

~~GREEN ROOM (12/12/18)~~

CONTINUED: (2)

ELINOR

(tongue in cheek)

I don't know. Could be five, could be ten. I haven't decided.

(then, sincere)

But it's alright. Really, I'm good. I'm sober. This... this is actually the most peace I've felt in a long time.

JUDY

Really?

ELINOR

Yeah. You know how exhausting it is to hide and lie all the time?

Judy knows all too well, but she doesn't say anything.

ELINOR (CONT'D)

I got here, and it was like I could finally exhale.

JUDY

(deep breath)

Right.

ELINOR

It's not the worst thing... paying the price.

A beat, as this resonates with Judy.

JUDY

Yeah. I can see how that would be a relief.

INT. JEN'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT MORNING

Jen emerges from the shower, dressed. Ben, now dressed, sits on the edge of the bed waiting for her. He smiles. She doesn't.

Start →

BEN

I'm still here.

JEN

You are.

BEN

You're freaking out.

CONTINUED:

JEN

No I'm not.

Ben steps forward and gently takes her hands in his. She stiffens.

BEN

Feels like you are a little. And I get it. You're with a new person, it's weird, it's scary--

He has no idea.

BEN (CONT'D)

--And I think all we can really do is dance it out.

JEN

What?

BEN

I think we should dance it out.

Ben sweetly takes her into a slow dance. She relents. He starts singing a little made up song into her ear as he gently moves her around the room, doing a little two step. Jen can't help but give in for a moment, even as she's dying inside.

BEN (CONT'D)

You're wiggling out/ And that's alright/ It's normal to spin out when someone new spends the night/ Especially when he's a nerdy chiropractor/ But maybe it would help to know one little factor/ He thinks you're incredible/ And...

Ben breaks singing and looks at her adoringly.

BEN (CONT'D)

Coming up short with a rhyme for incredible.

Jen pulls away.

JEN

I can't do this.

BEN

Indelible! There it is.

CONTINUED: (2)

JEN

No. Stop. I'm sorry. Ben, this has
all been a huge mistake.

BEN

(surprised)

What? Why?

JEN

It doesn't matter why.

BEN

It matters to me. Because I don't
think it's been a mistake. I feel
like I've waited my whole life to
meet someone like you. Someone who
challenges me and shows up, who's
this amazing combination of kind
and strong... and beautiful. Like
really beautiful, inside and out.

All of this plunges Jen deeper into a self-loathing guilt
spiral.

JEN

No. Ben. No. That is-- you have no
clue who I really am. You deserve
to be with the person you just
described, but I assure you, it is
not me.

BEN

Jen-- this is crazy. What are you
talking about? Help me understand.
Is this because it's too soon after
your husband--

JEN

No-- it's not.

BEN

Can we at least talk about it--

JEN

(fighting tears)

No, we can't. Please just go,
please don't make this harder.

Ben, hurt, retreats towards the door. He turns before he
goes.

CONTINUED: (3)

BEN

You know, I don't know what's going on with you, but I really hope that someday you can see yourself the way I see you. 'Cause it's pretty special.

He exits as Jen starts to sob.

INT. JEN'S HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Ben, bummed, rushes down the stairs when he bumps into CHARLIE.

CHARLIE

Hey Ben.

BEN

Oh, hey Charlie. I was just leaving.

Charlie sensed the weird vibe.

CHARLIE

Is everything okay?

BEN

Yeah. All good. I was just um-- having a meeting with your mom. A morning meeting.

CHARLIE

Uh-huh.

BEN

But it's over.

(then)

Hey, uh-- you take good care of yourself, okay?

CHARLIE

Okay...

BEN

And-- take good care of your mom, too.

CHARLIE

Sure.

He exits. Charlie watches him go, unsure of what's going on.