

**THE TALK 1**

By R. Danylo - Class use only.

SHE

You say you love me, but sometimes I don't think you like me very much... forget it.

HE

No, no. I'm glad you brought it up.

SHE

Other people like me. But I never know when you're just suddenly going to be tired of me. So, I'm always trying harder for you to like me, and it pisses me off. I feel like I can't be myself.

HE

Well, maybe we should talk about this.

SHE

We are talking about this.

HE

I know that. I just think if we're gonna talk, let's do it right. I feel like you're gonna snap at me.

SHE

I'm not looking to snap at you.

HE

Sometimes, it's hard for me to be totally honest with you. Not that I lie. I just colour the truth so you don't get upset.

SHE

I'd rather you were totally honest.

HE

Okay, I'm going to try and be totally honest. But you can't get upset.

SHE

I can't guarantee that.

## THE TALK 2

HE

Can we at least agree not to argue. I see no point in arguing. An argument never ends with one person agreeing with the other. You never hear an argument that goes "You're full of shit". And the other person says, "Gee, you know, you're right. I am full of shit. Thanks for helping me see the light."

SHE

Listen, I don't want to argue either. But, I need to feel free to vent, if I get upset. I can't just keep a lid on it. That's very unhealthy.

HE

Here, I'll hold this cushion. If you need to vent you can punch the cushion.

SHE

What?

HE

Yeah, that way you get it out of your system.

SHE

Is what we're going to talk about going to make me that upset?

HE

I don't know. But just in case. We should be prepared for anything. Don't you think?

SHE

Okay, fine. But once we start talking you can't edit yourself.

HE

What?

SHE

Whenever we have a serious discussion you take these long pauses where you edit what you're going to say. No pauses. I hate waiting. If you think it, say it.

### THE TALK 3

HE

Fine, but you can't ramble on... Sometimes you'll repeat yourself saying the same thing using different words. It's unnecessary and besides, it dilutes your argument.

SHE

But it won't be an argument.

HE

Right...right... We'll just have a frank, logical discussion.

SHE

Good. You ready?

HE

Yeah.

SHE

Oh, one more thing. You have to look at me the whole time. It's too easy if you look away.

HE

All right.

SHE

Good. Anything else?

HE

uh... Yeah... Let's each have a mint. I don't want to be distracted by worrying about having bad breath.

SHE

Fine.

HE

**(LONG PAUSE)** I love you.

SHE

I love you too.

HE

Sometimes, you bug me.

SHE

Agh! [She punches cushion]