

Date

By

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*The two characters are playing in a sandbox.*

MAN

I'm going to work in Finland. Gonna pick strawberries and buy a car.

WOMAN

Oh yeah?

MAN

Yeah. That's what I'll do. It's hard work. I've talked to others who've done it, but you earn a lot. You earn a fuck-ton.

WOMAN

Gonna buy anything else?

MAN

Beside the car you mean?

WOMAN

Yeah.

MAN

... No. Haven't thought about it. I really need a car.

WOMAN

Oh yeah?

MAN

Yeah. D'you have summer plans?

WOMAN

Not really. Just... take it easy. Learn the piano. My brother knows how to play, maybe take some lessons from him.

MAN

I hear you. I'd love to see you play. Got any songs in mind?

WOMAN

No. Don't know any yet.

MAN

You'll learn.

WOMAN

Imagine by John Lennon maybe.

MAN

Oh yeah?

WOMAN

Yeah. I like it. I like songs about dreaming.

MAN

He got shot, right?

WOMAN

I know that. Why would you say that?

MAN

It's just a fact.

WOMAN

Don't need to tell me.. facts. You'll die. That's a fact. You like hearing that?

MAN

... no.

WOMAN

So.

MAN

Sorry.

WOMAN

Never mind.

MAN

Love the clouds today.

WOMAN

Yeah. Beautiful.

MAN

You into art?

WOMAN

Yeah. Sure. Like anyone.

MAN

Yeah, I hear you. Me too. Love art. You gonna have kids?

WOMAN

No. I'm complete. Complete without children.

MAN

I see. Opposite of me, then.

WOMAN

What kind of art do you like? One time someone told me they like art and I went to their place and it was just full of mirrors.

MAN  
Mirrors are cheap art.

WOMAN  
Hah!

MAN  
Super pretty clouds.

WOMAN  
Super.

MAN  
Super pretty. Yeah.

WOMAN  
My grandmother used to say that you can see your secrets in the clouds.

MAN  
Yeah? Do you see any?

WOMAN  
Will you tell me yours if I tell you mine?

MAN  
Alright.

WOMAN  
Sometimes in bed I make a bet that I won't fall asleep until an eyelash falls onto the page I am reading. It never happens so I just keep going.

MAN  
One day I saw a girl in a wheelchair on her porch and wasps were swarming her. She was singing to herself and swatting the wasps away. She was singing about meeting strangers. I could've gone up, but I didn't.

WOMAN  
I'm scared to have sex with you.

MAN  
I like seeing a house fire. Or a capsized yacht. Or a plywood tombstone.

WOMAN  
I'm allergic to honey.

MAN  
I've broken up with people just to see what their reaction would be. Just to see how much they were into me. If they'd cry.

WOMAN

My neighbor is blind and grows apples. I watch him for hours from the window when he picks them.

MAN

My mom and dad are divorced.

WOMAN

Mine too.

MAN

I hate my brother.

WOMAN

I don't have anyone.

MAN

I love sailing but I get nauseous easily.

WOMAN

I forget which way is left.

MAN

I can't actually drive.

WOMAN

I don't want to.

MAN

I love the smell of hay.

WOMAN

I want to be cremated.

MAN

Or the sound of rain on a tin roof. Like a cat tap dancing on its claws.

WOMAN

Laid to rest near the seaside where the water rises in the winter and freezes on the shore. Pure white as far as the eye can see.

*They look at the clouds.*

WOMAN

Look at me.

*He does so.*

MAN

What?

WOMAN

Pretend like you're in love with me.

MAN

Part of the game?

WOMAN

Yes. Part of the game.

*He looks at her.*

MAN

For a little while.

*They look at each other.*

*End.*