

"WE COULD BE LOOKING FOR THE SAME THING"

By

Arturo Arredondo

FADE IN:

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

In media res. A MAN and a WOMAN are seated at a table; they seem to have been engaged in a debate for quite some time. He is in his 30s, average height, dark olive skinned with short black hair, wearing a t-shirt and jeans. She is almost his height, white but lightly tanned, shoulder-length dark brown hair with auburn streaks throughout, wearing a sweatshirt and leggings.

HER

You should back down.

HIM

I'm saying it's definitely this.

HER

No fucking way. It's obviously that.

HIM

I should be right, because I'm the protagonist and you are the antagonist.

HER

Either one of us could be the protagonist and the other the antagonist.

HIM

Then I will assume the responsibility of command, because I want to be right.

HER

That's it? That's what the script is about?

HIM

Sometimes, goals don't have to be grand.

HER

People don't want to watch some slice of life.

HIM

That's not my problem. Some days, my goal is to make it out of bed. Life is hard.

HER

But won't the audience wonder what our argument is about?

HIM

I figured the first few lines showed them, but just in case...

HER

No, never mind. I'm just saying they may want higher stakes, is all.

HIM

Too bad.

HER

But the script guidelines call for a clean resolution.

HIM

I'm still working on that. I guess I'll come around to your side at the end.

HER

Why not stick to your guns?

HIM

Hmm, no lo se...

HER

¿Estás seguro?

HIM

I mean, maybe. We'll hang ourselves tomorrow if we can't reach a consensus.

HER

Pass. Especially when you've already said you will waver in your position.

HIM

Well, are you planning on coming around to seeing my side?

HER

Why should I? You should be less stubborn.

HIM

I've earned my stubbornness, but in this case, I will be ever the feminist.

HER

Uh huh. Go on.

HIM

I don't mind admitting I was wrong considering the other option is a man with the most dialog insisting to a woman that she is wrong.

HER

So you're finally saying it's this?

HIM

I will concede because there must be a clear resolution at the end.

HER

But what is this or that supposed to be?

HIM

That's for the audience to imagine.

SMASH CUT:

THE END