

GYPSY - EP1

SIDNEY

So you liked the show?

JEAN

Yeah. You have real presence. It's rare.

(beat)

So, is he your boyfriend?

SIDNEY

Frances?

JEAN

Mhmm.

SIDNEY

No. I don't really do that any more.

JEAN

Do what?

SIDNEY

Relationships. Well, serious ones.

JEAN

Wow, you must have really gotten burnt.

SIDNEY

No, actually, I was just in a messy situation.

JEAN

What was the situation?

SIDNEY

It's really not worth going into.

JEAN

No, I want to know what kind of person you would be with.

SIDNEY

Well, he's the opposite of anyone I'd choose now. He was this sweet guy, the sweetest, but so needy and dependent. It was sad. He kept clinging to me for his like, sustenance. I was just so fucking bored. You know what that feels like, when you're climbing out of

your skin, completely trapped? The worst part it, he'd make me feel guilty. Tell me how he'd like, kill himself if I left, all this bullshit.

JEAN  
Was he serious?

SIDNEY  
I mean, yeah. Getting out a knife saying he'd slit his wrists. Like, do you think that makes someone want to stay with you? When you have nothing of your own?  
(beat)  
Let's have another drink.

JEAN  
What, now?

SIDNEY  
Yeah. Or are you busy or something?

JEAN  
Aren't you busy?

SIDNEY  
Nope.

JEAN  
Fine, one more drink.  
(beat)  
So, Frances is just a friend and so is Jack? Seems like you have quite the adventurous life.

SIDNEY  
Are you calling me a slut? Cause I'm not.

JEAN  
I prefer open-minded.

SIDNEY  
We can't all be so pure like you.

JEAN  
You think I'm so strait-laced. No, I could shock you, trust me.

SIDNEY  
That's pretty tough. My parents are divorced so I spent summers road

tripping through Europe with my Dad. They were the highlight of everything. I'd literally countdown the days like a naive idiot till he'd come pick me up. Anyway, this one time, we were 42 minutes into the drive, barely left my shitty town when the police stopped us. My Dad was a fucking criminal, a liar. Real disappointment. So, five years old, holding my 'Beauty and the Best' comforter, I was escorted by the police back to my house. I understood then the key to happiness.

JEAN

And what's that?

SIDNEY

Active denial. I looked at that thing and...and I didn't see it as real. It was this one thing that happened and I went about my day, pretending all was cool.

JEAN

What happened to your Dad?

SIDNEY

Supposedly in prison. I mean, I haven't seen him in ages and I don't ever think about him, which I count to be my Christmas gift every year. But what about you? Tell me what you write about.

JEAN

Mostly about people.

SIDNEY

What about them?

JEAN

Just...there's so much we don't understand. I like to see beneath the surface, subtext. Like, for example-

SIDNEY

"How vain it is to sit down and write when you've not stood up to live." - Thoreau

JEAN  
I like it.

SIDNEY  
Mmm.

JEAN  
But I feel like I've lived, or used  
to. Back in the day I was a little  
more wild. But now I...

SIDNEY  
Now what?

JEAN  
Nothing.

SIDNEY  
You never wanted to get married?

JEAN  
I tried it once. Just feel like we  
changed so much. How on Earth are  
you supposed to know who you'll want  
to be with ten years from now?

SIDNEY  
I couldn't agree more.

Sidney makes an advance.

JEAN  
Uh, I umm...

SIDNEY  
What is it?

JEAN  
Nothing, I just, stayed much longer  
than I thought I would.

SIDNEY  
So? What's the rush?

JEAN  
Uh...work. Deadlines.

SIDNEY  
Well that sucks...I really like  
talking to you. I can't explain it  
but...there's something about you  
that reminds me of me.