SECOND CHANCE

Written by

Michario
FADE IN:

INT. SHOPPING MALL - DAY

It is Saturday afternoon and the mall is busy. There are a lot of shoppers walking about. Two young men are leaving a shoe store. ERIC, 30’s is tall and lean. He is a sports therapist. STEVE, 30’s is shorter than Eric and a little heavier.

ERIC
I should just get the shoes. I need something new for spin class.

STEVE
I can’t believe you talked me into a spin class.

ERIC
It will be good for you. You’re starting to add a few pounds.

STEVE
(laughing)
Don’t worry about my weight. The best tasting steak has a little bit of fat in it. Adds to the flavor.

ERIC
Yeah, well you’re starting to look flavorful.

Steve laughs again as they continue to walk. As they approach the center of the mall, there are several red massage chairs. Each one has an Asian American next to it trying to get people to sit down for a massage.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Lets get a massage. It’s on me.

Steve’s attitude seems to change. His face now has a look of disgust.

STEVE
No.

ERIC
Why not? I thought you liked these guys and my back has been killing me.
STEVE
Not today. Let's just get something to eat.

ERIC
Alright. Have you tried that new Fitlicious? It's a new health food place.

STEVE
(laughing again)
Fitlicious? Seriously? No I don't want Fitlicious. I want a fucking burger.

Steve and Eric continue past the massage chairs and head to the food court.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

JULIE, 30's is working in her cubicle. Her desk is well organized. Nothing is out of place. She has small drawers labeled for pens and pencils. There is a sorting file for outgoing mail, incoming mail, and to be filed. In front of her is a notebook placed squarely in the center of the desk. There is even a spot on the desk labeled for post it notes. Everything about her work space says OCD except her garbage can. It is overflowing with candy wrappers of all kinds.

She opens one of the desk drawers and there are several stacks of different candies. She grabs a candy bar and tears it open.

As she is eating, a DELIVERY MAN comes around the corner carrying flowers.

DELIVERY MAN
Are you Julie?

JULIE
Yes.

The delivery man gives Julie the flowers.

JULIE (CONT'D)
Thank you.

DELIVERY MAN
Have a good day.
Julie pulls the card to see who its from. As she is reading the card a younger woman, KRISTIN, comes around the corner.

KRISTIN
Girl, who sent you roses?

Julie SIGHS and puts the card back.

JULIE
Steve. He should know better than flowers.

KRISTIN
What he do? Was he cheatin on you? My man cheated on my once. When I found out, I went to his work...

Knowing that Kristin would often carry on excessively Julie cut her off as she was talking.

JULIE
We were at the mall and he asked if I wanted a massage. You know those guys with the red chairs in the center?

KRISTIN
Oh those mother fuckers. I don’t trust them. I was there once...

Julie cut her off again.

JULIE
Yeah, well as we are both getting a massage I start hearing some commotion. The guy working on me stops what he is doing and starts yelling in Chinese. I look up and see Steve running towards the exit.

KRISTIN
He bolted on you? That’s crazy. Did you have to pay for both massages? He not only left you but he made you pay for...

JULIE
Yeah. I don’t know what happened. I’ve tried calling him multiple times and he never answered. That was 2 weeks ago. He needs to do better than flowers.

Julie sits down and turns back to her computer.
JULIE (CONT’D)

Flowers?

Kristin grabs the flowers and SMELLS them.

KRISTIN
I never got flowers before. There was this one guy...

JULIE
You can have them. I would just throw them away.

Kristin looks surprised. She grabs the flowers and turns to walk away.

KRISTIN
I’ll take these motherfuckers.

CUT TO:

INT. SHOPPING MALL – FOOD COURT

Steve and Eric are eating at the food court in the mall.

ERIC
What’s going on with you and Julie? I haven’t seen you two together in a while.

STEVE
I don’t want to talk about.

ERIC
You guys still together?

Steve puts down his burger and pauses for a minute.

STEVE
I’m not sure?

As Steve is talking, one of the men from the massage area walks by. Steve’s face turns to anger again.

STEVE (CONT’D)
I can’t stand those guys.

ERIC
What is up with you? Why do you have a problem with them all of a sudden.

Steve takes a drink of his soda and is looking at Eric.
STEVE
You can’t repeat this. I will just deny it.

Eric is intrigued and leans in.

STEVE (CONT’D)
Me and Julie were here a couple weeks ago. I decided we should get a massage. We both sat down at the same time and they were working on us.

Steve stops talking for a second. He grabs his soda and takes a drink. He is not sure if he should continue with the story.

ERIC
What? What happened? Did you get a hard on?

Steve puts his soda down and looks at Eric in disbelief.

ERIC (CONT’D)
You got a hard on.

STEVE
No I did not get a hard on.

Steve takes another drink. Eric is waiting in anticipation.

ERIC
What than?

Steve looks down.

STEVE
I crapped my pants.

ERIC
(chuckling)
What?

STEVE
We had just got done eating some Mexican food a little bit earlier.

Eric is staring at Steve in disbelief with a big smile on his face.

STEVE (CONT’D)
He was working on my back and I let a couple rip.

(MORE)
Next thing I know I felt a shit coming so I got up and started running to the bathroom but it was too late.

Eric begins to laugh out loud.

STEVE (CONT'D)
Fuck you dude. That mother fucker new what he was doing. He must of hit a pressure point.

This made Eric laugh even harder.

ERIC (laughing)
A pressure point? Are you kidding me? Did you make it to the bathroom?

STEVE
No, I told you it was too late. I had shit running down my pant leg. I got this guy chasing after me, yelling at me in Chinese and shit running down my leg.

Steve takes another drink of his soda while Eric continues to laugh.

STEVE (CONT'D)
I hate those red chairs.

ERIC
So did Julie dump you than?

STEVE
I haven’t spoken to her. I ran out of the mall and drove home.

ERIC
Did you at least pay for the massages?

STEVE
No. I left the mall and drove home. That’s why the guy was chasing me. I never paid.

Eric just has a smile on his face as he looks at Steve.

ERIC
You ditched your girl and haven’t told her why.
Steve throws his napkin on top of his plate of food. He is no longer wanting to eat.

STEVE
She called me a bunch of times and I never answered. I did just send her flowers today. I was going to try and call her tonight.

Eric starts to get up with his tray of food.

ERIC
This has been the best lunch I have had in a while.

STEVE
Whatever dude.

Steve gets up and takes his tray to throw everything away.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING – LATER

Julie is getting ready to leave. She is putting everything away when the phone RINGS.

JULIE
This is Julie. Can I help you? (beat)
What do you want? (beat)
I don’t care. You never answered any of my calls and now you want to talk about it.

Julie HANGS up the phone.

JULIE (CONT’D)
I can’t believe him.

She opens her candy drawer and looks inside. She doesn’t see what she wants She SLAMS it shut and gets up to leave.

CUT TO:

INT. STEVES CAR

Steve is on his phone.

STEVE
Julie? Julie?
Steve puts his phone down.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Damn.

Steve thinks for a minute and then starts to drive away.

CUT TO:

EXT. SPECIALTY CANDY SHOP - LATER

Steve walks out of the candy shop carrying a giant box of chocolates.

He gets in his car and drives away.

CUT TO:

EXT. DUPLEX - MINUTES LATER

Steve’s car pulls up. He exits and heads to the front door carrying the box of chocolates. He pauses for a second and than KNOCKS on the door. Steve can hear FOOTSTEPS coming to the door so he puts the chocolate behind his back.

The door opens and Julie is there.

JULIE

What do you want?

STEVE

Can we talk?

Julie stands there quietly.

Steve pulls the chocolate from behind his back.

JULIE

(smiling)

Come in.

CUT TO:

INT. JULIES APARTMENT

Steve hands Julie the chocolates.

STEVE

I’m sorry. I never should have left like that.
Julie opens up the chocolates and starts eating one.

STEVE (CONT'D)
I felt bad for the way I left and didn’t know how to apologize.

Julie grabs another chocolate. She turns and heads to the living room and sits on the couch. Steve follows and sits next to her.

JULIE
You know I like chocolate.

STEVE
I do.

JULIE
Why did you leave?

STEVE
I started to feel sick to my stomach. I had to get home.

JULIE
I could have taken you.

Steve looks down hoping she would not press the issue.

JULIE (CONT'D)
You still owe me a massage.

Julie is looking through the chocolates. She grabs another one and heads to the kitchen.

Steve sits there quietly.

Julie comes back from the kitchen and tosses something to Steve.

He catches a bottle of anti diarrheal.

JULIE (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Next time.

FADE OUT.

THE END