

WHITE NIGHT

Written by

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Super: Los Angeles Present Day.

INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Steve and Jane, a man and a woman in their 40s, are sitting in a small apartment, drinking beer and eating slices of Pizza. The apartment is full of packed boxes.

STEVE

Thanks for helping me pack for moving to my new apartment Jane

JANE

What are friends for?

STEVE

You are the only friend I got left

JANE

Boy, I sure miss the good old days when we were all together

STEVE

It hurts to remember some 25 years have passed since all those years I tried to forget as much as I could about our friends who vanished.

JANE

Well, you almost don't have new friends. Your life is just work-work-work

STEVE

Remember Bill And Marry?

JANE

Sure I do... poor Bill died in 2011

STEVE

I still got the album he gave me for my 21st birthday

JANE

He had great taste in music so did Michael

STEVE

I still remember how we used to go out together and party all night or hang out together at Michael's place and smoke weed.

JANE

Those were the 90s, Steve. We were all young

STEVE

Nowadays, we are just getting old, and the world sucks, Music sucks, movies suck, T.V. Sucks, the news sucks, everything sucks

JANE

You still think of him, do you?

STEVE

I sure do from time to time. That's why I try to forget the past, but there's nothing to hold on to and nothing to expect for

JANE

You should have looked for someone else to love

STEVE

He was my first love ever and my best friend ever

JANE

Well, you are not gay, so he left you. He left all of us. He had plans and ambitions.

STEVE

Yeah, and he promised me he'll always be there for me and that he "loves" me and always will be my friend, and then he just split and vanished.

JANE

I was in love with him, too, but that didn't help me too. I wonder where he is today and how his life is

STEVE

All I got left from him were albums of music he used to listen to and memories and a copy of a love letter I wrote and sent him about a year before he vanished.

JANE

Marry was the last to hear from him. She told me he is in Tucson, Arizona, studying Medicine.

STEVE

Well, that's great. I'm happy for him and hope he's happy where ever he is

JANE

Then why don't you continue with your own life? Why don't you find new friends and new love? Why can't you move on with your life?

STEVE

I don't know. After he and everyone left me, I found myself alone, and I couldn't do it all over again – you know, meet new people, make new friends find love, etc... I remained stuck in a sense ever since

JANE

I still go to the same places we used to go to even though 20-plus years have passed. Silly me

STEVE

I used for years to watch the old movies we saw at the cinema, but they brought up memories and made me depressed, so I stopped

JANE

He always had a unique taste in movies and music

STEVE

I don't know what to do, Jane. I'm stuck. I tried therapy for five years to end up right where I was

JANE

Do you know what I think? He played with you just like he did with all of us

STEVE

Yeah, I thought about it the same way

JANE

I mean, he played with your heart and messed with your head. You trusted him too much

STEVE

I know, trust me, I know, but you can't know what love is until you trust someone

JANE

And he betrayed your trust and your love... you know what? Forget him! He was an asshole! He was not worthy of your love!

STEVE

Do you think I haven't told this myself a million times before? That I haven't cursed the day I met him and how stupid I was to let him play me?

JANE

Then what will you do? Stay alone?
Live your whole life without new
friends or new love to call your
own? Play it safe and stay stuck in
the past? He is not coming back,
Steve! The past is done. None of
them are coming back for us.

STEVE

I'll live like a loveless older
man, yes, like maybe he is too over
there where ever he maybe.

Silence

JANE

Do you want to hang out a bit for a
white night?

STEVE

Like where?

JANE

A 24/7 open diner or a coffee shop
or maybe a park or the beach

STEVE

Aren't you afraid of all those
homeless people on the street? Or
the gangsters of the city? Or the
junkies?

JANE

All those existed too, 25 years ago
when we strolled the city's nights,
but we didn't care or were afraid.

STEVE

Maybe some other night, jane, I had
too much beer, and I think it's
time to close this little party.

JANE

Ok, as you wish

INT. MARK'S 24/7 DINERS - NIGHT

Jane sits at the diner table, eating a sandwich and drinking soda people come in and out. Soft jazz music is playing in the background. Suddenly she recognizes someone familiar and get's up toward him. A 45s man wearing a leather jacket and slightly bold, Jane approaches him.

JANE

Michael?

The man turns around in surprise and recognizes her

MICHAEL

Jane? What are you doing here?

JANE

I was about to ask you the same question. God! It must have been like 25-plus years since we last saw each other!

Michael sigh

MICHAEL

It's nice to bump into you, Jane

JANE

Can I join you?

MICHAEL

Sure, for old times' sake

Jane brings her sandwich and soda to Michael's table and sits with him

JANE

How are you?

MICHAEL

I'm doing the best I can. You?

JANE

Same. I thought you left L.A.

MICHAEL

I returned to L.A. About seven years ago, from Arizona.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I studied Medicine there and now work as a Paramedic at Los Angeles Central Hospital. What about you?

JANE

I've been working on and off jobs, mainly as a waitress and cashier at restaurants and small coffee shops or Walmart

MICHAEL

Time sure fly's when you are busy making other plans

JANE

It's a pity you decided not to keep in touch with us and vanished from us. You are greatly missed to this day

MICHAEL

You are too kind

JANE

It's the truth. I'm being honest with you

MICHAEL

Well, what do you want me to say?

JANE

Hopefully, the truth?

MICHAEL

The truth... ok... I wanted a fresh start to open a new page in my life and leave Los Angeles to see and meet new people, new friends, and new lovers. My L.A. Love life was messy and muddy. I wanted fresh air in my life plus get a good profession so I could earn a good income and social benefits

JANE

I see...

MICHAEL

I know it seems a bit selfish or ungrateful to all of you, but maybe it's good to be a bit selfish and ambitious – in any case, I now have the life I want, and if I had stayed here the same as I was. Well... I would be miserable.

JANE

It's weird. I was at Steve's apartment just this evening, and we talked about how much he misses you.

Michael sighs

MICHAEL

Steve, yeah, well, that is a sad long story. Honestly, I prefer not seeing him ever again for all I care. Let him think I'm a bastard or whatever he wishes to think of me.

JANE

You left him broken and stuck in the past, alone and loveless

MICHAEL

(gets angry)

It's not my fault he can't handle it. It's not my fault he tells me he loves me in love letters and then tells me he's not gay. You tell me, what was I supposed to do? Wait for him forever? Stay to be his babysitter? Or leave him hoping he'll grow up and build a backbone?

JANE

I didn't mean to upset you

MICHAEL

It's all right. It's not your fault. It's nobody's fault

JANE

So basically, you have grown tired of us, of all of us, and decided to move on with your life.

MICHAEL

Yes, you couldn't say it any better than that

JANE

It's a pity, Michael, we may not have been the best friends you wanted, but our love for you was true and real.

MICHAEL

I never said it was not true or real; I just couldn't go on with it... look, I'm sorry ok? Maybe I'm a bad, selfish person; however, I made my choices, and you can make your own

JANE

Well, I guess all was said

MICHAEL

It sure looks like it

JANE

I think you don't want to keep in touch

Michael shakes his head

JANE (CONT'D)

I thought so... well, it's been nice seeing you, Michael. Take care

MICHAEL

I wish for you all to be kind to yourselves

Jane gets up, pays for her food and beverage, and then exits the diner.

INT. STEVE'S APARTMENT - MORNING

Steve opens the front door dressed in a robe in the door stands Jane

STEVE

What the... you've been up all night wondering about the city?

JANE

Something like that, can I come in?

STEVE

SURE

Steve lets Jane in and closes the door

JANE

Do you know what I've been thinking about Steve?

STEVE

What?

JANE

Screw Michael! That's right! Screw him! I'm lonely, and so are you. I'm loveless, and so are you. What do you say you and I try to be together as a couple? Try to love one another as we deserve.

STEVE

I don't know what to think or say about it, Jane. I don't...

Jane comes closer to Steve and kisses him on the mouth with a long passionate kiss. When she stops, Steve is speechless and looks at her, surprised. Jane smiles

JANE

I want you, Steve. I love you. I really do love you

Steve hesitates but puts his arms around Jane and smiles

STEVE

Ho baby, what a wonderful
surprise...

END.