

Just Coffee
by
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(Based on, If Any)

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EXT. JAVA JOE'S - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

SHAUN, 30s, beads of sweat stain his business casual wear, as he enters while on the phone.

SHAUN

Sir, it's going to be impossible to close that creditor when they're set at sixty percent. Client wants a forty percent settlement.

Shaun steps up to the counter to order his coffee. Shaun holds the phone to his chest. BARISTA, 20s, waits to take the order.

SHAUN (CONT'D)

Hey, I'm in a rush. Could I get a small caramel macchiato with extra cream and sugar.

BARISTA

Sure, that'll be \$4.26.

Shaun pulls out his card to swipe, drops it, then picks it up. He swipes his card and heads to the pick up line.

SHAUN

Listen, I'll see what I can do when I get back on the office.

Shaun hangs up the phone. He waits at the pickup line. He taps his fingers while he waits. He notices a car outside he recognizes, before he hears a voice.

BARISTA

Sir! Your order is ready.

SHAUN

Thank you so much.

Shaun rushes off towards the exit, when he bumps into BROOKE, 30s, redhead of fury in a black power blazer, enters the shop.

BROOKE

Of all the coffee shops, I could go to--

SHAUN

I'm so sorry. I was late to meet Charlotte. I'm never in town anymore. At least not on purpose.

BROOKE

I was supposed to be meeting her.

Brooke rolls her eyes and walks past Shaun.

BROOKE (CONT'D)
Oh, this girl is hard-headed.

Shaun follows.

SHAUN
Fill me in?

BROOKE
That topic is off limits to you.

Shaun walks into Brooke's peripheral.

SHAUN
Hey! We were friends once.

Brooke turns back to Shaun. She tucks her hair behind her ear.

BROOKE
We have history. Bad history.

Brooke approaches the counter to order.

BARISTA
May I take your order?

Shaun approaches behind Brooke.

SHAUN
Iced Caramel White Mocha, extra whipped
cream, extra sauce.

Barista looks at Shaun. Shaun looks at Brooke. Brooke
leers back at Shaun.

BARISTA
Ma'am?

Brooke turns towards the Barista.

BROOKE
You heard the man.

Brooke swipes her card, grabs her receipt and approaches
the pick up counter.

BROOKE (CONT'D)
Well, Char clearly has a flair for the
dramatic. So how much do you know?

SHAUN

I have no idea what you're talking about?

Brooke tucks her hair behind her ear and looks up at Shaun.

BROOKE

She clearly sent you on a fact finding mission.

The barista places Brooke's order at the pickup counter. Brooke and Shaun walk to a table and sit.

SHAUN

I'm not going to lie to you, I know about Mark.

Brooke takes a half glance at Shaun as she drinks a large sip of her iced drink.

BROOKE

You're not going to lie? That's cute. I've heard that one already.

Shaun chokes on his coffee.

BROOKE (CONT'D)

As great as it is to see your face. I can't do this with you.

Brooke heads for the exit, Shaun follows.

SHAUN

Wait!

EXT. JAVA JOE'S - OUTDOOR SEATING

BROOKE

Walk away Shaun and just let it go.

SHAUN

Would you just talk to me?

Brooke stops at an outdoor table and faces Shaun.

BROOKE

There's nothing to talk about. I had one foot in and one foot out waiting on something to happen. Like I always do.

Shaun taps his cup in rhythm.

SHAUN

That's tough.

BROOKE

Tough? Who do I have to blame for keeping one foot out Shaun?

Shaun purses his lips.

BROOKE (CONT'D)

Nothing to add? Typical. I don't want to do this.

SHAUN

Okay, you're right. I was selfish. I get it. I did only care about myself and I'm sorry.

Brooke points at Shaun in the chest.

BROOKE

Sorry changes nothing.

Shaun rolls his eyes.

SHAUN

I can't ever win with you.

Brooke leaves Shaun at the seated area and heads for the fountain. Shaun follows.

EXT. FOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

SHAUN

Do you know what the hardest part of dealing with you is?

BROOKE

I didn't even want to this when we were married? Are we really?

Shaun closes the distance and gets in her face.

SHAUN

God forbid someone makes a mistake. You never let them forget because there are NO second chances.

Brooke tucks her hair behind her ear.

BROOKE

You should only need one. If you'd just been honest about how you felt.

SHAUN

Do you think you're the only one wrecked here Brooke? I fucked up. I'm not the one who killed us. I regret leaving you for Ashley everyday.

Brooke puts her hand on Shaun's chest.

BROOKE

I deserved better.

Shaun moves Brookes hand at away.

SHAUN

Do you know how hard it is to be perfect everyday.

BROOKE

What are you talking about?

Shaun points at Brooke.

SHAUN

How many times did you come home pissed off because of a case? Only to yell at me for laundry not being done or food not being ready.

BROOKE

You're the only one home.

Shaun gets right in her face.

SHAUN

Do I not work? You like to shit all over my work because I'm remote but I work as much as you do.

Brooke sighs.

BROOKE

You're not wrong. I get caught up and I did take a lot of that on you. But Ashley? Really?

Shaun closes the distance between them.

SHAUN

I was angry. She was your friend. I was tired of your shit.

BROOKE

We do have a habit of bringing out the worst in each other.

SHAUN

I haven't even seen anyone since the two
us divorced. I can't seem to see past
what's right in front of me.

Brooke shakes her head.

BROOKE

You don't get to do that.

SHAUN

What?

BROOKE

You don't get to decide that, you're
sorry and it's happily ever after.

Brooke tucks her hair behind her head.

SHAUN

Do you remember this?

Shaun takes a step back and points at the fountain.

SHAUN (CONT'D)

Do you know how many times we've been to
this fountain?

BROOKE

We always walked here on my lunch breaks.
What's your point?

Shaun pulls a brick piece on the top edge of the fountain
and shows it to Brooke. It has SD & BC in a heart
inscribed on the brick.

SHAUN

This has been here everyday since we were
together. I still come here to remember
what it was like before it all went to
shit.

Brooke looks into Shauns eyes before stepping away.

BROOKE

It's too late for all of that.

Brooke walks off down the plaza.

EXT. THE WALK - CONTINUOUS

Shaun grabs Brooke from behind.

BROOKE

We're not going to do this.

SHAUN

Do what? A second chance? Lord knows you don't believe in them.

Brooke points at her chest, where her heart is.

BROOKE

You want to know the truth? It's not that I don't believe in them. It's that I don't want to be crushed when they blow up in my face.

Shaun crosses his arms.

SHAUN

At some point one of us has to take a chance.

BROOKE

Me? Take a chance?

Shaun grabs her hand.

SHAUN

You took one on me and you got burned and that's on me.

Brooke puts her hand over his.

BROOKE

There are no thirds, Shaun

SHAUN

I love you, Brooke. I won't need a third.

Shaun interlocks his hands with Brooke and walk down the plaza. Brooke tucks her hands behind her hair.

END