

JOY

Stuart?... Are you okay?

STUART

Yeah. Sure. I'm fine.

JOY

Good. Well. I had a really nice time..I did ... really.

STUART

Yeah. Me too.

JOY

Of course, you know I've always had a nice time with you.

STUART

Same here.

JOY

But...

STUART

Yeah, but...

JOY

You understand then?

STUART

Uh huh.

JOY

And you don't hate me?

STUART

No.

JOY

'Cause you know I could never hate you. At the same time, I just don't think I could ever...you know...in the way you should be...

STUART

Yeah.

JOY

And deserve to be.

STUART

Uh huh.

JOY

Well. The food here was excellent– I'm gonna recommend it to my sisters! How many stars did it get?

STUART

Three and a half. (PAUSE) Oh Joy.... I am sorry.

JOY

It's really good we had this talk.

STUART

Yeah.

JOY

Before things went too far... You know, got too serious.

STUART

Yeah. I'm sorry. I'm too serious, aren't I?

JOY

No, you're not. It's me.

STUART

No, it's me.

JOY

Okay. It's you...but I'm sorry.

STUART

Okay.

JOY

(PAUSE) 'Cause I mean...the thing is, I want to do what's right – for both of us. I spent a lot of time...examining...my heart. And I felt that you deserved my honesty.

STUART

Thank you.

JOY

Now I just want to make you whole again.

STUART

I'm whole... really.

JOY

I was afraid we wouldn't be able to be friends anymore.

STUART

Oh, Joy! Don't be silly.

JOY

Oh, but you know how it is. And well, most guys can't be friends after...

STUART

I'm not most guys.

JOY

I know. If only most guys were like you.

STUART

But then I'd be like most guys.

JOY

Oh, Stuart. If only I felt the way I'd like to feel with you... Life is so unfair. It's all my fault.

STUART

I know. (PAUSE) Joy...are you sure...?

JOY

Yes.

STUART

(PAUSE) Is it someone else?

JOY

No, it's just you.

STUART

I want to show you something I got for you.

JOY

For me?

STUART

Here. Open it up.

JOY

Oh, but Stuart. This is...oh, this is beautiful. An ashtray?

STUART

Yeah. It's a Gainsevoort reproduction. Boston, late 1800's. I sent away for it just after we had our...our first date.

JOY

Oh, I just love it. It's a...it's a collector's item.

STUART

Yeah, it is pretty special.

JOY

It almost makes me want to start smoking again!

STUART

Look at the bottom. See? Forty karat gold-plate inlaid base.

JOY

Oh, Stuart. Thank you. This really means something to me. I'll always treasure it...as a token...

STUART

No, you won't. Give it here... 'cause this is for the girl who loves me. The girl who cares for me, for who I am, not what I look like. I wanted you to know what you'd be missing. You think I don't appreciate art. You think I don't understand fashion. You think I'm not hip. You think I'm pathetic, a nerd, a lard-ass fatso. You think I'm shit. Well, you're wrong. 'Cause I'm champagne. And you're shit. And till the day you die, you, not me, will always be shit. Good bye!

JOY

Stuart? What the...? Come back...