

THE BEGINNING

[We are in a lawyer's office. The Lawyer sits behind a desk while Madeline, Louise, Peter and Dean are gathered at various spots in the office. Dean is set back from the others and could easily been given as an assistant to the Lawyer – but is not. Cue Song 1: Good Man.]

THE LAWYER

Thank you all for attending. I will read the last will and testament of Matthew James Langford the Third.

ALL (-LAWYER and DEAN)

HE WAS A GOOD MAN
A STRONG MAN
A MAN WHO STOOD BY HIS WORD

HE WAS A FAIR MAN
A PROUD MAN
FOR WHOM OUR SPIRITS ARE STIRRED

HE WILL BE MISSED SORELY
HE WILL BE MISSED SURELY
AND WE WILL FEEL POORLY

JACK

DAYS FROM NOW

LOUISE

WEEKS FROM NOW

MADELINE

YEARS FROM NOW

ALL (-LAWYER and DEAN)

HE WAS A GOOD MAN
MATTHEW, GOOD BYE

THE LAWYER

Let us begin. *[He reads from the will.]* “To Madeline, my wife, I leave the Wedgewood china and collectables, as well as the Swarovski figurines.” *[Cue Song 2: Wedded Bliss.]* “May these remind you of the life we led together.”

MADELINE

TWENTY YEARS OF MARRIAGE IN A
HOUSEHOLD FULL OF GIFTS AND TRINKETS
GATHERING DUST
ALL LOVE AND LUST WENT YEARS AGO
REPLACED BY STAUNCH PERFECTION

PASSION WANING, JUST PRETENTION
OUTSIDE LOOKED IN
AND WITNESSED NO SIN

BUT GONE – HE WAS NEVER THERE
THOUGH I DID MY SHARE
THOUGH I PLAYED MY PART
AND STILL THE FOOLISH GIRL INSIDE
CONVINCED ME I HAD PRIDE
WHEN THERE WAS NONE THERE

NOW HE’S GONE AND LEFT ME IN A
HOUSEHOLD FULL OF GIFTS AND TRINKETS
ONE THOUGHT COMES NEAR
MY GREATEST OF FEARS
WHO WAS HE WITH YEAR AFTER YEAR
IF NOT I

THE LAWYER

“To Louise, my loyal secretary, I give you this.”

[The Lawyer hands over a small box. Louise opens it to reveal a Harry Winston necklace. She holds it up.]

LOUISE

Oh my.

THE LAWYER

“May it remind you of the beautiful times we spent together.”

MADELINE

Excuse me?

[Cue Song 3: Little Black Dress.]

LOUISE

OH DON’T YOU TELL ME THAT IT’S ANY SURPRISE

MADELINE

SO IT WAS YOU?

LOUISE

YOU WOULD HAVE NOTICED IF YOU OPENED YOUR EYES

MADELINE

THAT’S HARDLY FAIR!

LOUISE

WHILE YOU WERE KEEPING FIRES BURNING AT HOME

MADELINE
FOR TWENTY YEARS!

LOUISE
I HAVE HIM REASON FOR HIS FINGERS TO ROAM

MADELINE
I THOUGHT HE LOVED...

LOUISE
IT'S NOT AS IF HE DIDN'T LOVE YOU, I GUESS

MADELINE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

LOUISE
I'M BETTER LOOKING IN A LITTLE BLACK DRESS

MADELINE
I NEVER KNEW!

LOUISE
IT STARTED INNOCENTLY FIVE YEARS AGO
HIS WORLD WAS MOVING TO THE TOP FROM SO-SO
HE NEEDED PEOPLE WHO WERE WILLING TO CLIMB
SO I SHOWED MY SKILLS IN MORE THAN JUST OVERTIME
AT FIRST I THOUGHT I HAD TO TRY AND IMPRESS
AND THEN HE SAW ME IN MY LITTLE BLACK DRESS

MADELINE
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?

LOUISE
I DIDN'T PUSH HIM AWAY
I NEVER TOLD HIM TO STAY
I WOULDN'T CORNER HIM IN
I HAVE HIM REASON TO WIN
I NEVER ARGUED AT NIGHT
I NEVER STARTED A FIGHT
I SIMPLY GAVE HIM WHAT HE NEEDED
AND SO HE GAVE ME WHAT I NEEDED TOO
MORE THAN YOU!

LOUISE/MADELINE
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT 'TIL WHAT YOU'VE GOT'S THRU
BUT I'M GONNA MISS HIM, MAYBE MORESO THAN YOU
WISH I COULD TELL YOU THAT I'M SAD FOR YOUR LOSS