

Genetic Match

By

Kaitlyn Booth

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FADE IN

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

There is a light in the distance. It begins to move forward. A woman's voice starts to become audio able. At first you cannot make out what she is saying for a moment, but as it moves close it becomes clearer.

REPORTER

...And now for our top story; another child in the New England area was found in a deep coma for no apparent reason today. This three year old girl marks the third of children under the age of five to be found in comas with no indication of trauma. Eric Hansen reports.

The camera swings around to reveal ROSE TYLER who looks about the age of twenty three sitting on a bed in a motel room. Her hair is bright red and her eyes are deep green, she looks very Irish. Her hands are folded in her lap and she seems to be watching the television very carefully.

ERIC HANSEN V.O

(As images of crying parents flash across the screen)

Police are currently looking for any evidence that can connect the three children in the New England that have mysteriously fallen into coma's.

The scene switches to a crying MOTHER.

MOTHER

We have no idea who would do this to our children, all we know is that our baby is not waking up and there is no reason why.

Switch to a man holding a microphone standing outside a hospital.

ERIC HANSEN

Now, currently the condition of the three children is the only connection the police have.

ROSE visibly seems to relax a little.

ERIC HANSEN (CONT.)

However, detectives are asking the public to come forward with any and all details that might--

The television is turned off and ROSE looks over her shoulder. Standing in the bathroom doorway is LEE ROBERTS. He is at least four years to ROSE'S senior and his blond hair is starting to look a little more white. A towel is around his waist and he looks a little cross, a remote in his left hand..

LEE

Why do you watch that crap?

ROSE

We should watch, we need to make sure they don't have anything on us.

LEE tosses the remote to the side and walks further into the room. ROSE looks away from him and down at the floor. There is the sound of the towel falling to the floor.

LEE (O.S)

They didn't find anything back then and they won't find anything now.

ROSE

But the human race is evolving, their technology is improving. What if they find something? A hair, some skin, anything.

LEE kneels down in front of her. He is wearing a pair of dress pants and an unbuttoned dress shirt.

LEE

What are you suggesting, Rose?

ROSE

(stammers)

I'm just saying, maybe we should look for another way to--

LEE

(interrupts)

If we stop taking these kids we are going to die. Are you ready to die.

ROSE

(Looks at her hands)

No sir, I'm not.

LEE

Then don't worry. Even if the police find something they won't know what to make of it and they certainly won't release it to the general public.

LEE stands.

LEE (CONT.)

Besides, we've covered our trail flawlessly. They've got nothing.

There is a slightly uncomfortable silence. ROSE pulls at a loose string in the comforter.

LEE (CONT.)

We're survivors Rose, we have been for years. This time is no different.

ROSE nods before she watches LEE leave the room. Reaching over, she turns on the television again.

REPORTER

--and as doctors struggle to revive the children, their condition is not giving hope to their parents.

Sighing, ROSE falls back on the bed and covers her eyes with her hands.

INSERT TITLE: GENETIC MATCH

INT. KITCHEN OF A WELL TO DO APARTMENT - EVENING

A glass falls off the table and crashes to the floor, sending juice and the glass to the floor, shattering on impact and sending juice in all directions. ETHAN DEELEY, a three year old boy with bleach blond hair and light blue eyes, looks over the edge of the table and looks down at the mess and at his own reflection. His nanny, Ruth, comes in and sighs heavily.

RUTH

Ethan! What did you do?

ETHAN

That was so cool, I can't believe I did that.

ETHAN reaches down to put his hand in the juice before RUTH slaps it away.

RUTH
It's nothing special to knock a
glass off of the table, it's bad
manners as usual.

ETHAN'S smile fades away as he gives her a dark look.

ETHAN
That wasn't bad manners, this is
bad manners.

ETHAN picks up his plate of food and throws it across the room. It hits the wall and shatters, staining the wall with food and making a mess. RUTH looks shocked.

RUTH
Ethan! Don't do that!

ETHAN
If you want me to stop then make me
stop!

ETHAN picks up the rest of the food on the table and starts to throw them all around the room. RUTH tries to get him to stop but he runs away from her, continuing to destroy the kitchen. She chases him but he runs away from her and into the living room.

ETHAN (CONT.)
You can't make me stop! You can't
make me stop!

ETHAN continues to taunt as he runs around the house from the kitchen to the living room just destroying everything he can. RUTH frantically tries to clean up and stop him before she stops and just looks around the apartment as he destroys it.

RUTH
(throws things to the ground)
That's it! I've had it! You win you
little devil, you win!

ETHAN stops what he is doing is just stares at RUTH. The two of them do not speak a word before she points her finger at him.

RUTH (CONT.)
I don't know what got into you
child, but I don't want to know.
(MORE)

RUTH (CONT.) (cont'd)
And I don't want to wait and find
out.

RUTH continues to rant about little things as sh walks
toward the front door. She is a few feet away from it when
MARTHA DEELEY walks through. ETHAN runs past RUTH and throws
his arms around his mother.

ETHAN
Mommy! You're home!

MARTHA
(while hugging him tightly)
Hello my sweet boy, were you good
today?

RUTH
Good? HA. That's a little devil
you've got Miss. Deeley and I won't
be dealing with it anymore. I quit!

The NANNY goes to walk out of the apartment, but MARTHA
tries to stop her.

MARTHA
(Puts a hand out to stop RUTH
while still holding ETHAN)
Please, Ruth, I need you. Is more
money? How about I pay you double?

RUTH
(Still going for the door)
There isn't enough money in the
world.

MARTHA
(Still trying to stop her)
Triple.

RUTH
(Walking out the door)
Good day Miss. Deeley and good
luck.

MARTHA
(Puts ETHAN down)
Quadruple!

RUTH ignores MARTHA and walks into the lift without another
word. MARTHA rubs her temples and sighs.

ETHAN

(Pulling on MARTHA'S jacket)
Don't worry mommy, she was stupid
anyway.

MARTHA

(Rubbing her temples)
Honey, why can't you just behave
for the nice nanny's? Why do you
keep doing this?

MARTHA just closes the door and walks into the house, not waiting for an answer. ETHAN watches her go before tilting his head slightly to the side.

ETHAN

Because they don't believe me.

EXT. PARK IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN - AFTERNOON

ROSE is sitting on a park bench. She is reading a newspaper and chewing on a pen. She appears to be deep in thought. People are walking by her walking their dogs and exercising. She does not notice LEE walking toward her and she does not look up when he sits down next to her.

LEE

So how goes the job hunt?

ROSE

(Jumps)
By the gods, Lee, you scared me.

LEE

Well?

ROSE

(Blinks)
Well what?

LEE

How goes the job hunt?

ROSE

(Stammers slightly)
Oh, right, yes. Well, I've been
looking around and apparently there
is a family that goes through
babysitters and nanny's like they
are going out of style or some
other euafism.

ROSE gestures to an add in the paper.

ROSE (CONT.)

Apparently they don't even bother to take the ad out of the paper because sooner rather than later the person will quit.

LEE takes the paper and looks at the ad. It is circled. It reads WANTED, NANNY OR BABYSITTER. MUST BE VERY PATIENT. PAYS EXTREMELY WELL. PLEASE CONTACT MARTHA. A smile forms across his face.

LEE

Well, that sounds like something you would be interested in.

LEE hands the paper back to her with a little too much force.

LEE (CONT.)

You always have enjoyed a challenge.

ROSE gives him a small smile but it seems very forced. Looking at the paper she runs her fingers over the ad.

ROSE

Have we ever thought about maybe...going about this another way?

LEE visibly tenses up and gives her a dark look.

LEE

(He sounds angry)

Are you having your second thoughts yet again?

ROSE

I can't help it, just what we're doing seems so wrong. There has to be another way to do this.

LEE grabs her arm and pulls up the sleeve of ROSE'S clothes. The skin on her arm looks very rough and is peeling.

LEE

The last three kids have been nearly worthless. It's been less than a week and it's already coming apart. Is that what you want? Do you want to fall apart, piece by piece?

ROSE
(Seems a little lost for
words)
No, Lee, of course not. It's
just...

ROSE looks at her hands and sighs heavily. LEE is giving her a hard look but does not say a word.

ROSE (CONT.)
I cannot live with the guilt
anymore. What's the point of living
if I can barely live with myself?

LEE takes her arm and holds it tightly. ROSE winces and looks at him, looking a little afraid.

LEE
You have life. That is worth
enough, that is worth everything.
You have worth because I need you.

LEE releases her arm and pulls her into his arms, holding ROSE close. She tenses before she relaxes slightly.

LEE (CONT.)
We have been together so long, we
have been surviving in a world that
we shouldn't be in, and without you
I can't keep moving on. I'm not
ready to die, I need you by my
side. Will you stay with me Rose?

ROSE does not move for a moment. Over his shoulder she can see people moving, doing their daily lives, a few giving them odd looks. Closing her eyes and biting on her lower lip, she pulls him into a hug.

ROSE
(Whispers)
Let us keep living.

LEE hugs her tightly before pulling away, cupping her face in his hands and looking into her eyes.

LEE
Yes, we will.

LEE gives her a soft kiss before pressing their foreheads together. With her eyes closed, ROSE keeps her head down.

LEE (CONT.)
 Call and we'll set up an
 appointment with the mother.

ROSE nods.

LEE (CONT.)
 Just think, this might be the last
 one, it just might. Only one more.

ROSE opens her eyes. They are harder now with less emotion
 behind them.

ROSE
 Only one more.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE DEELEY APARTMENT BUILDING - AFTERNOON

ROSE is standing outside out of the building looking up. She
 is wearing normal looking clothes and her hair is pulled
 back in a half ponytail. Pushing the sunglasses away from
 her eyes and putting them on her head, she takes a deep
 breath. Out of the corner of her eyes she sees DAVID
 MCADAMS. He is walking into the building and the two of them
 make eye contact for only a moment before he vanishes from
 sight. Looking over her shoulder, ROSE sees LEE leaning
 against a tree across the road. They make eye contact but
 neither of them move. ROSE walks into the apartment
 building.

INT. DEELEY APARTMENT BUILDING LOBBY - AFTERNOON

The inside of the apartment building is very nice and well
 to do, with various different upper and middle class people
 talking on cell phones. A few of them look her way, but she
 gives them small smiles before keeping her head down,
 walking up to the call pad. Her eyes scan the names until
 the name MARTHA DEELEY comes up. ROSE pushes the button and
 there is a ringing sound before it picks up.

MARTHA (O.S)
 (Through the phone)
 Hello?

ROSE
 Hello? This is Rose Griffin, I'm
 here for the interview?

MARTHA (O.S)
 Oh! Great! Come up, come up! Floor
 twenty-nine, room three!

There is a click and the elevator door opens.

INT. ELEVATOR LIFT

As she walks in DAVID joins her in the lift. The door closes and she seems a little on edge as the two of them are standing. DAVID pushes the twenty-nine button and looks at ROSE.

DAVID

Where to?

ROSE

Oh, um, the same, thanks.

The door closes and they start moving up. There is a moment or two of silence.

DAVID

Haven't seen you here before, you just moving in?

ROSE

...No, I couldn't afford to live here.

DAVID

Oh, you must be a new nanny for Ethan then.

ROSE looks at him, a little surprised.

ROSE

How did you know that?

DAVID

(Smiles)

Well, you don't live here and the only reason someone our age goes to floor twenty-nine is to watch that little devil.

ROSE

I see.

There is another moment of silence before the lift stops and the doors open. DAVID gestures and he let's her walk out first. ROSE gives him a small smile as she starts down the hall.

INT. HALLWAY

Keeping her back to him, she glances over her shoulder and sees him watching her. Without looking at him, she knocks on the door and MARTHA opens it, looking a little relieved when they make eye contact.

MARTHA

Rose! Please, come in, it's nice to meet you.

MARTHA steps aside.

ROSE

(Walks into the apartment)

Nice to meet you too, Miss. Deeley.

INT. DEELEY APARTMENT

ROSE looks around, as if taking in every little detail of the place. MARTHA walks by her and gives her an obviously forced smile.

MARTHA

Ethan is in his room playing, but why don't just you and I talk for a but and then you can meet him. How does that sound?

ROSE nods.

ROSE

That would be fine.

ROSE and MARTHA walk into the living room.

LIVING ROOM

MARTHA sits on a couch on one end of a table and ROSE sits on the other.

MARTHA

So tell me a bit about yourself.

ROSE

Well, I'm twenty-four and out of college. I got my degree in sociology but don't know what I want to do with. I've been a nanny for different kids since I was eighteen. My parents live out of

(MORE)

ROSE (cont'd)
state so I rarely see them and
outside of them I really don't have
any family in the area.

MARTHA
(Nods slightly)
So you like kids then?

ROSE
(She smiles and it is warm,
but seem fake)
Yes, before I learned to nanny I
used to babysit all throughout high
school. I loved it and I still do.

MARTHA watches her carefully, nodding slightly before her
eyes fall to the floor.

MARTHA
I'm sure you've heard all of the
rumors about my little boy.

ROSE
They're kind of hard to avoid in
this line of work.

MARTHA
(Nods slightly, eyes on the
floor)
Part of me wants to tell you that
they're all untrue and it's just
impatient people that just don't
know how to deal with someone as
special as he is.
(Looks at ROSE)
But I don't think you'd believe me
if I did.

ROSE
(Laughs a bit)
I probably would actually, I tend
to think that most people don't
really know how to deal with kids,
like you said.

MARTHA nods and sits back on the couch, sighing a bit. It
makes her look very tired and a little older than she
should.

MARTHA
I've been to specialist after
specialist and we just don't know
(MORE)

MARTHA (cont'd)
what's wrong with him. He won't
listen to anyone but me and I just
can't be a full time mom, I just
can't.

ROSE
If I may ask, where is Ethan's
father?

MARTHA
(Waves her off)
I have no idea. Once he found out I
was knocked up he took off and went
off to god knows where. My parents
were outraged and refused to help
me. At this point I had my own
career and didn't want to give him
up. I could give him a good life, I
just can't be around a lot.

ROSE
(Nods)
It's understandable, I know plenty
of working mother's.

There is the sound of a door opening and closing. Footsteps
come down the hall until ETHAN walks in the room. He looks
at ROSE for only a second before looking at MARTHA.

ETHAN
Who's that?

MARTHA sits up and pulls ETHAN onto her lap, holding him
tightly. Her entire expression changes and ROSE can see the
love in her eyes as she looks at her son. ROSE shifts in her
seat.

MARTHA
That's Rose baby, like the flower,
and she's here because she wants to
watch you while mommy works.

ROSE smiles at him and ETHAN tilts his head to the side.

ETHAN
Okay.

Without another word he gets up and races out of the room.
MARTHA smiles slightly as she watches him go.

ROSE
He doesn't seem so bad.

MARTHA
(Laughs slightly)
It's because I'm here. I make all
the difference for some reason.

A slightly uncomfortable silence follows.

MARTHA (CONT.)
I want you to know something, Rose.

ROSE sits up a little straighter, but does not say a word.

MARTHA (CONT.)
I love my son with all my heart, I
really do, but there are times when
he drives me completely insane. I
don't want you to think that just
because I'm desperate for him to
have a nanny or a sitter that I
would give anyone the job, that's
not the case. The last thing I need
is someone who might hurt him if
and when he tests their patience.

ROSE
Miss. Deeley, I'm not quite sure I
understand what you mean.

MARTHA
I mean I'm giving you the job, but
not for the reasons that you might
think. I feel like I can trust you
with him, even though you know
about all of the rumors you still
came.

ROSE
(Smiles)
I assure you, your son is safe with
me. and maybe I'm just as desperate
as you are, Miss. Deeley.

MARTHA laughs.

MARTHA
Oh, I doubt that, my dear, I
sincerely doubt that. And please
call me Martha.

ROSE

Okay, Martha, I think we've come to an understanding.

MARTHA

I think we have. I hope you can start tomorrow?

ROSE

(Nods)

Of course, I can start as soon as possible.

MARTHA stands and holds out a hand. ROSE also stands and the two of them shake.

MARTHA

We'll work out the finer details of payment, but I assure you I am very generous.

ROSE

It's not about the money Martha so don't worry about it.

They release each others hands. MARTHA walks ROSE throughout the house, showing her this and that. The two of them seem to be talking and getting along well, but the exact words are not seen.

LATER

The sun is starting to go down as MARTHA is showing ROSE where all of the food is. MARTHA is in the middle of cooking dinner as they continue to talk. The clock in the living room chimes and the two of them look up.

ROSE

Oh, it's getting late, I should really get going.

MARTHA

Of course, I'll see you tomorrow, bright and early?

ROSE

Bright and early.

MARTHA

Can you show yourself out? The minute I walk away this is going to boil over.

MARTHA gestures to the food that she is cooking.

ROSE
Of course. See you tomorrow.

MARTHA
See you!

ROSE picks up her purse from the counter and goes to leave. As she is about to walk out the door, she notices that ETHAN is standing down the hall, peeking around a corner, watching her. They make eye contact before he vanishes. Opening the door to the apartment.

INT. HALLWAY

ROSE walks down the hallway and notices the door to the apartment near the lift is open a little. As she passes by, she manages to see a little in and sees DAVID cooking. He looks up and sees her as well and stands up, walking toward the door. ROSE walks a little faster and pushes the button for the lift just as the door opens.

DAVID
So how did the interview go?

ROSE
(Without looking at him)
It went well, if you must know.

DAVID
One week.

ROSE
(Looks at him)
I beg your pardon?

DAVID
One week, I give you one week
before you quit.

ROSE
And what makes you say that?

DAVID
Because you look like you can last
longer than the last one. And
besides, everyone on this floor has
an on-going bet about how long the
new nanny lasts.

ROSE
And let me guess, you're set at one week.

DAVID
If you're still going strong in a week you could quit and I could split the profits with you.

The elevator dings and opens. ROSE walks in and pushes the button for the lobby.

ROSE
I'll pass, thanks.

DAVID
Hey, wait.

DAVID rushes out of his apartment and holds the doors open.

DAVID (CONT)
(Holds out his hand)
I'm David by the way, David McAdams from apartment one.

ROSE
(Hesitates as she takes his hand)
Rose, Rose Griffin, nanny.

DAVID
Good luck with that tomorrow.

ROSE
I'm sure I can handle it

ROSE releases his hand.

DAVID
I guess we'll see.

ROSE
I guess we will. Now either get into the lift or get out of the way.

DAVID puts up his hands in a surrender position before taking a step back. He gives her a warm smile as the door close. ROSE does not return the smile, she simply shakes her head slightly. DAVID stands there for a moment, putting his hands in the pockets of his jeans.

DAVID
Rose, Rose Griffin...

INT. BAR - NIGHT

ROSE is sitting at a the bar, running her fingers along the rim of a glass with a tequila and tonic, a lime on the outside. The bar is smokey, but not busy, filled with what seem to be only the regulars and people who go to bars on weekdays. Downing the rest of her drink, she pushes the empty glass forward. The BARTENDER walks up.

BARTENDER
Another?

ROSE
Yeah, thanks.

BARTENDER begins to make the drink.

BARTENDER
So you don't look exceptionally
happy right now.

ROSE
I guess you could say that.

BARTENDER
I've seen you around here a lot
recently, but always alone and you
always look like you're about to
start crying.

The BARTENDER sets the drink in front of her. ROSE picks it up and has a drink.

ROSE
It's my job.

BARTENDER
(Rests his elbows on the edge
of the bar and looks at her)
You're not happy with your job?

ROSE
Yeah, I'm really not.

BARTENDER
So quit.

ROSE
It's not exactly that easy.

BARTENDER
It's Rose right?

ROSE
Yeah, Rose.

BARTENDER
Like the flower?

ROSE
(Smiling a bit)
Yes, like the flower.

BARTENDER
Well, Rose like the flower, if
don't like the way things are going
right now then they need to change.
Life is too short.

ROSE
My life feels very long, hundreds
of years long even.

BARTENDER
If you want the advice of someone
who is doing what they enjoy for
less money you're looking at him.
Even your life feels like it's been
going on since the beginning of
time, what's the point of living if
you aren't happy?

The BARTENDER looks up when more people walk in. Giving her a small smile, he walks over and starts to talk to them and making drinks. ROSE watches him for a moment before taking another drink.

INT. DEELEY APARTMENT - EARLY MORNING

MARTHA is fixing her hair in the bathroom mirror, pulling curlers out. ETHAN walks in and sits on the floor, watching his mother.

ETHAN
What are you doing, mommy?

MARTHA
Getting ready for work, sweetie.

ETHAN

But you've been staying home the past few days.

MARTHA

Yes, I have, but now I need to go back to work.

ETHAN

I don't want you to go back to work.

MARTHA

I know you don't sweetie, but I have to.

ETHAN

Some mean lady is going to come here again.

ETHAN crosses his arms and pouts slightly. MARTHA stops what she is doing and kneels down in front of her son.

MARTHA

Honey, this lady is really nice. She has the same name as a flower.

ETHAN

I don't want you to leave mommy, they never believe me.

MARTHA

You always blame things getting broken on someone else, but you're the only one there. They get mad because you're lying.

MARTHA stands and starts to put on her eyeliner. ETHAN looks a little hurt as he looks at his mother before he stands up and leaves the room.

ETHAN

(Crossing his arms)
But it's not my fault.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - EARLY MORNING

ROSE is standing in the bathroom, drying her hair when LEE walks over and stands in the doorway, crossing his arms and looking at her.

LEE

So what's different about this kid?

ROSE does not look at him.

ROSE

What are you talking about?

LEE

You came home stone drunk last night. You actually threw up for the first time in who knows how long.

ROSE

So I drank too much, that happens to some people sometimes.

LEE

You haven't done that since the first kid.

ROSE turns off the hairdryer and runs her fingers through her hair, still not taking her eyes away from her own reflection.

ROSE

There's nothing different about the kid.

LEE

Then what is it?

ROSE

(Leans on the counter)
It's the mother.

LEE

The mom? Since when has the mom ever gotten to you?

ROSE

She had a kid out of wedlock, probably a guy she hadn't known long. She had a good career, good job, probably happy and despite all of that she still had the kid. Not only did she have the kid, she legitimately loves him.

ROSE looks at him.

ROSE (CONT.)

She wishes with all of her heart she could stay with him, but she knows she can't. She isn't hiring a nanny because she wants to, she has to. She loves that kid.

LEE walks into the bathroom and turns her so they are facing each other, his hands on her upper arms.

LEE

Hey, then we'll do this quick and easy. We'll get in, do what we need to do, and then get out. You won't have to deal with this long.

ROSE

Until the next kid and the next.

LEE tightens his grip on her upper arms a little.

LEE

And we'll keep doing what we need to do to survive.

ROSE

I'll keep doing what we need to do survive.

LEE

(Creases his eyebrows)

What do you mean by that?

ROSE

I'm the one that has to go in there and actually interact with these kids, pretend to care and even love them. You just come in at the last minute. I'm the one that does all of the work, you just sit around.

ROSE twists herself free of his grasp and pushes past him. LEE grabs her arm and roughly pulls her in close.

LEE

What do you call research? Finding these kids? Doing the--

ROSE

They look at me, not you. They look at me so confused and hurt and wondering why I'm not helping them.

LEE
 (In a low voice)
 Then close your eyes.

ROSE stares at LEE before she pulls her arm away and picks up purse. Without looking back, she walks out of the door and slams it shut. LEE runs a hand through his hair, pulling on it slightly. He picks up the television remote and throws it across the room. LEE sits down on the edge of the bed and rubs his temples. The phone rings.

LEE
 Hello?

He straightens.

LEE (CONT.)
 Yes, I know.

Pause

LEE (CONT.)
 Yes, I know but--

Pause

LEE (CONT.)
 We're doing the best we can but--

Pause, longer this time. He nods slightly as he listens.

LEE (CONT.)
 We're working as fast as we can
 sir.

Pause.

LEE (CONT.)
 No, sir, I'm not making excuses,
 we're just trying to get thorough.

LEE lets his head hang as he pauses again.

LEE (CONT.)
 No sir, she doesn't know.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE DEELEY APARTMENT BUILDING - EARLY MORNING

ROSE seems to be walking quickly and is a little angry as she walks toward the apartment building. She has her eyes down and does not notice DAVID as he walks right toward her. He is carrying grocery bags and does not see her either. The two of them run into each other and the food goes everywhere.

ROSE AND DAVID

(Scramble to put the food back
in the bags)

Oh I'm so sorry I--

DAVID

(Sounds a little happy)

Hey, it's you.

ROSE

(Sounds less thrilled)

Yes, it's me. What are you,
stalking me?

DAVID

No, I needed eggs.

DAVID picks up an egg carton and bits of egg and yolk start to seep through the cardboard.

DAVID (CONT)

And apparently I still do.

ROSE smiles and laughs a little as she puts the food back in the bags.

DAVID (CONT)

Hey, I got you to smile.

ROSE

(Still smiling)

Yes, you did. Way to go.

DAVID

Oh someone is being just a little
facetious.

ROSE and DAVID each pick up a bag and she gives him a strange look.

ROSE

Did you really just use facetious
in every day conversation?

DAVID

Sure did.

DAVID tries to take the bag from her.

ROSE

No, no, I've got it. I need to get up the floor anyway, let me help you.

DAVID

(Gives her a warm smile)

Thanks a lot.

DAVID and ROSE start to walk toward the building, each carrying a bag. DAVID tosses the ruined eggs in the garbage outside the building.

ROSE

I'm really sorry about the eggs, I'll give you some money when we--

DAVID

(Waves her off)

Don't go there, I'll just go get more later, no big deal.

DAVID hits the handicapped button with his hip and the doors to the building start to open. ROSE smiles a bit when he stands against the door and seems to be holding it open for her.

ROSE

Thank you.

DAVID

No, no, thank you. You're helping me carry up these bags, better than a normal rat race person would do.

INT. DEELEY APARTMENT LOBBY - EARLY MORNING

ROSE walks into the lobby and DAVID joins her a moment later. A few people look their way but no one says anything. DAVID pulls out a card key and calls the elevator down.

DAVID (CONT)

So I take it by your return at the ungodly hour that you got the job?

ROSE
(Nods slightly)
Yes, I start today.

DAVID
I figured you would.

ROSE
(Gives him a look)
What do you mean by that?

DAVID seems to blush a little as the elevator doors open. He walks inside and ROSE follows him.

INT. ELEVATOR LIFT - EARLY MORNING

DAVID hits the twenty-ninth button and ROSE continues to give him a look. He glances over at her and sighs a little.

DAVID
(Sighs)
You caught me.

ROSE
So I'm guessing. What exactly did I catch you doing?

DAVID
"Stalking" isn't exactly the word I would use. I wasn't planning on a full on collision, wasn't even planning on talking to you, but I did want to see if you got the job.

ROSE
(Gives him a sideways glance)
You're a little creepy, do you know that?

DAVID
(Holds up one hand in a surrender position)
Hey, I told you, I have money on the line as to how long you're going to last. Had to see if my name was at least on the slip.

The elevator dings and the doors open. ROSE walks out followed by DAVID.

INT. HALLWAY - EARLY MORNING

ROSE walks down the hall a few steps before stopping in front of his room. DAVID follows.

ROSE
You know, if you think it's so easy, why don't you volunteer to nanny?

DAVID
Hey, I've offered, Ethan actually likes me, but Martha keeps turning me down. Something about not wanting me to become a father figure.

DAVID pulls out his keys and starts to turn the lock.

ROSE
So I know who to drop him off with if I want to go on a hot date.

DAVID pauses as he fumbles with his keys and finally opens the door. Setting the bag down, he takes the one from ROSE. ROSE turns to leave but he reaches forward and takes her hand. ROSE looks at his hand holding her a little surprised.

DAVID
I promise I'm not creepy, sorry if that's how I'm coming. Scouts honor I'm a decent guy, you can ask Martha.

ROSE
Maybe I will, I need to know if I should single or double lock the door.

DAVID gives her a small smile.

DAVID
There you go being all facetious again.

ROSE
It's not as impressive the second time you use it in normal conversation.

DAVID releases her hand.

DAVID

I guess so, but I'm just down the hall if you need any help.

ROSE

For the next week you'll be saying that, right?

DAVID

Hey, I haven't won yet, maybe you'll be my lucky girl.

ROSE

Now that is something I wouldn't bet on.

ROSE does not wait for him to answer before starting down the hallway. DAVID watches her as she walks. About halfway down, she glances over her shoulder at him and he smiles a bit, pushes the rest of the bags in the door, walking inside, and closing it. ROSE smiles a bit to herself before the smile fades into confusion as she reaches forward and touches her slightly blushing cheeks. Straightening slightly, she stops in front of the Deeley apartment and knocks.

INT. DEELEY APARTMENT - EARLY MORNING

There is a knock at the door. ETHAN is sitting on the floor in the living room and looks at the door. He does not move and merely stares at the door.

MARTHA (O.S)

Coming!

MARTHA walks down the hall and to the door and opens it revealing ROSE. ETHAN stares at her as she walks in.

MARTHA

Rose! Great to see you.

ROSE

(Walking in the door)

Sorry I'm a little late, your neighbor was stalking me.

MARTHA laughs.

MARTHA

Let me guess; David?

ROSE kicks off her shoes and gives her a smile as she nods.

ROSE
How did you know?

MARTHA
That silly boy and his bet. I can't believe he has the nerve to actually talk any of my nannies and babysitters. That stupid bet.

ROSE
So he wasn't kidding about the bet?

MARTHA
(Walks toward the kitchen)
Unfortunately no. Ethan tends to...let's just say he can be a handful.

ETHAN looks over at the kitchen but does not say anything.
ROSE follows MARTHA into the kitchen.

ROSE
Just how much is this bet? Must be pretty impressive to make him stalk someone.

MARTHA laughs again as she pulls things out of the cupboard.

MARTHA
No, no, just a couple hundred at most. Nothing to a trust fund baby like him.