

BRONWEN

The train is dancing! Oh! Here comes a tunnel. Perhaps... we might try your “over-under” thing?

(Regarding each other, they move to the center. TRAIN WHISTLE.)

BLACKOUT

ACT II

SCENE ONE

(A hotel room. Room service tray on the bed. Champagne. Beach view. A TRAIN WHISTLE in the distance.)

(CAROL sits in the hotel bed, facing Daniel’s twin, MICHAEL, who kneels in his robe – the same robe – on the bed beside her in the classic “marriage proposal” stance, holding an engagement ring box and a spray of flowers, smiling with anticipation.)

(Short pause, then:)

START HERE —>

No.

CAROL

Sweetheart, you’ve just made me... did you say No?

MICHAEL

Yes.

CAROL

Your answer’s Yes?

MICHAEL
(confused)

No.

CAROL

Your answer’s No?

MICHAEL

Yes. CAROL

No-you-don't-want-to-marry-me. MICHAEL

Correct. But Michael... CAROL

Whoa. MICHAEL

Michael... CAROL

(SHE reaches a hand out to him but HE backs off the bed.)

After last night? After this weekend? After... MICHAEL
 (humping gesture)
 this morning? You said last night you loved me. You said it...
 (thinks)
 three and a half times...

You were counting? CAROL

I'm a numbers guy. MICHAEL

I do love you. And these last few months have been wonderful. CAROL

But? MICHAEL

Come on. CAROL

Come on what? MICHAEL

You know what. You can't be trusted. CAROL
 (off his blank look)
 Just in the last nine months there was me... Llewelyn's crazy Goth sister...

MICHAEL

Oh, pffff...

CAROL

The girl at the airport Ramada! The Absolut Vodka girls when you were in Boston...

(MICHAEL can't help smiling at the memory. He covers it.)

CAROL

And that's just the ones you told me about.

MICHAEL

I told you all of them! And you're counting yourself, which really doesn't seem fair.

CAROL

I don't think you can do it.

MICHAEL

Monogamy? Honey, love of my life, I've looked all over the world and decided I only want you.

CAROL

When you're in bed with me you only want me.

MICHAEL

(to his crotch)

Do you believe this?

CAROL

You cheated on all your other girlfriends.

MICHAEL

Because they weren't you! I mean, be logical here...

CAROL

How do I know you won't cheat on me, which if we were married would destroy me, Michael, it really would.

MICHAEL

Sweetheart it wouldn't happen.

CAROL

Even Friday night, when we checked in. With me right beside you.

(HE pretends confusion.)

CAROL

The slinky catwoman in the business suit at the bar?

MICHAEL

I didn't...

CAROL

Oh come on. Your neck made a crane sound. With your past, and what you've told me about your practices, how could I trust you? **<—END HERE**

(HE sits on the edge of the bed. SHE pours him champagne.)

MICHAEL

I hid those roses in my robe for five minutes. They scratched.

CAROL

This is supposed to change my mind?

MICHAEL

Okay I get what you're saying. Through my pain and disappointment and the thorn injuries, I get it. You're right. Everything you said. I ruin everything.

CAROL

Don't be so accurate on yourself.

MICHAEL

Ha. I'm self-serving, I swing wild. I damaged my relationship with Daniel...

CAROL

Daniel who owes you eight grand?

MICHAEL

He lost his wife, I was being understanding.

CAROL

He didn't lose her, she's in Phoenix. With a car and a boat you paid for.

MICHAEL

Carol, I want to do everything for you. I want to give you champagne and flowers. I want to hold you in my arms under the moon on a beach, in Greece...

CAROL

Why Greece?