

Screenplay

INT. NIGHT - APARTMENT

Cristina walks in and shuts the door. Owen sits at the counter. She sees him, then takes her coat off and throws her purse on the floor.

OWEN

I'm trying to understand you.

CRISTINA

You've been trying to screw me into submission.

OWEN

I was not.

CRISTINA

You've been trying to screw me into submission and I let you, because the sex was so good and your ego was hurt.

OWEN

I am trying. I am trying to understand you. I am trying to know you. I am trying to love you, and I don't know how. I don't know how, 'cause you don't give me anything.

CRISTINA

Oh, so the vent burn was you... branding me? Like I'm, like I'm cattle?

OWEN

I am trying! I don't know you. I don't know because you don't give me anything.

CRISTINA

I give you everything.

OWEN

Burke.

CRISTINA

What?

OWEN

Burke. Preston Burke. You were engaged to him. There was almost a wedding. Why didn't that happen?

(CONTINUED)

CRISTINA

No. No, I'm not... We're not doing this.

OWEN

See? You give me nothing. Maybe I... Maybe I was trying to screw you into submission. Maybe I was trying to connect. I'll try anything. I'll try anything, but you have to give me something back.

CRISTINA

Well Burke is irrelevant.

OWEN

Yeah, like I'll be in three year's time.

CRISTINA

That's not fair.

OWEN

I'm trying to love you. Why won't you let me?

(Beat.)

CRISTINA

Burke. Burke was um, he took something from me. He took little pieces of me. Little pieces over time. So small I didn't notice, you know? He wanted me to be something I wasn't and I made myself into what he wanted. One day I was me, Cristina, and then suddenly I was lying and jeopardizing my career and agreeing to be married and wearing a ring and being a bride. Until I was standing there in a wedding dress with no eyebrows and I wasn't Cristina anymore, and even then I would have married him. I would have. I lost myself for a long time, and now that I'm finally me again... I can't. I love you. I love you more than I loved Burke, I love you. And that scares the crap out of me, because when you asked me to ignore Teddy's page, you took a piece of me, and I let you. And that will never happen again.