

ACT THREE B

LILA'S SUITE / NIGHT. IN PROGRESS. ON LILA AND MATT ON THE BRINK OF MAKING LOVE...UNTIL...MATT STOPS, AND PULLS BACK.

MATT
RISES, HATING HIMSELF FOR BEING NOBLE)
HE HANDS HER A ROBE, WHATEVER) Would you mind...?

LILA
You're asking me to cover up? What did I do?

MATT
It's nothing you did, or said.

LILA
Then why are you pushing me away?

MATT
Because if you won't do it, I have to. Lila, much as I wish it weren't true, we don't belong together.

LILA
No, we do. I realize that now. You were right all along.

MATT
Man, do you have any idea how long I've waited for you to say that?
But we both know this'd never work.

LILA
That's not true.

MATT
One of us has really lousy timing.

LILA
I meant what I said. I don't know what more you want from me.

MATT

(BEAT) Love, Lila. In that litany of every reason we should be together, you never said you love me.

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LILA

But I...

MATT

(OVER) You love Cass. Not me. He's the one you belong with.
(ON LILA, AS SHE SUDDENLY BURSTS INTO TEARS)

LILA

I've hurt you again... and I didn't mean to...

MATT

I'm disappointed, but I'm not hurt.

LILA

You sure?

MATT

(NODS) I know you don't want to hurt me...I know you want Jasmine and me to be happy.

LILA

I do. More than anything.

MATT

But neither one of us should settle for less than everything. Nothing less than having it all. I'm talking about love and everything that goes with it. Right?

LILA

But it doesn't make any sense. Why on earth would any woman in her right mind choose Cass Winthrop over you?

MATT

(JOKES) Sweetheart, I never said anything about you being in your right mind. (LILA WIPES AWAY TEARS) Hey, come on. Love isn't supposed to make any sense. It defies all logic, all common sense, you can't explain it, it can't be duplicated, it makes you do the insane or impossible. That makes it love.

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LILA

Maybe you're right...

MATT

Of course I'm right. Everybody wants what you and Cass have. The sparks and romance...even the stupid fights I remember somebody telling me once that you get the love you deserve, the love that you're waiting for, when you're finally ready for it. I think you're ready, Lila. And after all the things swell things you've said about me... I figure I deserve that too.

LILA

(TOUCHED, GOES TO HIM, GIVES A FRIENDLY, CHASTE KISS)
Mr. Cory...you are the prize package of all time.

MATT

Mrs. Cory...I will always be your friend.

LILA

Am I crazy for wanting Cass?

MATT

Of course you are. Don't worry, your secret's safe with me. I'd better get dressed, just our luck Cass'll show up...

LILA

(SUDDENLY BREAKS INTO TEARS) Just my luck. Just my luck...

MATT

Hey... (HOLDS HER IN A HUG) What's wrong? What'd I say?

LILA

He's gone. Cass is gone and he's never coming back. I've lost everything...Everything...(ON LILA IN TEARS. ON MATT'S CONCERN AS HE HOLDS HER AS SHE SOBS)

CUT TO: