

MYSTIC RIVER

Dave
Where you been?

Celeste
Out . . . What are you watching?

Dave
Some vampire movie. Guy just got his head torn off . . . Where'd you go, Celeste?

Celeste
Was sitting in my car by the channel. I just needed to think, you know?

Dave
So what'd you think about?

Celeste
Oh, you know.

Dave
Not really, baby, no.

Celeste
Things. The day, Katie being dead, poor Jimmy and Annabeth, those things.

Dave
Those things. Know what I was thinking about? Huh? Vampires.

Celeste
What about them?

Dave
They're undead, but I think maybe there's something beautiful about it. Maybe one day you wake up and you forget what it's like to be human. Maybe then it's okay.

Celeste
What the fuck are you talking about, Dave?

Dave
Vampires, sweetie. Werewolves.

Celeste
You're not making any sense.

Dave

You think I killed Katie, Celeste? That kind of sense we're making these days?

Celeste

I don't --- Where'd you come up with that?

Dave

You've barely looked at me since you found out Katie was dead. In fact, you seem like you're repulsed by me.

Celeste

Dave . . .

Dave

What?

Celeste

I don't think anything. I'm confused. Even your friend Sean ---

Dave

He's not my friend. Case you haven't figured that out yet.

Celeste

He asked me about you. What time you got home.

Dave

What did you tell him?

Celeste

I said I was asleep.

Dave

Good thinking, baby.

Celeste

Christ, Dave! Just tell them about the mugger! Please . . .

Dave

The mugger. I see how your mind's working. I do. I come home with blood on me the same night Katie's murdered. I must have killed her.

Dave Laughs Hysterically

Ha, ha, ha. Ha, ha . . . Henry.

Celeste

What? Henry?

Dave

Henry and George, Celeste. I never told anyone before, but those were their names. Ist that fucking hilarious? At least that's what they called themselves. But they were Wolves and and Dave, Dave was the boy who escaped from wolves.

Celeste

What are you talking about?

Dave

I'm talking about Henry and George. They took me for a four day ride. And they buried me in this ratty old cellar with a sleeping bag, and, man, Celeste, did they have their fun. And no one came to help old Dave then. Dave had to pretend to be someone else.

Celeste

You mean all those years ago? When you were a boy? Dave . . .

Dave

Dave's dead. I don't know who came out of that cellar, but it sure as shit wasn't Dave! The thing is, it's like vampires, once it's in you, it stays.

Celeste

What stays?

Dave

I can't trust my mind anymore, Celeste. I'm warning you. I can't trust my mind. I'm going out. I just need to get my head around it.

Celeste

Okay . . .