

13 Conversations 1/2 (short) (M&L)

#1

Barbara

A week ago my husband was robbed at gunpoint. The next day I got a phone call. A man had found his wallet in the trashcan. He delivered it the same day. I never bothered to tell my husband. There were things inside the wallet that indicate he's having an affair.

Patricia

Did you confront him?

Barbara

No. I was waiting for him to mention it. To say... something. To lie.

Patricia

You seem so calm.

Barbara

Maybe I've just gotten used to feeling alone. I was thinking on my way home from work how strange it is. We live in a city so crowded with people all trying hard not to look at each other.

Patricia

Self protection, I imagine.

Barbara

I read a study once that said "human beings require 18 inches of personal space". Silly, isn't it? To put a number on it like that? 18 inches....

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Patricia

Well, still, you know... underneath it all maybe we the same things, maybe we're more connected than we know.

Barbara

Do you think so?

Patricia

I'm sure your husband will come to his senses.

Barbara

(pause) Ask yourself if you're happy and you cease to be so. Tonight before he left it took him almost an hour to pack a small suitcase. Finally, I had to do it for him.