



CLOSE ENOUGH

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FADE IN

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

GARY walks with a bottle of wine.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING LOBBY - NIGHT

Gary walks in.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Quiet music is in the background.

A drink is picked up off a coffee table.

A door BUZZER sounds.

INT. DOOR - NIGHT

It opens to Gary to be greeted by LARRY.

LARRY

Who are you?

GARY

I don't know. But, I can be a lot of fun!

LARRY

So, I've heard.

They hug warmly.

Gary offers the wine.

GARY

Here's a treat.

LARRY

Thanks.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Gary and Larry walk in.

GARY

So, Jane's not back yet?

LARRY

She's still with her sister and the
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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LARRY (CONT'D)
new baby.

GARY
I miss her.

LARRY
It'll be soon. We'll be the three
stooges again before you know it.

GARY
Good. But, for now I'll have to suffer
alone with you.

LARRY
And torture.

GARY
Promise?

LARRY
How about a drink? I was having a rum
and coke. Do you want your usual?

GARY
No, I'll have what you're having.
Something different for a change.

LARRY
Feeling adventurous?

GARY
Maybe.

Larry moves to the bar while Gary sits on the sofa.

GARY (CONT'D)
How's the website business?

LARRY
Doing well with some new accounts and
busy enough.

GARY
Good.

Larry brings the drinks.

LARRY
(toasts)
Cheers! To friendship.

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GARY
Yes, it's the best.

Larry reaches behind the sofa to pull up a large sketchpad.
He presents it to Gary.

LARRY
This is what I've also been working
on.

A surprised Gary looks through it with interest.

GARY
Oh my God! That's me. From what?

LARRY
A snapshot from that pool party.
Remember?

EXT. POOL PATIO - DAY - FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

Gary on his back, is surrounded by people while Larry gives
him mouth to mouth.

He gasps, opens his eyes, and then Larry with the others look
back with relief.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

LARRY
I'm glad you're still around.

GARY
Thanks. It was a lesson about mixing
drinking with swimming. I've told
others that one time you and I got out
of a pool together, and then you gave
me a big wet kiss.

LARRY
Well, I haven't given any mouth to
mouth or kissed another man's lips
since then.

GARY
Would you care to elaborate?

LARRY
Not right now.

(CONTINUED)

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Gary refers to the sketchbook.

GARY

Ok. This is beautiful work.

LARRY

Thanks, it's a start.

GARY

With a lot showing through.

LARRY

It feels good. You and your work have always inspired me.

GARY

Thanks.

He continues to look through the drawings.

LARRY

Refill?

GARY

Sure.

Larry goes to the bar.

A romantic ballad plays as Larry returns to the sofa with the drinks.

They click glasses.

Larry takes a large gulp.

INT. MUSEUM - DAY - TWENTY YEARS AGO

Gary walks around a corner.

He notices Larry as he gazes at the BLUE NUDE painting on the wall.

Gary moves closer with interest.

Larry is not aware.

GARY

Isn't that beautiful. I have that at home.

Larry gives him an odd look.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GARY (CONT'D)
A copy that is.

Larry smiles which opens up a silent conversation between them.

INT. MUSEUM HALLWAY - FOLLOWING

Larry and Gary continue their conversation while they walk.

INT. LOFT - FOLLOWING

Gary shows his paintings to Larry.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

GARY
It was thrilling; you were turning me on, I wanted to seduce you. Then, the "Bang" reality check.

LARRY
What?

GARY
Oh come on.

LARRY
Refresh my memory.

GARY
Don't play with me!

LARRY
There's another surprise!

GARY
More? O.k., Mr. Mystery. I'm all yours.

LARRY
Good. Now, go into the bedroom and shut your eyes.

Gary walks into the bedroom.

Larry nervously paces.

With growing courage, Larry walks into the bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gary stands near the bed with his eyes closed.

Larry awkwardly approaches Gary to clumsily kiss Gary on the lips.

A surprised Gary opens his eyes and then pulls away.

Gary moves fast out of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Gary enters followed by Larry.

LARRY

I'm sorry. I'm a God damned idiot!

GARY

Calm down. It's o.k.

LARRY

But, I just wanted it to be nice.

GARY

It was, but scary.

LARRY

What?

GARY

I thought I was satisfied with what we already had going.

LARRY

Me too. I just got carried away.

They carefully sit on the sofa with a

safe distance between them.

GARY

It's just that, I don't want all of you, but some of you. Let's not add more than we have to.

LARRY

You're right. (Pause.) I just feel so close to you.

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CONTINUED:

GARY

Likewise.

They move closer together to begin an embrace.

A telephone rings.

Both freeze as the voice of JANE, Larry's live in girlfriend, leaves a message.

JANE (V.O.)

Hi love. Are you there?

Gary and Larry remain silent.

Oh, I guess not. I thought you'd be home. I hope you're behaving. Just kidding. I'll be back tomorrow night. Everything is fine here. I hope you were able to get together with Gary like you wanted to. I miss and love you. See you tomorrow.

Affectionate kissing sounds from Jane.

Gary and Larry awkwardly move out of the embrace.

LARRY

Well, let the guilt begin.

GARY

Something like that.

LARRY

Maybe, this is just curiosity.

GARY

Or jumping over to where you think the grass is greener.

LARRY

Could be.

GARY

Be careful, the grass may be greener because it's fertilized with piles of shit. That won't be fun to walk in.

LARRY

No.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GARY
I should get going.

LARRY
Are you sure?

GARY
Yes, I need some fresh air.

LARRY
So do I.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Larry and Gary walk slowly next to each other.

GARY
Anyway, I hope you are happy.

LARRY
Yes, but just a little restless.

GARY
I can relate.

LARRY
I'm going through this thing about relationships. I want them all to be beautiful and meaningful. Not to waste time with bullshit.

GARY
More quality not quantity. I don't worship false Gods, so why should I worship false friends. I'm so fortunate to have had those fourteen wonderful years with Ted as my partner. May he rest in peace. Also, being with you has been great.

LARRY
Yes, it can be very simple and special.

GARY
And can go wherever it wants. A kind of freedom.

LARRY
Let's keep that going between us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GARY

For sure. We're close enough for that.

FADE OUT