

ALEX GALLOWAY ²⁵

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

46 INT. LODARI HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

46

Alex stares at an elegant Goya-style painting of an 18th Century Matador as Juliana emerges from the kitchen, her shoes and suit jacket off - hands Alex a glass of milk.

START

JULIANA

I was only gonna stay here a couple weeks, but I haven't even had a chance to look for a place.

ALEX

This painting makes sense now.
(as she hands him the...)
Milk?

JULIANA

You need your strength. What makes sense?

ALEX

(re: painting)
I ran into a professor from Loyola Law School. He told me our fathers started the Matadors together. Did you know that?

JULIANA

I thought it was just my dad.

ALEX

(shrugs, figures)
Good name for a secret law school society: Matadors. Part showman, part strategist.

JULIANA

Killer instinct.

ALEX

With all this bad blood, it's hard to imagine our two Matadors were once close friends.

There's a ritualistic quality in the way these two move about the room, a dance. INTERCUT images of the very near future: shoes kicked off, a shirt removed. Alex and Juliana find themselves transported back to their adolescence as a playful removal of clothes grows into something intense and physical.

JULIANA

Apparently, it's a lot easier for two friends to become enemies, than two enemies to become friends.

1/2

"MATADORS"

ALEX
Who, us? We were enemies?

JULIANA
No, we were rebels.

ALEX
You were a rebel. I was forbidden fruit.

JULIANA
(smiles, then)
Don't get me wrong. The feelings were real.
(off Alex)
Weren't they?

ALEX
They had to be. I haven't felt that way since.

Boom. So, there it is. Juliana stares at Alex -- the spark has turned to flame.

JULIANA
Why are you here, Alex?

Alex slowly moves closer to Juliana, takes her hand. Then...

ALEX
I thought I knew driving over.

JULIANA
Did it slip your mind?

Alex pauses for a moment, then steps closer, pulling Juliana's hand to his chest with both of his.

ALEX
Something like: I don't want bad blood between us.

Alex inches in...bringing them ever so slowly together.

JULIANA
And now?

ALEX
I want more.

Finally, their lips touch - a gentle, but long overdue kiss.

47 ~~EXT. LODARI HOUSE - NEXT DAY~~

~~Bang. Roman Lodari shuts the back door of a town car as his driver pulls away. Roman notices an unfamiliar car parked on the street and Juliana's car still in the driveway.~~

STOP

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