

Bits and Pieces

by

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FADE IN.

INT. BALLROOM - EVENING

JENNIFER has wrapped up scanning the place and is ready to leave. She walks up to her friend AMY.

JENNIFER

This party sucks.

AMY

Shhh, just go with it.

JENNIFER

Go with what? This blows.

AMY

There's a lot of deep pockets up in here.

JENNIFER

I was talking to a guy whose teeth popped out of his mouth mid-sentence.

AMY

Should have gotten his number.

JENNIFER

That's going too far.

AMY

What's two or three years max. You'd be sitting pretty on top of a mountain.

JENNIFER

I can't roll like that. I don't know how you do it. This was such a bad idea.

AMY

Find someone who still has pigment in their hair.

JENNIFER

Highly unlikely.

AMY

That guy!

JENNIFER

The one in the wheelchair?

AMY

Awww, look how cute he is.

JENNIFER

He just pinched that woman's butt.

AMY

Oh, he's a feisty one.

JENNIFER

I can't. I'm sorry. I feel like I'm selling my soul to satan. I'm out.

AMY

Wait. Wait. Wait. Just give me like fifteen minutes. I've been working on Carlo from Spain who's currently in the men's room--

MILTON

Excuse me?

Jennifer looks at Milton, a dashing middle-aged man in a suit. Her jaw drops. Milton eyes Jennifer.

Hello...I couldn't help but notice a glow coming from this corner of the ballroom. Now I see why. I'm Milton.

AMY

Hey Milt, I'm Amy, this here's Jennifer.

Milton's eyes remain glued on Jennifer.

MILTON

Good evening, Jennifer.

JENNIFER

Hi! Hello there.

MILTON

Which one is yours?

JENNIFER

Mine?

MILTON (POINTING)

That's my father, the one in the wheelchair.

JENNIFER

Oh, is he now?

MILTON

What about you? Is it your Grandmother?

JENNIFER

Oh! Oh, yeah, my grams. She's out there in the wild somewhere.

AMY

There's my Carlo. Gotta go!

Jennifer makes eyes at Amy as 'not to leave me alone.'
Amy bounces.

MILTON

Can I get you a drink?

JENNIFER

I'm good. Thanks. (beat) I stopped drinking.

MILTON

Really? My apologies for asking.

JENNIFER

Don't be sorry. It's not your fault I black out and become a super villain.

MILTON

How so?

JENNIFER

Trust me, a few drinks and I'll turn this party into a world crises.

MILTON

Where are you from Jennifer?

JENNIFER

I actually don't know. When I was younger my family moved around quite a bit. Texas, Arizona, then we went east to Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia and when I got old enough I headed north to New York.

MILTON

Why New York?

JENNIFER

I've always had the heart of an urban girl.

MILTON

And how long have you been in New York?

JENNIFER

Not that long, but long enough. What's your deal?

MILTON

My deal?

JENNIFER

Yeah, come on, who the hell are you? Tell me about yourself.

MILTON

Well, I'm a philanthropist.

JENNIFER

What do you philanthrop?

MILTON

Well, I run a few non-profit organizations for various causes I believe in.

JENNIFER

Such as?

MILTON

World hunger, global warming.

JENNIFER

Righto.

MILTON

And you?

JENNIFER

Me? Well, I'm looking for work..as in..I'm a job hunter for people who wish to be employed.

MILTON

What's the name of your agency?

JENNIFER

Oh, it's Jennifer...Agency.

MILTON

I'm not familiar--

JENNIFER

We're very under the radar, independent type of company.

MILTON

Ah, I see, behind the scenes.

JENNIFER

Right.

MILTON

I admire that. Wish I could run my organizations as privately as I would like, but that isn't plausible.

JENNIFER

Why not?

MILTON

Let's say it's hard to walk without being noticed. (beat) Would you like to step out onto the patio with me?

Jennifer nods.

CUT TO:

EXT. BALLROOM - PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

Jennifer and Milton stroll along the large marble patio overlooking the extravagant garden.

MILTON

I must say, I like your energy.

JENNIFER

That's the Red Bull you're picking up.

MILTON

Red Bull?

JENNIFER

The energy drink. Keeps me in the conversation, especially at this place. (smiles)

MILTON

This place is quite a bore, isn't it?

JENNIFER

Absolutely. How do people do it?

MILTON

Ha!

JENNIFER

Position themselves in such a way that they remain...I don't know...lame?

MILTON

It's a fear of mine.

JENNIFER

Is it?

MILTON

I'm not one who desires to be lame, as you've poignantly described. (smiles)

JENNIFER

Well, yeah. I mean, looking around this place, it's gorgeous, everyone dresses fancy, all the women have fancy necklaces on, the food is like I've never tasted, but have you noticed that everyone seems to talk *at* one another, instead of *with* one another?

Milton stares at Jennifer fondly.

MILTON

Am I talking at you, Jennifer?

JENNIFER

Not you.

MILTON

I like how you connect to me.

JENNIFER

Like, how?

MILTON

You look me in the eye.

JENNIFER

Well, yeah.

MILTON

Would you like to--

Amy enters the patio.

AMY

Jenn?! JENNIFER!

JENNIFER

What?!

AMY

Let's go. Didn't work
our with Carlo.

MILTON (to Jennifer)

Carlo Fuentes?

JENNIFER

Carlo somebody. (smiles)
Gotta go.

MILTON

Jennifer.

JENNIFER

Yes.

MILTON

Can I see you again?

JENNIFER

Sure.

MILTON

This Thursday, perhaps?

JENNIFER

Sounds good.

MILTON

I'll have my driver pick you up.

JENNIFER

Your driver?

MILTON

If you don't mind.

JENNIFER

And where will we go?

MILTON

Spain? Paris? Rome?

JENNIFER

Are you serious?

MILTON

For lunch and we'll come straight back.

JENNIFER

Milton, you are quite the fairytale, aren't you? But, this isn't gonna work out. You and me pal, we come from two different sides of the Earth.

MILTON

We do?

JENNIFER

Oh, yeah. You have no idea. It's best we part ways now, while it's safe...so...

Jennifer sticks out her hand to shake Milton's. Milton shakes her hand, but remains confused.

I wish you all my best, Milton.
Nice meeting ya!

10.

Jennifer walks away and joins Amy on the patio.
Milton watches the two women head back inside the
ballroom.

FADE OUT.