

(MIA)

ROSE

Kiss me, darling.

FRANK

My lips are chapped.

ROSE

Come on--you've been avoiding me all day.

FRANK

I've been preoccupied.

ROSE

With what?

FRANK

With things a man gets preoccupied with. War, wages, and a low sperm count.

ROSE

I give up. I've tried to be loving and you reject it. That doesn't make me feel too good.

FRANK

I have a confession to make.

ROSE

What do you mean?

FRANK

Last night when I said I was playing cards with the boys... well, I wasn't.

ROSE

I know.

FRANK

You know?

ROSE

You don't play cards, Frank. You don't know how to play cards.

FRANK

I play poker.

ROSE
Okay. What beats a full house?

FRANK
Uh... two hotels on Park Place.

ROSE
I see.

FRANK
Listen, don't try to bully me. I'm trying to be straightfoward with you.

ROSE
Sure, Frank.

FRANK
Okay. If you don't wanna know what I really did last night when you made dinner and lit candles and waited all evening for me to show up and I didn't, then fine. It'll just be between me and my diary.

ROSE
And me.

FRANK
And you?

ROSE
I read your diary.

FRANK
That's impossible. It's in code.

ROSE
Frank, you wrote it upside down. All I had to do, was turn it over.

FRANK
Well, then, you know I didn't sleep with her. I merely stood below her window at night for three hours while the full moon rose above the rubber trees.

ROSE
I'm supposed to be reassured by you crouching at her window like a dog in heat?

FRANK

But I didn't do anything, did I?
I proved my loyalty. Now that
I've proved it, I can give myself
to you fully.

ROSE

If that's a proposal, it's got to
be the seediest proposal a woman
ever got.

FRANK

Seedy proposal? It happens to be
my heartfelt expression.

ROSE

Frank, your obsession for this
woman is pathological. If there
was a cure for you, that would be
one thing. But the amount of
medication it would take to fix
your problem would probably kill
you.

FRANK

I don't want to be with her, Rose.
I want to be with you. I only want
to be with her when I'm afraid to
be with you.

ROSE

You're afraid to be with me?

FRANK

Sometimes.

ROSE

Why are you afraid of me?

FRANK

Maybe I'm afraid of me. Me
loving you.

ROSE

You confuse me. You really do.
I wish you were normal.

FRANK

If I were normal, you wouldn't like me.

ROSE

Well... we'll never know, will we?