

HER – CATHERINE & THEODORE

Theodore sits alone in the back of a quiet restaurant, a large stack of papers in front of him. We hear his breathing. He waits. Catherine, elegantly dressed, approaches. Theodore stands to greet her. They hug and sit down.

THEODORE
How are you?

CATHERINE
I'm good, how are you?

THEODORE
Good.

CATHERINE
Wow, here we are.

THEODORE
Yeah, I'm glad we could do this in person.
I know how much you've been traveling.

CATHERINE
Me too.
I'm glad you suggested it.

THEODORE
I signed all the papers and I brought them for
you to sign.

CATHERINE
What's the rush?

THEODORE
I'm a really slow signer.
It took me three months just to write the letter T.
It's marked where you need to sign, but you
don't have to do that right now.

CATHERINE
Oh, I may as well.
We can get it out of the way.

She opens the documents, pulls out a pen and starts to read. She's about to start signing, but then stops. We can see her filling with emotion, but not wanting to show Theodore. She swallows and recovers. She looks up at Theodore, giving him an "everything's fine" smile, but it's not. In the script, some time has passed while they are eating, so she can sign the papers, cocktails brought, order food, whatever.

THEODORE
So are you happy with the new book?

CATHERINE

Oh, you know how I am.
But I feel like it's true to what I set out to do.
So I'm happy with that.

THEODORE

You're your own worst critic, I'm sure it's
amazing.
Even that paper you wrote on synaptic
behavioral routines made me cry.

CATHERINE

Yeah, but everything makes you cry.

THEODORE

Everything *you* make makes me cry.

CATHERINE

So are you seeing anybody?

THEODORE

Yeah, I am, for the last few months.
That's the longest I've wanted to be with
anybody since we split up.

CATHERINE

Well, you seem good.

THEODORE

Thanks, I am.
Or at least I'm doing better.
She's been really good for me.
I guess it's just been nice to be with someone
who's excited about the world.

CATHERINE

Oh good, excited's great.

THEODORE

No, I mean - I wasn't in such a good place
myself and in that way it's been nice.

CATHERINE

I always felt like you wished I could just be a
happy, light, everything's great, bouncy L.A.
Wife.

But that's not me.

THEODORE

No.
I didn't want that.

CATHERINE
So what's she like?

THEODORE
Well, her name's Samantha, and she's an
operating system, and she's really complex and
interesting.
I mean it's only been a few months, but--

CATHERINE
Wait.
You're dating your computer?

THEODORE
She's not just a computer.
She's her own person.
She doesn't just do whatever I want.

CATHERINE
I didn't say that.
But it does make me sad that you can't handle
real emotions, Theodore.

THEODORE
They *are* real emotions.
How do you know--

CATHERINE
What? Say it.
Am I really that scary? Say it.
How do I know what?!

The waitress walks up.

WAITRESS
How are you guys doing?

CATHERINE
Fine.
We used to be married.
He couldn't handle me so he wanted to put me
on Prozac.
Now he's madly in love with his laptop.

The waitress doesn't know what to say.

THEODORE
Well, if you heard the conversation in context.
What I was trying to say--

CATHERINE

You wanted to have a wife without the
challenges of actually dealing with anything
real.

I'm glad you found someone.
It's perfect.

WAITRESS

Let me know if you guys need anything.

CATHERINE

Thank you.