

OLIVIA
Why does love have to be so
hard?

JACK (CONT'D)
Why does love have to be so
hard?

JACK (CONT'D)
I wish I knew the answer to that
question.

OLIVIA
What did the driver who hit me say?

JACK
He said that you just came out of
nowhere, like you were not looking
where you were going.

OLIVIA
Jack, I think I might have done
something horrible?

JACK
What do you mean?

OLIVIA
I might have tried to commit
suicide.

JACK
Do not tell me something like this.
You have so much to live for. There
is no way you did that.

OLIVIA
I was so afraid of hurting you
again, and getting hurt again. I
just was walking and then I
wandered into the street.

JACK
You have just been hurt. You are
coming out of a coma. You're brain
is not back to normal yet. Give
this some time.

OLIVIA
I am not sure, but I was walking
and then I was hit by a car. It all
makes no sense. It happened so
fast.

JACK

Nothing about the last 33 years and all we have been through apart, when we should have been a couple makes sense. You are the love of my life and all I care about is you.

OLIVIA

I care about you. So much.

JACK

That should be enough for us?

OLIVIA

It should be enough.

JACK

You know what? Lets just take the pressure off. Lets just be friends. Lets talk on the phone, go to a museum from time to time. I have so much to tell you. You have so much to tell me. This love thing puts so much pressure on us. Maybe that is our solution.

OLIVIA

That idea, does make me feel less afraid.

JACK

It does?

OLIVIA

Yes. I like that idea. Lets just be friends who talk a lot and do stuff.

JACK

No pressure?

OLIVIA

No pressure?

JACK

I met your sister, she is one hell of a nice lady.

OLIVIA

Janet is the best. She has always been there for me.

JACK

Now you have me who will always be there for you. I will let you get some sleep now OK?

OLIVIA

OK.

Jack hugs Olivia with a tear in his eye. Olivia is crying while hugging Jack.

JACK

Thank God you are OK.

Jack slowly leaves Olivia's room and more tears form in his eyes. Jack walks over to Janet in the waiting room.

JANET

Is everything OK?

JACK

I thought of a solution to all her fears.

JANET

What?

JACK

We will just be friends. Talking on the phone. Going out sometimes. No pressure.

JANET

I think that is a great idea.

JACK

I will take her. Any way I can get her. She is the love of my life.

JANET

I know she is Jack.

Jack and Janet hug.

FADE OUT:

THE END.