

# RICHARD - REVISED JULY 21<sup>8</sup>

EXT. CHURCH - EVENING

START

The group exits the church. Janie holds back, talking to Richard.

JANIE

Good night, bye...

(quietly to Richard)

Was it my imagination, or did they  
gang up on me tonight?

RICHARD

Carole's got her hands full with  
Jared, she's just...

JANIE

Yeah... I know.

RICHARD

You wanna grab a coffee with me at  
the Starbucks next door?

JANIE

(thrown)

Uh...

RICHARD

Or the one across the street. Or  
the one there...(points) there...  
or there?

JANIE

(awkward laugh)

Oh, I would, but, my baby-sitter,  
my sitter -- my *sister*-- is baby-  
sitting. And then my college  
girlfriends are coming over... it  
started as another kind of support  
group, but now...

RICHARD

(like group members)

Don't you have enough support  
groups? When are you going to stop  
leaning on everyone?

Janie shoves Richard, he laughs.

RICHARD (CONT'D)

Okay, okay, I have a confession to  
make. My Mom still does my  
laundry. But I've cut back, she  
only does the ironing now.

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JANIE  
Now you admit it.

RICHARD  
Some other time. 'Night.

He gives her a friendly grin and goes off -- stay on Janie trying to figure out did he just ask me out...?

JANIE  
... 'Night.

INT. CAB - MOVING - NIGHT

Kate stares out the window of the cab. Music plays on the radio, taking Kate with it...

CUT TO:

KATE'S APARTMENT - FLASHBACK

John and Kate sit cheek to cheek on the couch playing a violent video game. She wears a backwards baseball cap. An open empty pizza box, beer bottles.

KATE  
There's my pimp, shoot 'em, shoot 'em!

BAM -- They both cringe at the same time.

KATE (CONT'D)  
Ohhh, nasty! Look what a bad influence you are on me! Pot, violent video games --

JOHN  
The advantages of having terminal cancer! Not to mention my incredibly hot doctor, why wasn't I lucky enough to get cancer earlier?

John rolls on top of Kate, trapping her beneath him.

KATE  
What a morbid sense of humor you have!

JOHN  
What's the alternative? I'm not going quietly into that dark night. Sex, drugs, rock and roll --  
(listens to radio)  
(MORE)

END

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JANIE (CONT'D)  
(trying to say it)  
I look...

She stands sideways, pulling in her stomach.

JANIE (CONT'D)  
Luke warm.

CUT TO:

START

EXT. 9-11 GROUP - LATER THAT NIGHT

Janie and Richard walk out, waving good-bye to the other group members.

JANIE  
I still can't believe Donna isn't coming anymore.

RICHARD  
Yeah, I thought she was even more addicted to this group than I was.

Janie takes a deep breath.

JANIE  
I'm going to quit... maybe.

RICHARD  
Wow, listen to your conviction.

JANIE  
(laughs)  
Well, you know, I'm moving on.  
Moving forward. Besides, I've said it all. I've heard it all.

RICHARD  
There's nothing left.

Well, there is. Janie peers at Richard in the darkness.

JANIE  
So, you wanna grab that coffee?  
(beat)  
You know what, coffee this late will just keep me up.

RICHARD  
Okay...

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JANIE

Why don't we go out for a real  
drink. Or, dinner?

Richard stops walking. Janie turns to face him.

RICHARD

I like you Janie...

JANIE

I like you, too, Richard.

Richard nods, looking at Janie.

JANIE (CONT'D)

Oh. But... there's a but.

RICHARD

But... don't you think because of  
group, it would be...inappropriate?

JANIE

But we're quitting group, right?

RICHARD

You're quitting the group.

JANIE

(flat/joke)

Now I am.

(beat)

But, didn't you ask me out, last  
week? Or am I -- (crazy)

RICHARD

For coffee. I didn't mean for you  
to think --

JANIE

(nods)

Right. Yeah, see, coffee wasn't  
really on the table when I dated  
Paul. Now it's... one confusing  
beverage.

RICHARD

(smiles)

Janie... I'm sorry, I just don't  
think...

JANIE

Maybe we should stop talking now.

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RICHARD  
I'm just not ready, it's me.

JANIE  
Really. I'm --  
(zips her lip)  
not talking.

They stare at one another in the darkness.

JANIE (CONT'D)  
It's OK. Good night.  
(turns away)

RICHARD  
Good night.

Janie walks away, cringing at what just happened.

END

INT. JANIE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Janie sits at her kitchen table. She's now in her pajamas, but doesn't look sleepy. She picks up the phone and dials. We see the clock on the kitchen wall reads 10:30 p.m.

JANIE  
Hey... Tom, it's me. I felt like having a glass of wine but thought maybe there's something to that not drinking alone thing, so technically, if you had a glass of wine over the phone... but maybe you're out with Carrie... Kelly, is it Kelly?

CUT TO:

INT. TOM'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

We see Tom getting up from bed, listening to the message as he leaves a sleeping woman behind him. He heads for the answering machine, grabs the phone.

TOM  
Hey -- Janie.

He glances back, making sure he hasn't disturbed Kelly. He gently shuts the bedroom door.

TOM (CONT'D)  
I think I've got some wine I could drink...

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