

WAITING...

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WAITING

AT RISE,

A young woman (30's) is facing the audience reading a book and making notes at a library table with several chairs.

A young man (30's) enters, looks around, walks behind the woman, finally sits at the same table (also facing the audience).

The woman does not look up when the man sits down beside her.

MAN

(in a whisper)

Excuse me, but I was supposed to meet a Sandra Michaels here this afternoon.

Woman does not respond.

MAN

She's interested in art, books, museums, and classical music. Of course, they all say that. I haven't met one yet that doesn't lie on her profile.

WOMAN

You haven't met one what?

MAN

What? Oh... I haven't met a woman on line who doesn't lie. They never turn out to be who they say they are.

WOMAN

Really. Who do they say they are?

MAN

Women who wouldn't dream of meeting anyone in a bar. They also say that they're shy about meeting men. Then they turn out to be someone who loves rock concerts and men with sleeves.

WOMAN

Sleeves?

Man runs his hands down his arms.

MAN

Tats, here to there.

WOMAN

On a woman?

MAN

On a man.

WOMAN

Why are you looking for a woman who wants a man like that in a library?

MAN

I suggested we meet here. I thought if the idea turned her off, she wouldn't show up.

(looks around)

You haven't seen anyone who looks like that, have you?

WOMAN

Tell me again, looks like what?

MAN

Like a woman who is comfortable meeting in a library.

I'm testing her.

VOICE FROM ACROSS THE ROOM

Shhhhhh.

MAN

(nods his head toward the voice)

Sorry.

WOMAN

(whispers)

Sounds like you haven't had much luck meeting the right woman.

MAN

I haven't. The last one had a nose ring. Not exactly someone I could take home to mom. But my father might like her.

Woman resumes reading.

MAN

What are you reading?

WOMAN

D. H. Lawrence.

MAN

Why?

WOMAN

I love Lawrence.

MAN

Wasn't he Lawrence of Arabia?

WOMAN

That was T. E. Lawrence. D. H. was a writer.

MAN

What did he write?

WOMAN

Novels, mostly. One you might know is "Lady Chatterley's Lover".

MAN

Wasn't that banned for being erotic?

WOMAN

At the time, yes. Not today. Saying it's erotic today
would send it to the top of the best seller list.

Lawrence also wrote SONS AND LOVERS and WOMEN
IN LOVE.

MAN

Those would be enormous sellers today, seems to me.

WOMAN

Nobody reads any more. At least not books. Why don't
you leave a note for your friend at the desk?

MAN

I don't think I want to hook up with anyone who keeps me
waiting on the first date.

The woman resumes reading.

MAN

Which of Lawrence's books are you reading?

WOMAN

WOMEN IN LOVE.

MAN

Oh. Are you...?

WOMAN

No. I'm not.

MAN

I was going to say... in love.

WOMAN

Oh. No. Do you have a picture of this woman
you're meeting?

MAN

No. She said she didn't have a recent one. I didn't send her one either.

WOMAN

A woman just walked in the front door.

Man looks over at the woman (not visible).

MAN

That can't be her.

WOMAN

Why do you say that?

MAN

Because she's beautiful.

WOMAN

And the woman you're waiting for isn't?

MAN

No. If she were beautiful, she wouldn't be trying to find a lover on the internet.

WOMAN

How do you know she wants a lover?

MAN

She sounded... interested.

WOMAN

Not too if she doesn't show up.