

HOW WE SAY GOODBYE

by

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EXT. PARK - EVENING

Park is mostly empty at the moment. Maybe one or two parkgoers walk around. On a bench we spot LISA, a beautiful girl in her 20's who appears to be lost or worried. We can't really tell how long she's been sitting on that bench. It could be hours or just minutes.

In a different spot we see CHRISTIAN, also in his 20's, he is frozen at the moment. Unsure of anything but yet has a determined look on him.

He starts making his way to Lisa.

CHRISTIAN

Lisa.

LISA

Hi Christian.

CHRISTIAN

Sorry I'm late.

LISA

Please... don't worry. I have nowhere else to go.

CHRISTIAN

Well... I'm here now.

LISA

Yeah.

Christian joins her on the bench. Beat.

CHRISTIAN

How's everything so far?

LISA

I've been better.

CHRISTIAN

I know what you mean.

Lisa takes a deep breath and locks eyes with Christian.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

What?

LISA

Christian, this is hard.

CHRISTIAN

You know what? Let's avoid any negative talk right now... or anything related to the past.

LISA

Ok, but you know that's kind of impossible.

CHRISTIAN

Look, you wanted to meet up.

LISA

I needed to make sure we can be OK.

CHRISTIAN

I thought we were past that.

LISA

No, we're not.

CHRISTIAN

Lisa you were the one who would hang up on me and not answer my calls. That pretty much clarifies that you didn't want to talk.

LISA

Not when you're losing it. You said some hurtful things Christian.

CHRISTIAN

I apologize. I'm sure you understand.

LISA

I don't.

CHRISTIAN

You don't? Really?

LISA

I'm your wife.

CHRISTIAN

You were.

LISA

We're still married, but Ok, I WAS your wife and it hurt how you thought all those things about me. Is that really what you think of me?

Beat.

LISA (CONT'D)
Christian?

CHRISTIAN
I don't know.

LISA
Well that's too bad. You know,
people said we moved too fast. That
we were crazy. That wasn't it. I
knew who you were. What kind of guy
you were. You were different. I
knew that first night we kissed. I
loved you very much. Christian...
please look at me.

Christian looks at her.

LISA (CONT'D)
I loved you very much and I was
happy.

CHRISTIAN
I don't think you were.

LISA
No! Shut up. Yes I was. Don't say
things on my behalf.

CHRISTIAN
Ok, fine you loved me and you were
happy.

LISA
Were you?

Beat.

LISA (CONT'D)
Were you happy?

CHRISTIAN
Yeah, I was.

LISA
Did you love me?

CHRISTIAN
Jesus Christ Lisa. You think I'm
going to marry just any girl I
didn't love?

(MORE)

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Marriage was never in my plans for the moment and I married you. You think that was a joke for me?

LISA

If we're going to say goodbye, I just need to at least KNOW.

CHRISTIAN

We're going to have to see each other again for the paperwork.

LISA

You know what I mean.

CHRISTIAN

(Giving in)

I loved you Lisa.

LISA

How do you think I felt? When you screamed those things to me? Your mother calling me? Accusing me! Your father too.

CHRISTIAN

And I told them to stop didn't I? They shouldn't have been involved but can you really blame them?

LISA

Of course not, but them hating me makes me sad.

CHRISTIAN

Look... they haven't been bothering you anymore so don't worry. I'm the one that has to deal with them.

LISA

This wasn't supposed to happen. I didn't want it to be like this. I had a whole different vision in my mind.

CHRISTIAN

So did I.

LISA

How did you imagine it?

CHRISTIAN

It doesn't matter.

LISA
I want to know.

CHRISTIAN
I said I didn't want any negative talk or past stuff. That doesn't mean I want to talk about the future that we could've had.

LISA
I want to talk about the future.

CHRISTIAN
Oh? You want to talk about the future? How's your friend by the way?

LISA
No! No! You can't be immature again.

CHRISTIAN
What? I'm immature?

LISA
When you talk about him... yes.

CHRISTIAN
I just wanted to know how your friend is doing. I mean, he must be doing well.

LISA
Stop it Christian!

CHRISTIAN
Why did you want to meet up then? If you can't talk! What do you want?

LISA
I wanted to see you! To know we can be Ok. I can't have you hate me.

Lisa looks up at the sky. She then reaches for her pocket and takes out a ring.

LISA (CONT'D)
Here... I also wanted to give you back the ring. I don't think I should have it. I don't feel good keeping it.

CHRISTIAN

And you thought I would feel better?

LISA

I don't feel right with it. I'm not going to sell it or give it away. That's why you need to take it.

Christian accepts the ring and just looks at it.

CHRISTIAN

Ok. I'm gonna leave. There's not much more to say.

LISA

Do you really have to?

CHRISTIAN

No, but I want to.

Christian gets up from the bench.

LISA

Then please don't leave. Not yet.

CHRISTIAN

Lisa, common. I think we're done here. You gave me the ring. We're Ok.

LISA

I still need to talk.

CHRISTIAN

Bye Lisa. I'm done listening.

Christian starts walking the way he came from.

LISA

Christian... don't walk away from me.

CHRISTIAN

Hey I didn't ask for this.

LISA

You think I did? I'm sorry Ok!

CHRISTIAN

OK!

Christian keeps walking.

LISA
Christian don't be an asshole!

Christian keeps walking.

LISA (CONT'D)
Why do you hate me!

Christian stops and walks towards her.

CHRISTIAN
That's it! You're done playing the victim here! Why do I hate you!? I don't but if I did... let me give you the reasons!

LISA
What are you going to do?! Insult me again?

CHRISTIAN
No, I'm going to remind you what really happened. A little thing called TRUTH! And you can run if you want since you can't hang up on me now!

LISA
Please!

CHRISTIAN
Let's see. We meet. We kiss and we date the next day. We fall in love and move in together. A year goes by and you start talking about marriage!...

LISA
Girls talk about marriage! There's nothing wrong with that!

CHRISTIAN
I'm talking here! Yes, there's nothing wrong with it! Not when it's done right. Not for your stupid reasons! Oh Christian... most of my friends are getting married... I don't want to marry late, I want a family soon, who cares about money, we love each other, my parents are worried about my future. All that shit!

(MORE)

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Despite the fact that I'm the one supporting you financially and having very little money, we have a small wedding. We can't afford a honeymoon. Months go by... you're still unemployed... searching for jobs. You get depressed. You and your friends part ways... that is until you meet David! Oh David! What a good guy he is!

LISA

Stop it!

She starts hitting and pounding on his chest.

CHRISTIAN

Yeah hit me! Go ahead! You know I'm too much of a nice guy! I won't do anything about it!

Lisa stops and is full of tears.

LISA

Why are you doing this?

CHRISTIAN

Because it was always your way. What you wanted. I bet you even had this whole scenario right here at the park planned out. How we were going to talk! I'm sorry, but no! It's my turn. David and you become good friends. He even helps you find a job. How sweet of him. Then of course, he becomes your best friend. Now, I'm not the jealous type but I have my limits. Here they are: you hanging out with him constantly, you calling and texting him everyday, the many dinners you had with him, him coming over to our place way too many times.

LISA

He is just a friend!

CHRISTIAN

Yeah! That's what you kept saying. Then I ask you one day... what the hell is going on? Is he in love with you or what? And you say no! That he's lonely and that you were too.

(MORE)

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

That you no longer had your
girlfriends because they were crazy
when the real crazy one was you!
You said you were just friends!

LISA

We were!

CHRISTIAN

I mean in what normal fucking world
is it OK for a wife, not just any
friend or girlfriend but a WIFE...
to hang out just about everyday
with another man?

LISA

You never wanted to do anything
Christian! You didn't want to go
out, you were always in your own
world, your career...

CHRISTIAN

Oh that's a bad thing!

LISA

It is when you don't care about me!
I felt lonely. Unsure of you and
everything around me. If you have a
wife you're supposed to always make
her feel like she is your priority!
Like you care!

CHRISTIAN

I fucking cared! And your problem
is that you're an insecure little
girl who just seeks validation from
anywhere or anyone.

LISA

You are so different than me.

CHRISTIAN

That's how you met me. You married
me... knowing how I am.

LISA

Yes but when you're with someone
you have to adapt sometimes and
compromise some things.

CHRISTIAN

You just keep finding more excuses
for yourself. You'll never admit
your mistakes will you?

(MORE)

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

You knew that I was getting annoyed of you and him hanging out everyday. Did you compromise?!

LISA

You didn't want me to have any friends!

CHRISTIAN

Shut the fuck up! Stop lying! I believed that at first! But then I discovered your emails and what do I see? Fucking love letters! From him! He was obsessed with you!

LISA

And I told you that I had talked to him and told him to not cross the line! That I was married and that his friendship meant a lot to me.

CHRISTIAN

His friendship meant more to you than our marriage I suppose.

LISA

No. No!

CHRISTIAN

Oh and let's not forget that night you got pissed at me... for trying to control you? I mean you call me to see if it's Ok if you sleep over at his place? What the hell did you want me to say? Sure babe. Go ahead. Sleep over with the guy that's in love with you. What are you stupid!?

Beat.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

I don't need to go on. But don't you dare say that I'm the one who hates you. I should be asking you that.

LISA

I loved you Christian. Please know that I did! I just couldn't take it anymore. I'm sorry if I hurt you.

CHRISTIAN

Hey, it's Ok. You can do whatever you want now. You don't have to lie to anyone anymore. You're free to sleep over anywhere you want.

LISA

Please don't be mad at me. Don't leave me like this.

CHRISTIAN

I don't know how you wanted to do all this, how you wanted to say goodbye for sure, but this is how I'm walking away. This will probably be our last long conversation that we ever have. And this is the memory that you will take. Me being hurt and ANGRY. And I have every FUCKING right to be like this.

Christian walks backwards while still looking at Lisa and screams and releases his rage. Lisa keeps on crying.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Goodbye.

He turns around. Lisa just watches him go.