

Project #2

written by

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INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

LOLA and DANIEL are dining together in a fancy restaurant lit by candlelight with the Eiffel Tower for the view.

Daniel, 34, American man, tall and athletic, sits across from Lola, 33, American woman, a slim and tall brunette.

DANIEL

I can't believe it has been 5 five years since we started dating today. I feel like I have known you for forever Lola.

LOLA

I know right.

(laughs)

I am such a methodical person, but with you I feel like I can let my guard down. I can't believe we met because we came to Paris to work for the same company, ON THE SAME DAY.

DANIEL

I know.

(laughs)

And we have grown so much together... We even started talking about buying a house! I mean, it is a big step, but I think we are ready for this...

Daniel reaches for his pocket, while getting ready to kneel.

LOLA

The company asked me to move to the California branch!...

(sighs)

...tomorrow.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT - LATER ON THE NIGHT

LOUIS

That's how she said it???

Daniel is talking to LOUIS, French man, not as tall and not as athletic, who is sitting in the couch with a shocked expression, staring at the ground in front of him.

Daniel walks anxiously around the room and gesticulates "Yes" with his head in a frenetical way. He lets his body fall onto the bulky purple chair behind him, in front of Louis.

DANIEL

So, what do you think? I mean, I was about to propose, then she breaks things off between us?!

Louis lays back onto the couch's backrest. Head sits on top of the backrest and hands are now on face, parallel to each other, covering the eyes.

LOUIS

So... going to California with her is not an option?

DANIEL

It is! But she ended things so fast. I felt like I couldn't say anything anymore.

LOUIS

(louder)

How would she know you would go with her if you did not tell her?

DANIEL

(loudly, and then settles)

What if she doesn't want me to go with her and ended the relationship so I could not even try?? I am not going to beg for her affection if it is clear she does not want us together anymore.

(sighs)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

I still want to marry her. But I don't want her to not go to California because I proposed. I hate that I can't control this! Why couldn't she have been promoted years ago, or after we were already married? It would have been much easier to deal with.

Silence.

LOUIS

So, what will she do now?

DANIEL

They need her there to present the new phone model for a meeting tomorrow night.

LOUIS

(GASPS)

SHE IS PITCHING THE COMPANY'S NEW PHONE?

DANIEL

(sadly)

Yes... She couldn't say no to that offer now, could she?

(sighs)

DANIEL (CONT'D)

There is nothing I can do anymore Louis. Thanks for listening, I need some air. I think I'll walk back home.

INT. LOLA'S APARTMENT - MORNING OF NEXT DAY

Lola is packing a small suitcase. She talks with her sister on the phone.

LOLA

...And now I'm coming back home. The only upside of all this is seeing you, mom and dad. It's been so long...

LOLA'S SISTER

Hm Hello? You can't seriously be THIS unfazed after ending your 5 year relationship.

LOLA

I don't have time for this. I only told you cause you were being annoying about it. I didn't want him to feel as if obligated to come with me. Anyways, I gotta run to the office to grab the phone model and then off to the train station. Bye, love you.

INT. OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Lola gets to her office desk to grab the phone model. She takes it. Looks over at Daniel's desk, where she sees a picture of them he had framed from a past date.

Lola smiles, eyes tear up a little, but she shakes her head negatively and stares onto the distance, as if rationalizing the situation.

INT. TRAIN STATION - MOMENTS LATER

Lola is looking for where to go get her train to the airport. She spots where her train will arrive, and sits on the station's benches in front of it.

Waiting patiently, tapping lightly on the model phone's box, she decides to open it and check it everything is perfect.

The train arrives right before she opens the box. She grabs her things and enters the wagon.

She looks for a seat, particularly chosen due to Lola inspecting with looks its distance from the train door and bathroom.

She browses on her tablet looking at the schedule for the meeting she is going to. She gets alerted by the train's final boarding call.

She notices the box, and rapidly opens it to check on the model. Only to find a ring and a signed card on top of the phone. Lola picks them both up.

LOLA

It's from Daniel... How did he put
this in here.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - PREVIOUS NIGHT

Daniel had just left Louis' apartment and walks back to his.

On the way back he goes through a park, where he sees an old couple dancing slowly in an empty and calm area.

Daniel gets his wallet and grabs a photo of Lola from it. While looking dearly at it, smiles. Then, looks away, and notices the name of the street he was about to cross.

DANIEL
Avenue de Suffren... The office is
just up this street!

INT. OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Daniel starts looking around over at Lola's desk looking for the model phone's box. He finds it, sits down, and opens the box up very meticulously to not make any mess.

Daniel grabs the ring from his coat's inner pocket. He hesitates just before putting the ring inside the box and sits it on the desk. Puts his hand on his heart trying to calm down. Picks up his phone and calls Louis.

LOUIS
Daniel? You good man? Why are you
breathing so harshly-

DANIEL
Do you think I should tell her my
intentions? I just can't lose her!

LOUIS
(calmly but serious)
Yes, before it's too late. Look, I
know you are not the verbal kind of
guy, but you have to be vulnerable
with her and let her choose!

Daniel, who was staring at the ceiling, hangs up the phone, and stares at the ring he had placed on the desk. He looks over to Lola's desk supplies, notepad and color coded pens.

BACK TO:

INT. TRAIN STATION - CONTINUOUS

Lola anxiously opens the card while clutching the hand holding the ring. She reads it through, and looks out the window, smiling.

She sees a silhouette standing on the entry to the train station, that resembles Daniel. The man in the distance is holding a small suitcase.

She stands up and drops the card on the table in front of her seat.

We see the card on the table from the top. Before the card closes by itself, the words "Marry me" and "Love you" are readable.