

A Scene for Acting for Film

Hazel Leong

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

DAVID is seated patiently with his food untouched.

NICOLE enters promptly and sits herself down.

NICOLE

Sorry, you didn't have to wait.

DAVID

It's manners.

Nicole is distracted and David picks up on it.

DAVID

Who was that?

NICOLE

Ann. Someone I knew from JC was involved in an overseas accident and didn't make it.

DAVID

Are you okay? Do I know her?

NICOLE

Yea. No, I don't think so. It's a him actually.

There's an awkward silence between them while Nicole shifts her food about.

DAVID

Did you invite him to our wedding?

NICOLE

No. It's been a while since I caught up with him. Before this (flashes the ring).

DAVID

When's the funeral? Maybe I can go down with you.

NICOLE

The body can't be sent back yet because of paperwork and other shit. Ridiculous. Sorry.

David grabs Nicole's hand reassuringly. They continue to eat.

(CONTINUED)

DAVID

Is he married?

NICOLE

I don't know, he was seeing some girl when I last spoke to him.

DAVID

Well, I've got something to cheer you up with! Mandarin Hotel is sponsoring the venue for our dinner and we can have 20 tables.

NICOLE

I thought we were having it at Botanical Gardens?

DAVID

We can always have the place look like a garden. You know my parents wants to have our family friends there. It's not just about us.

Nicole is unhappy with the decision but she nods along.

NICOLE

Shall we go out for some ice cream after this

DAVID

It's what time already, Nicole. In case you've forgotten, we have work in the morning. And when were you such a night person.

NICOLE

Isn't today our special day?

DAVID

Which is exactly why I came home early and prepared this for us.

NICOLE

But you cook this on almost every other occasion.

David has had it.

DAVID

Wow. Here I am, putting in all these effort and not a single appreciation is given.

NICOLE

Is it wrong to ask for something different, just once? You know I don't really like pork, so why can't you learn another recipe? You know how I hate big events, so why must you make the wedding so glitzy?

You know who would give a damn about what I wanted? Derek. But he's dead so joke's on me.

DAVID

And you say JC friend. You couldn't have him so I was your back up.

NICOLE

You were never a back up. He was way before you and nothing happened between us because I didn't let it.

DAVID

I can't believe I even settled for you when I could have gotten better.

NICOLE

I don't think I can marry a guy who wouldn't even try take me out for ice cream when I'm sad.

Nicole slides out her ring, leaves it on the table and leaves. The end.