

INT. NIGHT. DOWNTOWN. A PARTY VENUE

A high school mate party is being held. The hall is full of noise. People are enjoying the night of the reunion. In the crowd, a man with fancy tuxedo standing in the middle, surrounded by his followers. His name is ANDREW, a successful business man. At aside is his wife GINA, a gorgeous lady with blonde curly hair. Medium height but very slim. Black dress with some fancy lace and ribbons. High heels on her feet. Heavy makeup on her face. A shiny ruby necklace on her neck make her the most striking star of the party. By contrast, a man in an oversized black suit was sitting alone looking at them. This is PHILIP, who is tall and thin. Golden curved hair. Some freckles on his face, and his beard is uncleaned. Dark under-eye circles made him looks exhausted.

GINA sat next to PHILIP

GINA

(Pretend to be surprised)
You are Philip, don't you.

PHILIP

(Surprised)
Yes, and you are Gina.

GINA

(Smiled)
Glad to see you! We haven't been seeing each other for so long.

PHILIP

Yeah, quite a long time I guess.

GINA

I am surprised you still remember me, after your sudden disappear nine years ago.

PHILIP

Oh, thought you already forgot. Well, I'm sorry.

GINA

Well, whatever, I am not come to you for that. So how are you doing? I saw you talked with Andrew.

PHILIP

Nothing special, just saying hello.

GINA

But you look awful. What happened?

PHILIP

Its alright, just need more sleep I guess.

GINA

(Poured herself a glass of champagne)

Yea, I always lose sleep these days as well. Life is just disappointed.

PHILIP nods.

GINA (CONT'D)

(Raise her glass)

We are still friends, aren't we?

PHILIP

(Raise his glass)

Sure, if you say so.

Cheer.

GINA

You really haven't change a bit. Remember once we went to Rollywood for a hiking?

PHILIP

Hmm, not exactly.

GINA

I took a fall and broke my ankle, an you held me down the hill.

PHILIP

(look away)

Well, that is exactly what a friend would do.

GINA

Good relationship can always stand the test of time, isn't it?

PHILIP

(Want to stand up)

Right, and excuse me, I have to leave for a second.

GINA

(Hold Philip's arm)

Wait, don't leave yet, there is something I wanted to say.

PHILIP
(Back to the seat)
What is it?

GINA
Things are just different than what they appears.

PHILIP
What do you mean?

GINA
Did Andrew ever tell you how he and I end up together?

PHILIP
Nope, I did not contact with him that often after graduate.

GINA
Why not? I thought you two were the best friends.

PHILIP
(An awkward smile)
Used to be, I guess.

GINA
Did he say something to you? You two doesn't seem right, I mean if there is something, you can always tell me, we are still friends.

PHILIP
(Sigh)
I don't know, he is just too busy I guess, couldn't spare any time for an old friend.

GINA
That is exactly what Andrew would be like. To be honest, what he cares for is nothing but money. But he was not like this before we got together.

PHILIP took a drink

GINA (CONT'D)
I still remember that day, when he told me that he will always love me, and always stay with me. Quite moving isn't it? But he lied.

(MORE)

GINA (CONT'D)

Can you imagine a guy who said that left his wife at home alone for a whole week? I had enough with this workaholic.

PHILIP

I don't know, I thought you were happy. But at least his business is doing well, and you don't need to worry about money.

GINA

(Take a drink)
Money? I don't care about money, I just wanted to be loved. I don't think he loves me anymore. Came home at late night everyday, off for business travels more than half of the days in a year? That is never a loved couple would be like.

PHILIP

Come on, don't say that. You see there is always someone would die for money. To be honest, I wanted to be like him, rich and famous, surrounded by flatters. Beside, marriage can only get worse without enough money.

GINA

Is that the problem you got right now? I have told you a lot of mine, should be your turn now.

PHILIP

(Look away)
Kind of, I am short of money.

GINA

What happened?

PHILIP

It was my wife, caused some trouble, and needs money to cover it. My savings would never be enough. I have tried to borrow some, but not going well.

GINA

I don't even know you are married. But who hasn't. And talking about money, why don't you say it to Andrew. I am sure he can help.

PHILIP

(Shaked his head)

I told him already, he turned me down.

GINA

Oh, I never expect that to happen. But you need to know, he is always like this, not trusty at all.

PHILIP

I was expecting a great moment of old friend reunion, but instead... Well, maybe you are right. I have asked all the people I know already, all ended up with a no. Would you like to help me to ask Andrew again?

GINA

Listen, I saw him one day with another girl together on the street, and he told me he is not coming home that night. You really don't put all your trust on a man like this. It might just been a fault since the beginning. You really shouldn't let Andrew to send the refusion for you that day, the one I wanted to talk to was you.

PHILIP

Wait, what?

GINA

Don't tell me you forgot. But I do not hate you, it was not your fault anyway.

GINA drink up her glass of champagne.

GINA

I just wish it was you, not him.

001T

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP

What do you mean by that?

GINA

Don't fool me, you have always been smart. I'm serious this time, I miss you.

002T

[Continue after 001]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
Well, it was all in past.

GINA
But even after these years, I miss
you still.

003T

[Continue after 001]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
I do feel for you.

GINA
No you do not understand how hard
it was to me. But for all it
means, I really miss you.

004T

[Continue after 002,003,004]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
Thank you, but...

GINA
I know we you are going to concern,
but isn't love is always been
unreasonable like this? Beside,
your family ran into troubles, and
so do I.

005T

[Continue after 002,003,004]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
I want to tell you the truth.

GINA
The truth? I have already tell you
my truth, of course its you turn.

006T

[Continue after 005]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
We have already taken the step.

GINA

007T

All you need to say is yes, then we can change it all, it's never been too late.

[Continue after 006,007]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP

I liked you.

GINA

008T

Even now?

[Continue after 007]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP

Sorry, I can't.

GINA

009T

Forget about it, you said you need money right?

[Continue after 008]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP

The past have gone forever.

GINA

009T

Forget about it, you said you need money right?

[Continue after 008]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP

I have always been waiting.

GINA

Oh dear, I wish it was not a dream.

PHILIP reached to GINA's hand

PHILIP

It is all real. I am not going to miss you again.

GINA
 (Get rid of Philip's hand)
 Be careful, people are watching.
 Let us move to somewhere private.

PHILIP
 As you wish. Why don't we go
 upstairs, there are some meeting
 rooms empty.

GINA
 (Tease at Philip)
 Seems like you have been prepared,
 don't you.

PHILIP
 (Smiled)
 Not as much as you. I will go
 first, wait you at the door.

GINA
 (Wink)
 Sure my sweetheart, see you later.

PHILIP stood up and left the venue. GINA took out her
 cosmetic mirror, quickly checked her makeup, then followed
 the path PHILIP took.

The party is about to end, the two of them had to separate.
 GINA kissed PHILIP at the doorway of a meeting room, and
 promised to give anything he needed.

On the way home, while cleaning the love bite on his neck,
 PHILIP got a phone call from his wife, and he lied.

End.

[Continue after 009]

PHILIP
 That's true.

GINA
 Like I said, Andrew will never help
 you. He is just not that type.

010T

[Continue after 010]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
 Maybe I was too direct.

GINA
You are too sweet my dear, you need
to wake up!

011T

PHILIP
I don't know.

GINA
Listen, why don't I just give you
the money instead, it's not a big
deal anyway, perhaps he won't even
notice.

012T

[Continue after 010]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
Yeah, you are right.

GINA
Listen, why don't I just give you
the money instead, it's not a big
deal anyway, perhaps he won't even
notice.

012T

[Continue after 012]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
How can you say that!

GINA
I am just offering you a chance,
you need the money, so why not?

013T

[Continue after 012]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
But isn't that cheating?

GINA
I am just offering you a chance,
you need the money, so why not?

013T

[Continue after 012, 013]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
Are you sure he won't notice?

GINA
Don't worry, I got this.

014T

[Continue after 013, 014]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
But I still want it fairly.

GINA
Don't worry, his money is mine as well, just pretended I spend it somewhere that I cannot remember.

015T

[Continue after 014, 015]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
Fine, and thank you!

GINA
You don't have to say that, friends are supposed to help each other, right?

PHILIP
Right, but all among the friends I've got, you are the only one.

GINA
See how special you are to me. Why don't we make a deal then, you owe me this time, next time I might ask you for a favour.

PHILIP
(A polite smile)
Sure, as your service my lady.

GINA
(Laugh)
I like that one. So leave me a number, and I will contact you later. As you see this is not a good place to do serious business.

PHILIP reached his pocket, pulled out a pen with his business card. He wrote his number on it.

PHILIP
Here, text me with my personal number, it will be safer.

GINA
 (Tease at Philip)
 Why not, a private number. Everyone
 has a secret to hide.

GINA took the business card and put in the interlayer with a zipper of her handbag.

PHILIP
 So, looking for your good new.

GINA
 Don't worry, it won't be long. I
 will call you afterwards.

PHILIP
 (Stand up)
 See you then!

GINA
 (Say goodbye)
 See you, have a good night.

PHILIP walked away the table, joined the crowd to enjoy the rest of the party night.

As the party dismissed, PHILIP watched ANDREW and GINA get on their car to leave, they behaved intimate still like the model couple would be. PHILIP made a call to his wife after the party. He lied to his wife that ANDREW promised for the money and never mentioned about GINA.

End.

[Continue after 015]

[If the Player responds:]

PHILIP
 Nah, I had my bottom line.

GINA
 How stubborn you are! Why is it so important to you to behave like a real gentleman. You are all getting the money, what is the differences?

PHILIP
 (Shrug his shoulders)
 You don't understand. I would never cheat a friend.

GINA
 Am I not your friend then?

PHILIP
You are, but Andrew as well.

GINA
Alright, even after he turned you
down.

PHILIP
Maybe he was just considering that
the atmosphere is not suitable to
answer the money request.

GINA
(Disdainful)
Hah, maybe. Go ahead and try again
then, see if anything changes.

PHILIP
Can you help me then, I want to
talk to him alone.

GINA
Sure, why not, just don't regret
since you turned me down as well.

PHILIP kept in silence.

GINA (CONT'D)
(Stand up)
Alright, I will tell him right now,
good luck my noble good man.

GINA left the seat and walked towards ANDREW in the crowd.
PHILIP sat there watched her action.

While waiting, PHILIP got a text from his wife asking about
how things are going. He replied the following: "Don't worry
my sweet, Andrew will help us, trust me. He is now the famous
star at the party, and he got a happy family as well. I am
really glad to see how happy he is, and I will tell you all
the details when I got home."

End.