

The Recitation of Forgetting

A One Act Play

by

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CAST:

One – Race/ Gender/ Age neutral.

Two – Race/ Gender/ Age neutral.

Three – Race/ Gender/ Age neutral.

TIME:

Present – The early hours of the morning.

SETTING:

The front porch of a house.

Darkness. The sound of Dionne Warwick singing 'Are You There With Another Girl' can be heard coming from somewhere within the house. Eventually the sound of a doorbell being rung again and again can be heard cutting through the music. This goes on for a while and then stops as abruptly as it had begun. Once more we are alone with the sweet sound of Dionne's voice and the darkness.

The song ends as the lights slowly FADE UP on a porch. TWO and THREE are sitting on an outdoor love seat. Looking out at the night sky, they do not speak to one another. Both seem to be lost in their own private thoughts. The late night stars can be seen high up in the distance above the house.

Other patio furniture on the porch includes a coffee table which is directly in front of TWO and THREE. Off to the side rests a small table and chair. There are also the usual pots and planters filled with various vegetation randomly placed around the porch. Now that the music has stopped playing there is total silence.

TWO

(Pulls out cellphone and looks at number of calls. TWO and THREE try and keep their voice down)

Damn... Five times... She called. *(Pause)*

Well this is awkward...

THREE

You think so?

TWO

Yes... Don't you?

THREE

Well it's definitely a first for me.

TWO

(Trying to find humor in the situation)

Join the club...

THREE

What do you think we should do?

TWO

Do..?

THREE

Yes!

TWO

Nothing..!

THREE

Nothing...?

TWO

What would you suggest we do?

THREE

How should I know? Besides, I'm not the one who got us into this mess.

ONE

(Voice off stage)

Ok... Here we are.

TWO

Look, just be cool. Ok!

(TWO and THREE grow silent. ONE opens the screen door entering with a tray. On the tray is a coffee carafe, cream & sugar and mugs)

I thought you might like a cup of coffee?

(TWO and THREE look up)

TWO

No...

THREE

Thank You!

(Pause)

ONE

I should take it back.

TWO

You've made it now.

ONE

No... I should take it back.

TWO

No, I don't want you to...

ONE

It doesn't seem that way to me.

TWO

I don't want you to take it back.

ONE

Are you sure..?

TWO

Yes, I'm sure!

ONE

Or is it because of... *(Pause)*

Like I said before, I'm really sorry about all of this...

(Interrupting – THREE gets up and walks over to ONE and takes the tray)

THREE

Here..! Give it to me.

ONE

Are you sure?

(THREE sits the tray down on the coffee table. ONE remains standing)

THREE

It's the least I can do... Besides, can either of you thing of a reason I shouldn't?

ONE

I can't...

(Addressing THREE)

No... Thank you.

TWO

(Addressing ONE)

TWO con't

Thank you.

THREE

Sure...

(Silence – TWO and THREE each pours themselves a cup of coffee. The faint sound of insects can be heard. ONE quietly comes over and fills a mug with coffee but retreats to the edge of the porch)

ONE

Listen... What do you suppose they're talking about?

THREE

Oh, I don't know... Maybe they're talking about us?

ONE

Why on earth would they want to do that?

THREE

No, not us! I meant us as in the human race.

TWO

Now why in God's name would they want to do that?

THREE

Oh, maybe because of the mess we've made of things.

(Silence)

ONE

Have we made a mess of it?

THREE

You don't think so?

ONE

No... Maybe... I suppose...

THREE

Huh...

TWO

(Changing subject)

Why don't I go and put some more music on?

THREE

I quite like it as it is.

ONE

So do I...

TWO

Fine!

THREE

It's really nice don't you think?

TWO

What is?

THREE

The sound...

ONE

Sorry?

THREE

I just love the sound of nature. Don't you?

(No one responds)

If only we could turn off all the man made noise and just stop and listen.

ONE

That would be nice. That would be really nice. We can't seem to go anywhere now-a-days without our cellphones or blackberry's going off.

(Silence)

TWO

So... Are you just gonna stand there?

ONE

(Turning towards TWO)

Sorry?

TWO

I meant... Don't you wanna sit down?

ONE

I probably should...

THREE

Yes...

ONE

Shouldn't I?

TWO

I would think so... Then again, if you don't want too...

(ONE remains standing)

THREE

(Looks around trying to lighten the mood)

What a lovely night?

ONE

The weather is quite nice, isn't it?

TWO

Yes, definitely for this time of year.

THREE

Is that so?

ONE

... of course!

THREE

Well I really wouldn't know...

TWO

Oh..?

THREE

I've only been here a couple of weeks now.

ONE

Oh!

TWO

Are you serious? I didn't know that?

THREE

Would it have made a difference?

TWO

No... I guess not.

ONE

Really..?

THREE

That's good to know.

TWO

Really..?

THREE

Really!

ONE

A couple of weeks you said?

THREE

Yes!

ONE

So... Is it safe to say, that you two have only known each other for a brief period of time?

THREE

Yes, a very brief period.

	ONE
Oh!	
	THREE
Would it have made a difference to you?	
	ONE
No...	
	TWO
<i>(Addressing ONE)</i>	
No..?	
	ONE
No..!	
	THREE
Funny... I could have sworn I'd told you...	
	TWO
No...	
	THREE
... That I'd just moved here.	
	TWO
... You didn't!	
	THREE
Are you sure?	

TWO

Yes... I'm Positive.

THREE

It must have slipped my mind?

TWO

Yes... it must have.

ONE

Then again, I'm sure you both must have had other things on your mind?

THREE

Yes, perhaps you're right.

ONE

Was that a read?

THREE

No, not at all... I was simply stating a fact.

(Silence)

ONE

So... You've, just recently, moved here?

THREE

Yes, just recently!

TWO

From where may I ask?

THREE

California...

ONE

California..?

THREE

Yes..! L.A. to be exact... *(Pause)*

Have you been?

ONE

Where... to L.A.?

TWO

(Answering THREE)

Yes...

THREE

(Interrupting ONE)

Or did you mean California in general?

THREE

Either one... It doesn't matter does it?

ONE

No..! I guess not.

THREE

What a shame.

ONE

As a matter of fact I've never been anywhere.

THREE

Oh my God..!

(Looking out at the night sky)

It's really impressive.

TWO

The weather's exceptional...

ONE

I keep telling myself that I should get out, you know... Travel... See the world.

THREE

Ah, the mountains... The Ocean... Why it's sublime really.

ONE

So I hear... But somehow I never seem to get around to doing it...

TWO

I was actually referring to the weather...

THREE

In California..?

TWO

No, here... Normally this time of year it's so hot. Humid even...

(To ONE)

Isn't that right?

ONE

Yes, this is quite unusual for this time of year.

THREE

I guess I must have brought a little Cali with me in my suitcase.

ONE

(Not paying attention)

I'm sorry, what did you bring..?

THREE

When..? Tonight..?

(TWO drops his cup of coffee)

Oh dear...

TWO

It's nothing really.

THREE

... And here I was still going on about California.

ONE

(Addressing TWO)

Nonsense, there's nothing to be sorry about is there?

(Addressing THREE)

Why of course you were...

TWO

So what is it that brought you here?

(TWO cleans up the broken cup and spill)

THREE

Tonight..?

ONE

No!

THREE

Oh... I don't know. The usual... I mean, what makes one up and leave a place anyway? *(Pause)*

I guess you could say I just needed a change of pace... Wanted to try and make a fresh start of it... You know?

TWO

Yeah, well... You've definitely arrived at the right time.

THREE

I feel so lucky.

ONE

Yes... In a way, I guess you are... You see up until this evening it's been very hot around here.

THREE

That makes tonight all the more special... Just look at the sky. It's so clear and look at the amount of stars there are in the sky...

ONE

Oh..?

THREE

I've never seen the stars look so beautiful. It's almost magical really, if you ask me.

ONE

Magical..?

THREE

Yes...

(Addressing TWO)

Isn't that how you described this evening..? I mean earlier, when we first arrived..?

ONE

So you've been here awhile?

TWO

(Nervous)

I don't know if I went as far as to call it magical...

THREE

(Interrupting)

You did!

ONE

So, you had been here awhile, before I rang the doorbell?

THREE

(Addressing TWO)

I don't know... Maybe an hour or two... Wouldn't you say..?

TWO

Yes... Or two... *(Pause)*

So much of tonight for me seems to have become a blur.

THREE

We were drinking an awful lot, weren't we? I guess you could say we took it a little too far.

ONE

... And exactly how far is too far?

THREE

Maybe I was mistaken. Maybe I should have said clearly not far enough!

ONE

(Addressing TWO)

It's true, we let it get out of hand.

(Silence)

TWO

(Addressing THREE)

You must have known this couldn't last?

THREE

No... Yes... Call me naïve...

THREE

I guess I was hoping in the back of my mind that just maybe, it could last a little while longer.

TWO

(To ONE)

What do you think?

ONE

No... Not now.

TWO

Really..?

ONE

Not after this.

THREE

I suppose you're right. Besides, after a certain age, I guess one comes to an understanding. Doesn't one?

ONE

I think so.

TWO

Believe me, I don't mean to sound curt but...

ONE

By all means, go right ahead.

TWO

I mean, it is what it is!

THREE

Yes, it is, isn't it? Besides, as one grows older one really does learn to get by without all of the false promises?

ONE

That's true... In fact, if one hopes to get by at all, one has to learn how to take the day as it comes... No matter what it may bring you.

TWO

Yes and that's why I said what I said. We have to be realistic. I mean, this can't last for much longer. (Pause) Historically, it's hot and humid during this time of the year.

THREE

But then again, one can't help wishing can one?

TWO

No..! No one can fault you for wishing.

THREE

I think wishes are all we have really.

ONE

Without them it would be unbearable.

THREE

It's what makes our lives palpable.

(Silence)

ONE

(Looking off into the distance)

Do you think it'll be a while still before it gets here?

THREE

Yes!

TWO

The taxi..? I would imagine so.

THREE

I would assume it's like this everywhere when one's trying to get hold of a taxi on a Saturday...

ONE

You mean Sunday?

THREE

Pardon..?

ONE

You said Saturday, but it's really Sunday morning.

THREE

Yes, of course it is!

ONE

Have you ever wondered..?

TWO

(Interrupting)

What?

ONE

Why we should think of it as being night, when in fact it's actually early morning..?

TWO

I don't know?

THREE

Maybe it has something to do with the way in which our brains are wired to respond to light or something...

ONE

... Or something. *(Pauses)*

What time is it?

THREE

(Looking at wristwatch)

THREE con't

It's a little after three.

ONE

Oh my God... I had no idea. Where do you suppose that taxi is?

(Silence)

TWO

Isn't it funny how time has a way of getting away from us?

THREE

It does, doesn't it?

ONE

I guess people just forget, don't they?

THREE

Do they?

TWO

Yes...

ONE

Forget, I mean?

ONE

They must..? Why one minute you're building what you think is going to be that forever moment and the next thing you know...

*(TWO decides to address the fact
that ONE still has yet to sit down)*

TWO

You really should sit down. They'll call...

THREE

When they get closer... You'll see.

*(ONE sits down across from TWO and
THREE)*

ONE

...And what if they don't?

THREE

They will...

TWO

They always do... Besides, from out here, we'll be able to hear the car's wheels as it slowly makes its way up the hill.

(Silence)

ONE

So, how was it?

TWO

How was what..?

THREE

Wonderful!

TWO

Oh... You meant the coffee.

ONE

Yes... What did you think I meant?

TWO

Nothing... Fine.

ONE

Would you like me to go and get you another cup?

TWO

No..! I'm fine.

ONE

(To TWO and THREE)

I'm sorry.

TWO

Don't be...

THREE

It's me that should be...

TWO

(Interrupting to Addressing ONE)

I know this can't be easy.

ONE

I shouldn't have come here.

TWO

Don't be silly!

ONE

But I feel so stupid...

TWO

You're not stupid.

ONE

Showing up here unannounced...

THREE

(Trying to make a joke)

The nerve of you...

(Silence)

ONE

To think I was just standing there... Ringing the doorbell over and over again.

TWO

Now you're being silly.

THREE

You must know this wasn't your fault.

ONE

But it is... This here, I mean...

TWO

What would you have done if I hadn't of let you in, walked the streets all night?

ONE

Perhaps... It was stupid of me to have come here unannounced and to think that the whole time I was standing there... Why it never even crossed my mind. *(Pause)*

ONE con't

(To THREE)

I must seem very foolish to you?

THREE

Foolish..? No, not at all. I'd have done the same thing... Besides, we did have the music playing.

ONE

Yes... The music... I'd almost forgotten.

(Rubbing forehead)

I'm sorry, do you happen to have some aspirin or an ibuprofen? I suddenly have the worst headache.

TWO

Yes, let me get you some...

ONE

(Interrupting)

No..! I can get it. Besides, I'd like to get a glass of water as well.

TWO

Sure... Ah, they should be in the medicine cabinet.

(ONE gets up and goes back to the house)

ONE

(From inside the house)

The one in the hallway? ... Or the one that's off from your bedroom?

TWO

I'm not sure?

TWO

*(Realizes ONE may go into the bedroom –
To self)*

Damn..!

THREE

(Doesn't understand)

What... What is it..?

TWO

(Yelling out to ONE from porch)

Should I turn the music back on?

ONE

(From inside the house)

Yes... No..! *(Pause)*

To be totally honest... I think it was the music that gave me this headache in the first place.

TWO

Oh..?

ONE

I mean...

*(ONE comes back out with a glass of
water)*

When I was ringing the doorbell, I could hear it coming from behind the door. *(Pause)*

It just seemed to keep twisting and turning... Changing even. *(Pause)* Oh, just so you know...

(Taking two pills)

ONE con't

They were in your bathroom.

THREE

(Now understands TWO's earlier concern)

Oh!

TWO

Thanks!

ONE

You're welcome...

(Silence – ONE, TWO & THREE look out at morning sky. THREE is softly humming but is interrupted by TWO.)

TWO

What did you mean just now?

ONE

Pardon?

TWO

When you were inside just now...

ONE

Yes..?

TWO

You said the music...

ONE

What about it?

TWO

You said it kept changing..? What did you mean by that?

ONE

Ah, well... Umm... Let's see... I guess what I meant to say, was that by the time you'd come to the door it had changed.

TWO

Ok! ... And..?

ONE

... And I think when it changed it must have given me a headache.

THREE

The music..?

ONE

(Becomes agitated)

Yes... The music..! You see this was the music I had grown up listening to my whole life. It was something I thought I know like the back of my hand. Then, standing here tonight it changed. It changed I tell you. Changed from being something I'd always thought to be full of joy and light. Changed from being the melodious melody of impromptu house parties and picnics in the park... No, no longer was it the sound of laughter and good times as a bunch of us tittered quietly down the hallway punch-drunk. Praying we didn't get caught because we'd snuck out of the house long after curfew. You see when I first discovered soul music I was quite young you know, and in my youth I was still eager to find that special someone the music spoke of to love and as I grew older, that music seemed to me to serve as a sort of soundtrack to my life. To our lives! ...And just like that...It was taken away because it changed... This music I'd come to love so much... Changed, in the amount of time it took for me to ring a doorbell. *(Pause)*

I guess you could say that for the first time in my life I came to understand why it's called soul music... You see for the first time I tell you, there was no joy... No light to be found... Just a gut wrenching sound coming from the other side of that door and it was pure.

ONE con't

One hundred percent pure pain... The type of pain that could only come from having loved... And lost... ...And I tell you, in that moment, it felt to be as if the entire world were converging upon me. It was as if the music somehow knew what was happening on the other side of that door and I was too stupid to even recognize it... You see it was a warning... A warning that came addressed directly to me... Go... It said. Run away as far and as fast as you can... But by the time I could figure out what was happenng it was too late. The door had opened.

TWO

But you must know this isn't your fault?

ONE

(Speaking to self)

To think I stood there like an idiot for what seemed like an eternity... Ringing that damned doorbell over and over again... Then finally the door opened...

(Speaking to TWO)

God! You looked so beautiful standing there. Your shirt half unbuttoned... The music playing ever so gently in the background and the lights, oh, the lights were turned down so low that they appeared to be emanating from your very frame...

(Speaking to THREE)

Then I heard a voice say, "Who is it?" from in the room. ...And then I knew...

TWO

I swear I never meant to hurt you.

ONE

But you have... Oh, you have cut me so deep!

TWO

I know...

ONE

Do you..? Because that's more than I can say for myself... Why on earth did I come here?

THREE

Call it intuition... Or maybe you needed proof.

ONE

I needed nothing...

THREE

So you had faith in this relationship?

ONE

(Addressing THREE)

Yes!

(Addressing TWO)

I told you I'd see you tomorrow.

TWO

It was after midnight when you arrived...

ONE

I have failed... If only I'd kept my word.

THREE

You'd still be out there walking around in the dark.

TWO

What's done is done...

ONE

But it's a matter of trust, don't you see that...

THREE

I guess... I mean, that's one way of looking at it. *(Pauses)*

(Silence)

ONE

To think I thought I'd surprise you by showing up... Huh!

TWO

I'm telling you, don't beat yourself up.

ONE

It seems like that's all I can do right about now...

TWO

It's me that wishes I would've kept my word... "Go on" I said. "Have fun with your friends. I think I'll try and get to bed early tonight..."

THREE

But technically you didn't lie.

TWO

Would you be quiet! You're not making this any better.

THREE

Nor am I making things any worst!

ONE

So it all comes down to technicalities, is that what you're telling me?

THREE

What I'm telling you is that it's been my experience that in the end, it always does...

TWO

(Speaking to ONE)

You've got to believe me... At the time I said what I said to you, I actually meant it. I had no plans on going out last night... It just happened.

THREE

Just happened?

TWO

Yes...

THREE

Are you telling me you can stand here in good consciousness proclaiming that you honestly believe that what happened here tonight between us just happened?

TWO

That's exactly what I'm saying... Don't get it twisted... You... Me... Just happened!

THREE

So you're not going to take any responsibility for your actions..? Next I guess you'll be saying it was I that seduced you...

TWO

I didn't say that... You did!

THREE

Are you serious..? My, how quickly things can change on dime.

TWO

Look, if it means anything...

THREE

I don't think there's anything else you could possibly say right about now that does...

TWO

(Interrupting)

Will you be quiet! I'm not talking to you right now.

THREE

Wow... That's definitely not what you said a while ago when it was just the two of us...

TWO

(To ONE)

Baby, look at me... I can assure you that this... This here... As far as I'm concerned, this was purely physical.

(ONE and THREE overlap)

THREE

That's all it was, huh?

ONE

Are you telling me that that's all it was..? Something physical..?

TWO

Yes... That's all it was!

THREE

... And you think that makes it any better?

TWO

I swear..!

ONE

Nothing more..?

THREE

Oh my God, really?

TWO

(Addressing ONE)

Yes, I'm telling you... Nothing more..!

(Addressing THREE)

Really!

(Silence)

THREE

Huh... Funny!

TWO

Yeah, it's fucking hilarious..!

ONE

Then why don't I feel much like laughing?

THREE

Give it sometime... You will.

ONE

You think so?

THREE

Let's just say I know a thing or two about relationships... (Pause)

THREE con't

If you two will excuse me, I've got to go to the bathroom.

(THREE gets up and goes inside to the Bathroom – Silence)

TWO

You must really hate me?

ONE

No... I don't hate you. I don't hate anyone... *(Pauses)*

Well, maybe that's not entirely true... I mean... I don't hate you but I'm pretty sure I hate myself round about now...

TWO

I wish you wouldn't...

ONE

(Continuing)

I'm not one hundred percent sure, but I think I feel sorry for you... If you care to know the truth!

TWO

That's fair...

ONE

I was good to you...

TWO

I know...

ONE

I mean... We had something really good here.

TWO

I know..!

ONE

Then why..?

TWO

Jesus Christ... Who knows why we do any of the things we do...

ONE

I thought we were good. I thought we were really doing good...

TWO

Maybe... I don't know... Maybe that's it..? Maybe it felt a little too good to me... *(Pause)*

With you, it was all, so easy.

ONE

Everyone tried to tell me you know... I mean, people I'd known my whole life would tell me not to get involved with you... To think I actually told myself, what do they know..? Apparently they knew a whole lot more than me.

(Silence – Then looks towards the doorway)

What about..?

TWO

(Interrupting)

I don't know...

ONE

You don't know! I see...

TWO

And what about us?

ONE

I don't know... I just don't know.

TWO

I swear I never meant to hurt you. You have to believe that.

ONE

I don't think I believe in anything anymore thanks to you...

*(Silence – THREE can be seen standing
in the doorway)*

You wanna hear something funny?

TWO

Sure kid.

ONE

I can't seem to stop thinking about my father.

TWO

Oh yeah..? What about him?

ONE

He used to say that one's word is all one has really... And yet I still can't help but wonder what if I had kept mine? My word that is... Why..? Why didn't I just go on home like everyone else after we left the club?

TWO

Baby I don't know... Maybe it was intuition? Who knows..?

*(TWO tries to comfort ONE who pulls away
walking to the other end of the porch)*

ONE

Why did I have to tell them to drop me off over here instead of at my own place?

TWO

You wanted to see me, that's why!

ONE

Oh, I saw you alright... .. And for the first time tonight I saw me... I saw me and said what a fool I've been.

(Silence)

ONE

If only you could tell me?

TWO

I told you, I don't know why.

(THREE opens the screen door and enters)

THREE

What do you mean you don't know why?

TWO

I don't know!

THREE

That's bullshit and you know it!

(Addressing ONE)

Surely you can't believe that?

ONE

Maybe..?

TWO

(Addressing THREE)

Right about know, I don't care what you believe really!

(Addressing ONE)

I'm telling you, I don't know why.

THREE

How fortunate?

ONE

Fortunate..?

THREE

Yes... For you!

TWO

I don't know what you're getting at but I think this has gone a little too far... Now why don't we just sit down and drink your coffee and try to be real civil to...

THREE

(Interrupting)

... And wait?

TWO

Yes!

THREE

Oh, you'd like that wouldn't you? After all, it shouldn't be too much longer now should it?

ONE

You mean until the taxi arrives?

THREE

That's exactly what I mean. You see because then, there would be nothing more to say would there..? Because as you've so eloquently put it... You have no earthly idea why you've done what you did here tonight. (*Pause*)

It must be wonderful to have been born with such a selective memory.

TWO

Selective..? Really, is that what you think I'm doing?

THREE

It's not what I think... It's what I know you're doing.

TWO

You really wanna go there?

THREE

I'm not trying to go anywhere with you... You see I was standing there just now in the doorway, listening to you rambling on... Would you like me to repeat what you said?

TWO

I know God-damn well what I said... So what's your point!

ONE

Yes... What is your point?

THREE

Nothing I suppose... It's just that... You see... I can't seem to stop thinking about how convenient it all is...

TWO

How convenient what is..?

THREE

Your forgetfulness, that's what? See unlike you, I can remember everything you said to me before the doorbell rang.

ONE

I thought we were talking about convenience?

TWO

We were...

THREE

We are my dear...

TWO

I'm not your dear...

THREE

My bad...

TWO

I'm warning you...

THREE

I wouldn't do that if I were you. Besides, do you really think you are in a position to be warning anybody?

TWO

Just try it?

THREE

Just provoke me, hear!

TWO

Is that a threat?

ONE

Let's just calm down you two, ok... No bodies threatening or provoking anybody...

THREE

Exactly... We're just talking...

TWO

About?

THREE

About what one does or doesn't remember. You're recitation of forgetting... *(Pause)*

See, when you picked me up last night at the bar, I had already made a promise to myself...

TWO

A promise..?

THREE

Yes... Earlier that evening before going out... See I had sworn to myself that I wasn't going to fall back into my old routine of one night stands and casual flings. No, I didn't move all the way across country to suddenly find myself treading back into my old ways... That is why for me, tonight was going to be different.

TWO

I didn't know.

THREE

Because you didn't ask! (*Pause*)

You told me you were looking for something steady. Someone to settle down with... That's the only reason I came home with you tonight, because I believed you... Do you remember..? But now... Now you want to stand here and send me back to a place I swore I'd never go back to again... I tell you I was going to go home alone when you asked me to stay. Surely you must remember that..? Yes, I've slipped up in believing that going home with you was the right thing to do. But I refuse to stand here evoking the god of forgetfulness in order to save you.

(*Silence*)

TWO

Baby this is all me. Not you!

THREE

How can you say that?

ONE

Is it..?

TWO

(*Addressing THREE*)

Because it's the truth!

THREE

What... as you see it?

TWO

Yes, as I see it!

ONE

I'm telling you the night has opened my eyes...

THREE

Has it..?

ONE

You don't believe me, do you?

THREE

What does it matter what I believe?

ONE

I just said it has...

THREE

(Looking at TWO)

Yeah well, people tend to say a lot of things don't they..? You know... In the heat of the moment, I mean.

ONE

Yes... I guess you're right.

TWO

What are you getting at..?

THREE

It's no longer about you is it and you can't stand that, can you? No...

TWO

I don't understand?

THREE

See, I've known people like you my whole life... *(Pause)*

THREE

You had no intention of ever being caught did you? You don't have to say anything... No, this was your plan all along wasn't it? To find two people... Victims, who were strangers to one another..?

TWO

I really don't know what you're talking about?

THREE

I'm talking about intentions... Your intention to be exact! You planned this whole thing... Planned when and how you could ensnare two people in this broken circle you call your life.

(Addressing ONE)

Don't you see? We were never supposed to have met. But something went wrong. Something went terribly wrong because for whatever reason fate suddenly decided to deal another hand. I tell you this would have gone on for years if things hadn't played out the way they did tonight. We'd have never known anything about the other...

(Addressing TWO)

Why it's your actions and your actions alone that have turned us into accomplices... Accomplices to your infidelity not ours... Surely you can't still expect us to sit around proclaiming your innocence..?

(Addressing ONE)

So I say if we must face it. Then let's face it right here, right now...

ONE

You can't believe it to be that easy?

THREE

Yes, I do. I believe it can be that easy because we're innocent I tell you.

ONE

I don't know anymore.

THREE

I'm telling you... Besides, I don't know about you but I've always been the type of person that believes it's best to live in the truth.

TWO

... And what exactly is the truth?

THREE

Up until an hour ago, neither one of us knew the other existed... Am I right?

ONE

Yes... But surely that can't be all there is too it?

THREE

Yes... That's it! What more could you want? Besides, what's the worst thing that has happened here..? So curiosity has come along and killed the cat... So what! Isn't it better to have killed it now than later..? I mean, before the years of commitment pile up and the stakes got any higher..?
(Pause)

I don't want to do this anymore than you do but we've found ourselves standing here before it right now. Not tomorrow or the day after... But now! This morning! So let's finish it once and for all...

ONE

I just don't know...

THREE

You don't know..? Are you trying to telling me you would rather this thing be allowed to take root and grow into something much harder, something much more intangible? Grow into something that festers in the back of our minds every time we're out of each other's sight..? Well I hate to be the bearer of bad news but that's not my style. No, I say let's deal with it once and for all. Be done with it before it's too late. I tell you... Before we find ourselves so entangled by it that it becomes impossible to find a way out...

ONE

I don't know what to say...

TWO

Baby, you don't have to say anything?

THREE

Oh, you'd love that wouldn't you?

TWO

I don't know what else I can say to you...

ONE

Nothing... I don't think there are any words that can help any of us. Not now...

TWO

Really..? Baby, love requires faith.

ONE

Faith! Oh, I've got a lot of faith... It's just I'm not sure I'll ever be able to stop the music from playing inside my head.

TWO

I see...

(Silence – TWO's cellphone rings)

Yes... That's correct... Thank you... The taxi'll be here in a few minutes... *(Pause)*

So now what?

ONE

I don't know... I really don't know... *(Pause)*

I suppose if this were a movie you'd tell me to stay...

THREE

Yes, I believe you're right. If this were a movie you'd tell me to stay...

(Silence)

TWO

I'm gonna go turn the music back on.

THREE

Sure!

ONE

That's fine...

(TWO briefly goes inside to turn on the music then comes back out to join ONE & THREE as Barbara Lynne's 'You'll Lose A Good Thing' starts to play)

TWO

So now what?

THREE

We wait..!

TWO

Really..?

ONE

Yes... We Wait

(ONE, TWO & THREE sit silently looking out at the night sky, lost in their own private thoughts)

(The lights slowly FADE DOWN)

THE END