

Wishful Whiskey Poured Neat (Sample)

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INT - MAIN BAR. MOMENTS LATER

Mike walks in with the bottle. Lydia sits at the bar looking at him.

MIKE

I'm sorry about what Mason said.

LYDIA

Me too.

MIKE

I brought this in case you needed to forget it.

LYDIA

I think I'm good for the night.

Mike registers. Puts the bottle on the bar and walks over to where Lydia is sitting. A moment of silence and then-

MIKE

He's a good guy. He really is. He's an idiot sometimes though.

LYDIA

He told me.

MIKE

But I'm not trying to excuse him or anything either.

LYDIA

I know

MIKE

I'm glad you said what you said.

LYDIA

I shouldn't have had to.

MIKE

I know.

LYDIA

(Beat)

Can I tell you what I wanted to

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

(cont'd)
talk to you about?

MIKE
Oh sure.

LYDIA
And then you can tell me what you
wanted to talk about after?

MIKE
Deal.

Mike comes around the bar to where Lydia is seated.

LYDIA
So, uhm. It's been some time and I
know I kind of swore off of it but
I actually met somebody.

A beat. Mike registers this.

MIKE
Really? Lydia-

LYDIA
I'm sorry I didn't tell you
earlier.

MIKE
I mean you're not required to, but
thank you.

LYDIA
Mike, I wanted to sooner but-

MIKE
Not required.

LYDIA
Okay.

MIKE
I actually had a feeling.

LYDIA
Oh shut the fuck up you didn't.

MIKE

No seriously I figured a while ago actually.

LYDIA

(Beat)

How long have you known?

MIKE

A while. You didn't come in once.

LYDIA

Yeah, but I don't come in here often.

MIKE

I don't know. It's like I said, I had a feeling. It just hit me one day.

Lydia looks at Mike and understands what he means.

LYDIA

You're really something else, Mike.

MIKE

(Laughs uncomfortably and waves her off)

Lydia, come on -

LYDIA

(Laughs. Beat)

No, for real. Don't do that. I've always thought that about you.

(Beat)

You know when it really hit me. Right before you left the business a few years ago. You and I had just seen a show. We were on the train and you said to me that you were just starting to talk about whether acting was in your path or not. And I said that you loved it and there was no way that you could ever leave it and you corrected me and said "I love what people thought of me when I acted. I didn't

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

(cont'd)

necessarily love myself when I acted." It really stopped me in my tracks. I think people, especially actors, love saying that they're honest with themselves and it was at that moment that I realized very few people are honest like that. No one would ever say that about themselves. I don't even know if I would admit that myself. I don't know if I'm brave like that. But you were brave with me. And I could see in your eyes that you were sharing something vulnerable and scary. And you played it nonchalant like you do with everything because you don't want people worrying and you want people to be able to feel safe with you. And we do. I do.

MIKE

Hm.

LYDIA

If things were different, Mike - if circumstances-

MIKE

Lydia. It's okay. Don't make this more complicated.

(Beat)

I'm happy for you.

LYDIA

(Beat)

Okay.

MIKE

What's his name?

LYDIA

You don't have to-

MIKE

What's his name?

(CONTINUED)

LYDIA

Tom. He works with me at O'Toole's.

MIKE

Is he good to you?

LYDIA

Yes. Very good to me.

MIKE

Good. That's all I need to know.

LYDIA

(Beat)

Okay, how about one more?

MIKE

(Considers)

Neat?

LYDIA

Always.

MIKE

Coming right up.

Mike walks over to the bar and pours two out for the both of them. They grab glasses. They take a moment. Lydia puts her hand out. Mike grabs it and kisses it and puts it back down. She brings her hand to her lap.

They drink simultaneously. Mike leans over the counter as the camera pans away from the two of them out of the bar.

EXT. MIKE'S BAR. NIGHT

Camera continues to pan out to the street as we see the two laughing and drinking. Fade to black slowly.

END.