

## LOOKING

about three hours later. ANDY is walking VAL to her door.)

VAL. Well, thanks for the ride home, Andy.

ANDY. Oh, no problem. It was better than taking the bus, right?

VAL. Yes it was.

ANDY. Good. And thanks for the play.

VAL. Did you like it?

ANDY. Well, I had no idea Rasputin was such a talkative fellow. Three hours. Wow. I thought he'd never shut up.

VAL. So, you didn't like it.

ANDY. Not really.

VAL. Well, at least you're honest.

ANDY. Well, there's no need to lie to try and impress you now, right? I mean, there's nothing happening here, so I can just be myself like you said.

VAL. You think you have to lie to impress me?

ANDY. Oh, yeah.

VAL. Why?

ANDY. Well, there's not much to me, so I have to lie to bring myself up to your level.

VAL. My level?

ANDY. Yeah. I mean, a woman like you? What would you want with a guy like me? Hell, I can't even keep a business running. And it's not like it was a challenge, right? Selling storage space? How hard can that be? Too hard for me apparently. I've got a new job though. Yeah. I'm a security guard. I start Monday. I'll be trying to stop demented jazz fans from rushing the studio and lighting mood candles. Yeah, I'm pretty pleased about that. That's a real step up for me. So, this? You and me? I knew I didn't stand a chance the first time I laid eyes on you. You're too good to be true so how could it work? But, I gave it a shot anyway. You gotta give me credit for that. You know, that first night, I was hoping you might invite me in

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to talk—Seriously. Just to talk. That's all I wanted to do, because you seemed like someone who was easy to talk to, and maybe I could have made a case for myself—But, that didn't happen and I can see why. I mean, when a woman invites you in, it usually means there's at least a chance that sex will ensue right? And I can see why you wouldn't want to lead me in that direction, because that particular event is very special. You know what the most exciting part about making love to a woman is? For me, I mean? It's the fact that the woman would actually allow me to do it with her. And I'm not selling myself short here, don't get me wrong. I mean, I can hold up my end in the lovemaking department. No, I'm in there plugging all the way. But, to think that a woman would want to share something that intimate—that personal—with me...well, that thought excites me and satisfies me and fills my heart all at once, because that is such a wonderful gift. So, uh.. *(He looks at his watch.)* Oh, boy. Look at the time. I've been rambling on like Rasputin. I'd better let you go. So, I guess this is goodnight then. And, uh..well.. *(Andy leans in and gives Val a kiss on the cheek.)* It's been nice knowing you, Val. It's been very nice.

*(ANDY turns to leave.)*

VAL. Andy? Would you like to come in?

ANDY. Come in?

VAL. Yeah.

ANDY. You want to talk?

VAL. ....We could.

*(VAL holds out her hand. ANDY takes her hand and VAL kisses him on the lips. Lights down. End.)*