

MILES

Why do I always fall for the bad girl?

IRIS

You didn't know she was a bad girl.

MILES

I knew she wasn't good. I need something a little bit stronger! Great. Let me rephrase this: Why am I attracted to a person I know isn't good?

IRIS

I happen to know the answer to this. You're hoping you're wrong. She does something that tells you she's no good, you ignore it. Every time she comes through and surprises you, she wins you over.....and you lose that argument with yourself that she's not for you.

MILES

Exactly. And on top of that, there's the old standby: 'I can't believe a girl like that would be with a guy like me.' You know what she said to me tonight? She finished in Santa Fe after two days.....and has been staying with whatever-his-name-was. Which means she's been right here in town. When I spoke to her this morning on her cell and she said: 'I'm looking out my window and it's snowing.' She was in Santa Monica. What did she do, go to Weather.com? That must have made them scream with laughter. And in the meantime, I sent her Christmas gift to Santa Fe yesterday. I stood in line at FedEx to make sure she got it on time. Classic, right? I don't wanna ruin your Christmas Eve. You don't have to listen to this.

IRIS

It's okay. I like the company. So how about some food? Want to call over and I'll make us a little Christmas fettuccine?

MILES

Sure.

IRIS

Listen. I know it's hard to believe people when they say, 'I know how you feel.' But I actually know how you feel. You see.....I was.....seeing someone back in London. We worked for the same newspaper. And then I found out that he was also seeing this other girl, Sarah.....from the Circulation Department on the 19th floor. It turned out that he wasn't in love with me like I thought. What I'm trying to say is.....I understand feeling as small and as insignificant.....as humanly possible. How it can actually ache in places that you didn't know you had inside you. It doesn't matter how many new haircuts you get.....or gyms you join.....or how many glasses of chardonnay you drink with girlfriends. You still go to bed every night going over every detail.....and wonder what you did wrong or how you could have misunderstood. And how in the hell, for that brief moment.....you could think that you were that happy? And sometimes you can even convince yourself.....that he'll see the light and show up at your door. And after all that.....however long 'all that' may be.....you'll go somewhere new. And you'll meet people who make you feel worthwhile again. And little pieces of your soul will finally come back. And all that fuzzy stuff.....those years of your life that you wasted.....that will eventually begin to fade.

MILES

Well, fuck. You need this more than I do. That's what you're doing here? You're getting over somebody?

IRIS

Yeah. This is me in good shape.

MILES

Is this the guy who sent you pages from his novel?

IRIS

Yeah. He needs me.

MILES

So he stays in touch?

IRIS

All the time.

MILES

That makes it impossible to forget, which is great for him, sucks for you.

IRIS

You see how great your life is compared to mine?

MILES

Okay, I'm coming over. I'm making you some fettuccine. It is Christmas Eve, and we are going to sit out on that patio.....gonna make ourselves a little fire, pop some bubbly.....and we are gonna celebrate being young and being alive. You with me, Simpkins?

IRIS

Miles. You really are an incredibly decent man.

MILES

I know. That's always been my problem.