

**The Shape of Things**

**Adam**

.....Not a big 'modern art' crowd, I guess, huh?

**Evelyn**

Hey. (Beat.) Glad you stopped by...

**Adam**

Yeah, well, I didn't really have anything to do... Plus, I can't show my face in the streets, so it seemed logical.

**Evelyn**

Look, Adam...

**Adam**

Please don't "Look Adam" me now, okay, or I might not make it through this... (Beat) Just refer to me as "it" or "untitled", it'll help me keep some perspective here...

*(He wanders over and purs some punch. Stuffs a few cookies in his pocket. Shoves three in his mouth and chews them down.)*

...That's gonna shoot some piece of data all to shit isn't it?

**Evelyn**

Doesn't matter now, do what you want... You're finished.

**Adam**

"You're finished?" Wow (Considers) Most people just say "Hey, sorry, can't marry you". And they say it in private...

**Evelyn**

...Yeah, that might have been a bit too far...  
Listen, I know my work relied on not telling you what was going on, but I...

**Adam**

Here in a "small town" we just call it lying...

**Evelyn**

I did lie to you, yes...

**Adam**

Yeah, just a little. (Beat) I'm a very straight forward person...

**Evelyn**

I had to say that. Sorry.

**Adam**

You're sorry? Well, that's good...I figured that I was gonna have to really work to get that one out of you.

**Evelyn**

I'm not sorry. I mean, not for what I've done. I just feel bad that you're upset...

**Adam**

Oh, I see...

**Evelyn**

I even thought maybe you could handle it. I did, really. ..Otherwise I wouldn't have invited you tonight.

**Adam**

Yeah, just me and two hundred of my closest friends.

**Evelyn**

Adam, you don't have any friends. (Beat) You gave up the only ones I've known you to have. Gave 'em up pretty easily...

**Adam**

Geez... Don't hold back at all, please. Call it exactly how you see it.

**Evelyn**

I just want to keep it as truthful as possible.

**Adam**

You know, Evelyn, what do you want me to say? You messed with my life and you put it under fucking glass.... That might make anyone a touch cross.

**Evelyn**

What'd I do wrong? (Beat). Seriously, tell me...

**Adam**

You are seriously twisted up. I mean it...

**Evelyn**

Yeah...What was so bad? I wanna know, tell me...From your perspective.

**Adam**

I'm not gonna give you a last little thrill. Fuck that.

**Evelyn**

So, tell me then. Go ahead, you feel that way about me, you can tell me what I did wrong. If I did something wrong.

**Adam**

You don't see this as wrong?!

**Evelyn**

I said, you tell me. I wanna know what you think I did...

**Adam**

You honestly have no concept here...

**Evelyn**

Just say it...

**Adam**

Aww, shit. Look...I don't have time, okay? I'm not gonna stand here and...

**Evelyn**

The exercising? Or was it the new clothes that really bugged you?

**Adam**

That is not the...

**Evelyn**

Everything I did made you a more desirable person, Adam. People began to notice you...Take interest in you. I watched them...

**Adam**

Well, lucky me. I got to be part of your installation "thingie".

**Evelyn**

You *are* my installation thingie... (Beat). Look, if you hadn't been here tonight, hadn't heard all this stuff...wouldn't you still be happy? Waiting at home for me, hoping this went well, wanting to make love...

**Adam**

That's not the point...

**Evelyn**

Yes, it is! It's the *total* point. All that stuff we did was real for you, therefore it was real. It wasn't for me, therefore it wasn't. It's all subjective, Adam. Everything.

**Adam**

Not love. Not cruelty.

**Evelyn**

Of course they are...

**Adam**

I'll tell you something real, I should sue your ass.

**Evelyn**

You could... I did take that risk.

**Adam**

That's right, you did, and you're crazy if you think I'm gonna let you put all this shit on display. Our time together. Those're our video tapes, aren't they? The...sex ones. They are! You are nuts...

**Evelyn**

There's a lot of stuff here. I haven't even put it all out yet...

**Adam**

Well, you might as well keep it packed up, then.

**Evelyn**

You should be proud of it...most of it...

**Adam**

Just save it, kay?

**Evelyn**

...Adam, this is my work. ..I'll give back whatever you want, as soon as I get my grade.

**Adam**

Whatever.

**Evelyn**

I will.

**Adam**

The ring would be nice. It was my Grandma's.

**Evelyn**

I'll take care of it.

**Adam**

Thanks, good.

**Evelyn**

Hard Feelings?

**Adam**

Me? Nah.... We had some fun, right?

**Evelyn**

Yeah

**Adam**

But Hey, that's subjective

**Evelyn**

Ecactly.

**Adam**

Then I had some fun, fell in love and all that... and you got yourself a grade and a column inch or two in the college paper. Congrats, seriously... But do me a favour, don't fool yourself and think that this is "Art". Okay? It's a sick fucking joke, but it's not art.

**Evelyn**

Is that right?

**Adam**

For art to exist, there has to be a line out there somewhere. A line between really saying something and just... needing attention....I guess I'm done.

**Evelyn**

Wow. Okay... so you're saying I should be a "better person". Is that it?

**Adam**

That's the nutshell, yeah.

**Evelyn**

Better like....you?

**Adam**

No. Just better....

**Evelyn**

Well, we'll just have to agree to disagree then, won't we?

**Adam**

Yes, we will. We will definitely do that.  
Tell me though. One thing.

**Evelyn**

Yes?

**Adam**

Was any of it true?

**Evelyn**

What do you mean?

**Adam**

Not the things we did, or the kind words or whatever....But any of it?

**Evelyn**

No, not really.

**Adam**

I mean about you. The nose-job or lake forest or your mother's maiden name? One thing you ever said to me?

**Evelyn**

My Mom's name is Anderson....

**Adam**

Oh. Are you twenty-five?

**Evelyn**

Twenty-two.

**Adam**

Got it, got it. ...Gemini at least?

**Evelyn**

No, pisces, sorry

**Adam**

Don't be. Hey, it's .....art.

**Evelyn**

I should probably get going, I gotta hook up with some guys from my department.....

**Adam**

Alright.

**Evelyn**

You coming?

**Adam**

Nah, not yet....Don't worry, I'm not gonna do anything to your stuff. No spray paint. I just....

**Evelyn**

I understand. Go ahead.

**Adam**

Thanks....

**Evelyn**

The door locks if you just close it.

**Adam**

Great.

**Evelyn**

...that one time.

**Adam**

Huh?

**Evelyn**

In your bed, one night, when you leaned over and whispered in my ear... remember?

**Adam**

Course. I remember everything about us.

**Evelyn**

And I whispered back to you, I said....

**Adam**

I remember.

**Evelyn**

I meant that, I did.

**Adam**

Yeah?

**Evelyn**

Yes.

**Adam**

Oh.