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PRODUCTION WHITE 2015-04-21

19. 22

Hanging up, Nola turns to her husband with a suffering smile -- faintly revealing her jealousy around Lorne's relationship with Natalie's kids.

NOLA

Those kids have no idea how much you do for them.

LORNE

Well... they don't have a father.

NOLA

That's not your fault.

LORNE

No. But it's not their fault either.

Lorne smiles, digging into dinner.

INT. MAGGIE'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 23

Maggie's Plateau apartment is hip and minimalist. Maggie hands cocktails to Simon and Sarah.

SARAH

Nice place. Tasteful, normal...

MAGGIE

You were expecting a sex dungeon?

SARAH

I didn't know what to expect. I know almost nothing about you.

MAGGIE

Except what your boyfriend said. That I won't want anything from you because I'm not into commitment.

SARAH

When you say that ...

MAGGIE

I mean it.

SARAH

But... Why? Did something happen? Were you like... Traumatized by some bad break-up?

(CONTINUED)

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MAGGIE

Says the girl in some stranger's apartment looking for a unicorn. Did something happen to you?

Fair enough. Sarah looks at Simon, shrugs.

SIMON

After catching me... with you. And having a long talk about where we are as a couple...

SARAH

Simon and I decided to fight routine by being honest with each other about what we both want.

This impresses Maggie.

MAGGIE

Which, in this case, is me.

An awkward pause.

SARAH

And you'll just... do anyone?

MAGGIE

Actually, I'm pretty picky. Even you are still auditioning, believe it or not.

So there. It's here where Maggie is most confident.

MAGGIE

And while we're being honest... This'll be a first for me too.

Hmm, that surprises them.

Nervous/excited looks all around.

SIMON

So ... What now.

SARAH

I read online we're supposed to set some ground rules.

Maggie gets up for more wine.

SARAH

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MAGGIE

Let's have another drink before drawing up the paper work.

24 INT. NEWSROOM - NIGHT

Natalie is at her desk, work-phone to her ear.

NATALIE

I can't believe you're not answering. My cell-phone drowned and I'm at the office waiting for you to call.

Hanging up, Natalie notices GREGORY GILCHRIST approaching. Greg, 60ish, is a journeyman journalist and Natalie's editor.

Natalie minimizes her web browser as he comes over and perches on her desk.

GREG

Keeping editor's hours?

NATALIE

Today wasn't... entirely efficient.

They both notice, on Natalie's desk, a print copy of yesterday's column -- Natalie's "New Address".

NATALIE

I'm still... Thinking about what's next.

GREG

How does it feel, shaking things up?

Natalie hesitates, thinking about her life, her kids...

NATALIE

Guess I can't turn back now.

GREG

On the other hand, people are wrapping fish with these today.

Greg continues along.

Natalie pulls back up her browser -- we see her Google search results: Stage IV kidney cancer, survival rates.