

*Country French
Rest.*

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

A Country French place on the West Side. Classy, but inviting.

INT. FRENCH RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Jackie and Luke sit across from each other in the lovely restaurant. Jackie looks beautiful in the warm candlelight.

LUKE

...Maybe you don't think three years
is enough for a person to change
but...things are different now Jackie.
I'm different.

Jackie feels her heart beginning to race. They lock eyes for a moment. He unconsciously begins to eat off her plate. He eats her chicken, and in the dance they've done a thousand times -- she reaches for his uneaten vegetables. The WAITER approaches.

WAITER

Would you and your wife prefer
still or sparkling water?

He doesn't correct the waiter.

LUKE

Still, please.

JACKIE

(when the waiter leaves)
Annabelle showed me the new dress.
She's amazing in it.

LUKE

Getting so beautiful...she looks more
like you every day.

(Luke downs Jackie's wine)

Jackie...I've really given this a lot
of thought. A great deal of thought...

Their eyes lock for a moment. Here it comes...

LUKE

I'm gonna marry Rachel. I know you don't
think much of her but she's a special
person -- she really is. And I love her.
This is a bridge we never wanted to cross
but it's not helping her or the kids if I
don't really commit to that.

Jackie stares at him stonefaced.

LUKE

I didn't think a phone call was
appropriate...

JACKIE

Tell me exactly how you're different
from three years ago? The music
sounds kind of the same from where
I'm sitting.

He shifts in his chair. Wants this to sound as authentic as he
feels it...

LUKE

I grew up, a little. I'm ready for a
life that's built around commitm...

JACKIE

Just not to me.

The waiter returns with a bottle of red wine. It's horribly quiet
as he pours. Waits, obtrusively.

LUKE

Thank you, it's fine...

WAITER

Would you like to taste it?

LUKE

Can we please have less service, here?

The waiter leaves, taking his attitude with him. Luke sighs...

LUKE

It's going to be hard for the kids
when I tell them...I'd like you to
be there.

JACKIE

To make it easier for them or you?

LUKE

It's a huge moment in their life --

JACKIE

You can't be an 'us' just when you
want to. You can't play that card
when it's convenient.

LUKE

We...

JACKIE

WE are over.

LUKE

WE'RE still their parents for the next
hundred years.

On this, Jackie looks down at her hands.

LUKE

You're still going to have to be
dealing with me -- with us. We should
tell them together.

JACKIE

No. You think this is going to help
the kids then you do it. You're on
your own.