

MANCHESTER BY THE SEA
Could we ever have lunch?

3 actors

Woman/Woman/Man
Dramma/Love Story

LEE, 40s, is walking toward his car. He slows because he sees RANDI, 40s, pushing a stroller his way, with a newborn BABY in it. The baby is almost invisible inside his winter parka. RANDI is accompanied by a friend, RACHEL, 40s.

RANDI
Lee--! Hi.

LEE
Hi.

RANDI
Um -- Rachel. This is Lee. Lee,
Rachel.

RACHEL
Hello.

RANDI
(Re: the baby)
And this is Dylan. You can't see
him too good.

LEE
Hey Dylan.

RACHEL
Randi, you want me to get the car
and pick you up?

RANDI
Oh, sure --

LEE
That's OK. I gotta --

RANDI
Well, could I -- I'd -- Could we
talk a second?

LEE
Sure.

RACHEL
I'll just pull around -- Just be
like two minutes.

RANDI
OK, thanks.

RACHEL
Nice to meet you.

LEE
You too.

RACHEL
Be right back.
Rachel hurries away and turns a
corner.

RANDI
I don't have anything big to say: I
just -- I know you been around --
And I thought -- we never -- Yeah I
know. He seems like he's doin'
pretty well, considering. I mean --

LEE
That's OK. Yeah -- Just been
gettin' Patrick settled in. I think
he is -- Yeah --

RANDI (CONT'D)
I guess you don't know, but I
really kept in touch with Joe -- So
it's been kinda weird for me, not
seeing Patrick since he passed away
-- OK. I didn't know --

LEE
No, I knew that -- Well you can --
see him. I have no --

RANDI
Could we ever have lunch?

LEE
You mean us? Me and you?

RANDI
Yeah. I, uh -- Because -- I said a
lotta terrible things to you. But
-- I know you never -- Maybe you
don't wanna talk to me --

LEE
It's not that.

RANDI
But let me finish. However it -- my
heart was broken. It's still
broken. I know your heart is broken
too. But I don't have to carry -- I
said things that I should -- I
should fuckin' burn in hell for
what I said. It was just --

LEE
No, no --

RANDI

I'm just sorry. I love you. Maybe I shouldn't say that. And I'm sorry --

LEE

I can't -- You can say it, but -- No, it's just -- I -- I can't -- I gotta go.

RANDI

We couldn't have lunch?

LEE

I don't think so.

RANDI

You can't just die--! But honey, I see you walkin' around like this and I just wanna tell you -- But Lee, you gotta -- I don't know what! I don't wanna torture you. I just wanna tell you I was wrong. That can't be true--!

LEE

Thank you for sayin' everything -- I'm not! But I can't -- I'm happy for you. And I want -- I would want to talk to you -- But I can't, I can't -- I'm tryin' to -- You're not. But I got nothin' to -- Thank you for sayin' that. But -- There's nothin' left. There's nothin' there: You don't understand --

RANDI

Of course I do!

LEE

I'm s -- gotta go.

RANDI

OK. I'm sorry.

LEE

There's nothin' I can s -- I gotta go.

He moves away. RANDI breaks down.