

EXT. LAKE -- DAY

OHM.
C

MICHAEL, 30s, nudges the rowboat away from shore. For a while, he avoids eye contact with passenger, SARA, 30s.

MICHAEL

So... when's the big day?

SARA

Next month. A month from today, actually.

MICHAEL

Wow, it came around just like that.

SARA

Yeah, it did sort of creep up.

MICHAEL

Excited?

SARA

Very.

MICHAEL

Good. Real good.

A ripple of silence as he paddles.

SARA

Can I ask you something?

MICHAEL

I've got some time to kill.

SARA

You sure you're okay with me... not inviting you? I just figured --

MICHAEL

I think you made the practical decision. Really. Let's take ourselves out of the equation, and think for a second.

(gesticulating a
headline)

Ex-boyfriend of bride invited to wedding overseas... Does that sound like a good idea to you?

SARA

(smirks)

No. I guess not.

MICHAEL

How many people you expecting?

SARA
Just over two hundred.

MICHAEL
You found two hundred people able to
fly to Paris for a wedding?

SARA
Well it's because of Pavel. He has
a fleet of aircraft so --

MICHAEL
A *what*?

SARA
You heard me. He has a fleet of
aircraft. A small fleet.

MICHAEL
Oh, a small fleet.

SARA
Anyway, he's providing transportation.

MICHAEL
So my guess would be... billionaire.

SARA
I don't know. I never asked.

MICHAEL
Really? Huh. Well, it's like they
say, *if you have to ask, you can't
afford it.*

SARA
Yeah something like that.

MICHAEL
How'd you two meet? No, let me guess.
You tripped over a gold bar and landed
in a pool of caviar.

SARA
How'd you know?

MICHAEL
That rhymed. Did you like that?

SARA
You're quite a poet. So when did
you finish building your rowboat?

MICHAEL
Over the summer. Like it?

SARA

It's great. Surprisingly great.

MICHAEL

... meaning you're surprised I actually finished something.

SARA

Nooo. I mean I never knew you were such a... craftsman.

MICHAEL

(boasting?)

Oh yeah. I'm a pretty crafty guy. But I can't take all the credit. Tom and Pete pitched in.

SARA

What are friends for. So, are you working now?

MICHAEL

Temping here 'n there.

SARA

Are you still screenwriting?

MICHAEL

Yup. Turned the dial up to full blast on that one.

SARA

Back to writing everyday?

MICHAEL

I try to squeeze in an occasional shower.

SARA

Was this morning one of those times?

MICHAEL

Yes it was, matter of fact.

SARA

Good.

She sneaks a smile his way.

MICHAEL

So how long have you known Pa-vel?

SARA

Do you have to say his name that way?

MICHAEL

No. I don't have to.

SARA

About a year and a half.

MICHAEL

Really, that's all? We went out for three times that.

SARA

I know. I was there.

MICHAEL

Can I ask you something? And don't take this the wrong way...

SARA

I'm sure I won't.

MICHAEL

If it took you five years to figure out I wasn't Mr. Right - for lack of a better term - how can you be sure with Pavel after just eighteen months?

SARA

Because I'm a grownup now.

MICHAEL

Oh.

SARA

I can spot when things aren't working out. And when they are. Can't you?

MICHAEL

I guess. Christ, a fleet of aircraft. That's insane. Just out of curiosity, how many planes make up a *small* fleet?

SARA

He's got four.