

Good night. Can I kiss you on the cheek, too?

ROSE

Sure.

He kisses her on the cheek.

PERRY

I'm freezing

ROSE

Good night.

She walks away, towards the house. Perry, shivering, looks after.

INT. THE BOERUM CAFE - A BROOKLYN BAR - NIGHT

Ronny and Loretta sit at the bar. They are just finishing a couple of Old-Fashions. The barman, AL, inspects their drinks.

AL

Another Old-Fashion?

RONNY

Loretta?

LORETTA

No thanks.

RONNY

(to Al)

I think that's it.

Al nods and walks off. Ronny leans forward to Loretta.

RONNY

What do you want to do now?

LORETTA

I wanna go home.

EXT. A COLD AND EMPTY MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHT

Ronny and Loretta are walking. Their breath is coming out in long plumes.

LORETTA

It's really cold.

RONNY

Yeah. It smells like snow.

They walk in silence for a moment, then Loretta speaks.

LORETTA

My mother guessed that my father was seeing somebody and I told her she was crazy. She looked like a real piece of cheap goods. But who am I

to talk?

Her eyes are full of tears.

RONNY

What's the matter?

LORETTA

How can you ask me that?

RONNY

You're making me feel guilty again.

LORETTA

You are guilty. I'm guilty.

RONNY

Of what? Only God can point the
finger, Loretta.

LORETTA

I know what I know.

RONNY

And what do you know? You tell me my
life? I'll tell you yours. I'm a
wolf? You run to the wolf in me,
that don't make you no lamb! You're
gonna marry my brother? Why you wanna
sell your life short? Playing it
safe is just about the most dangerous
thing a woman like you could do. You
waited for the right man the first
time, why didn't you wait for the
right man again?

LORETTA

He didn't come!

RONNY

I'm here!

LORETTA

You're late!

RONNY

We're here.

EXT. RONNY'S APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

She looks. It's Ronny's building.

LORETTA

This is your place.

RONNY

That's right.

LORETTA

This is where we're going!

RONNY

Yeah.

LORETTA

The deal was if I came to the Opera
with you you'd leave me alone forever.

She looks for his response. He makes none.

LORETTA

I went with you.

(pause, nothing)

Now I'm gonna marry Johnny and you're
gonna leave me alone.

(pause, nothing)

Right?

(nothing)

A person can see where they've messed
up in their life, and they can change
how they do things, and they can
change their Luck. Maybe my nature
does draw me to you, but I don't
haveta go with that. I can take hold
of myself and say yes to some things
and no to something that's just gonna
ruin everything! I can do that.
Otherwise, what is this stupid life
that God gave us for what?

(pause, nothing)

Ronny? Are you listening to me?

RONNY

Yeah.

LORETTA

I'm really afraid.

RONNY

Why?

LORETTA

I'm afraid of who I am.

RONNY

I was.

LORETTA

And you're not now?

He shakes his head.

LORETTA

Why not?

RONNY

I don't know. Everything seems like
nothing now against that I want you
in my bed. I don't care if I burn in
hell. I don't care if you burn in
hell. The Past and Future is a joke
to me now. I see that they're nothing,

I see they ain't here. The only thing that's here is you. And me. I want you to come upstairs. Now. I tried to take everything last night, like you told me, but I couldn't. I couldn't take everything in a hundred years. It's the way we are. We compound each other.

LORETTA

Let me go home.

RONNY

No.

LORETTA

Let me go home.

RONNY

No.

LORETTA

I'm freezing to death.

RONNY

Come upstairs. I don't care why you come. No, that's not what I mean. Loretta, I love you. Not like they told you love is and I didn't know this either. But love don't make things nice, it ruins everything, it breaks your heart, it makes things a mess. We're not here to make things perfect. Snowflakes are perfect. The stars are perfect. Not us. We are here to ruin ourselves and break our hearts and love the wrong people and die! The storybooks are bullshit. Come upstairs with me, baby! Don't try to live your life out to somebody else's idea of sweet happiness. Don't try to live on milk and cookies when what you want is meat! Red meat just like me! It's wolves run with wolves and nothing else! You're a wolf just like me! Come upstairs with me and get in my bed! Come on! Come on! Come on!

Loretta follows Ronny into his building.

NOW WE SEE THE STREET

Just as the door shuts. A moment passes. Lights go on in Ronny's apartment. Out of a doorway on the opposite side of the street steps the figure of a woman. She walks to the middle of the deserted street and looks up at the lighted windows.

NOW WE SEE THE WOMAN CLOSE UP -- IT'S CHRISSY FROM THE BAKERY