

x. 1

"LAUREN"

START

INT. FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - LATER

Laney is chatting with her law partner, the saucily-adorned LAUREN BENNETT. Lauren glances at McKenzie, who is charming a GROUP OF PARTYGOERS.

LAUREN

He's quite a specimen, that Bryant McKenzie. You've done well.

LANEY

Hey . . . you're supposed to tell me he's done well. What kind of best friend are you?

LAUREN

I just meant that I'm glad to see you with someone who makes you this happy . . . after what happened with Farelli.

LANEY

Farelli who?

Laney looks over at McKenzie and smiles. He winks back.

LAUREN

So what's it like being a part of Chicago's new it couple?

LANEY

It couple? You have got to be kidding me.

LAUREN

If you didn't catch the story in Chicago Scene magazine last week, you had to notice every eye in the place on you two when you were dancing.

LANEY

Maybe it's just that people are shocked that a lawyer is actually in a healthy, normal relationship.

LAUREN

(raises eyebrows suggestively)  
Healthy indeed.

(MORE)

1/4

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAUREN (CONT'D)

You think I didn't notice that he left your office one day last week wearing your lipstick? You either had a very pleasant lunch hour or he's trying out a new shade for summer.

LANEY

You're so bad . . .

LAUREN

Thank you, my dear.

**END**

Laney smiles warmly at her friend, then looks over and locks eyes with McKenzie.

INT. MCKENZIE'S CONDO - EARLY MORNING

Groggily, Laney awakens, the pale sunlight just peering into McKenzie's bedroom. She looks over at a slumbering McKenzie and smiles. He rouses himself and smiles back.

MCKENZIE

Hey.

LANEY

Hey.

MCKENZIE

I had a really nice time at the party last night.

LANEY

It helps that you're a good dancer.

MCKENZIE

My dad made me take lessons when I was 12. Over my tearful protests he promised it would serve me well one day.

LANEY

He was right.

The two kiss sweetly.

MCKENZIE

So what do you want to do now?

Laney raises her eyebrows suggestively.

**2/4**

Sc. 2

"LAUREN"  
20.

ACT II

EXT. GRANT PARK - DAY

START

Laney and Lauren are breathing heavily after a strenuous jog. Laney sits on a bench with Lauren following suit. Lauren looks like she wants to say something.

LANEY

What?

LAUREN

I don't know how you can be so calm right now with your fiancé in jail. I'd be a basket case.

LANEY

I am a basket case. Believe me. But I really needed to talk to you. Not in the office . . . but out here. As friends.

LAUREN

Sure. Absolutely.

A beat.

LANEY

I'm taking the case.

LAUREN

What, Bryant's case? Oh no. No no no. You are not taking his case. We are not taking his case. That's not even up for debate.

LANEY

We'll win.

LAUREN

How do you know we'll win? Because you always outwork your opponent and never lose?

(beat)

Or because he's your fiancé?

LANEY

I know because he didn't kill Vincent Sutton.

LAUREN

Laney . . .

3/4

(CONTINUED)