

"Keara"

(FADE IN:)

BEN'S APARTMENT

(SHIRTLESS Ben ENTERS TOWEL DRYING HIS HAIR.
SFX: THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. HE
SMILES, MOVING TO OPEN IT)

BEN

You're early. I thought we said--

(HE STOPS COLD, AS HE'S OPENED THE DOOR TO
KEARA)

BEN (CONT'D)

Keara.

KEARA

Abigail's still at the hospital. I
thought we should talk... "Ben".

(HE GLANCES AROUND HALLWAY AND USHERS HER
IN)

BEN

Look, I'm sorry about before. I just
didn't want...

KEARA

(OVER)

Didn't want Abigail to know about us?
YA well, I don't particularly want
anyone to know about us either.

BEN

Keara, I had no idea you were from
Salem.

KEARA

How could you? That was the deal,
right? No details, nothing personal.
Just a good time.

BEN

Yeah because that was what you wanted
too.

1/4

KEARA

(defensive)

I know that- I was focused on getting through my internship. I didn't want to get involved in anything serious.

BEN

And you didn't.

KEARA

Right. But I didn't expect you to just disappear one day.

BEN

I had to come here. My sister--

KEARA

(OVER)

I know all about your sister...

BEN

My life has changed, Keara. We both know what you and I had was about.

(A BEAT OF HOT EYE CONTACT)

KEARA

(guard drops a bit)

Well maybe. I was starting to think it was about something more than that.

(IT LOOKS AS IF BEN MIGHT BE VULNERABLE TO HER, THEN HE TURNS AWAY)

KEARA (CONT'D)

That last night we were together.. You were talking about the future... some of your dreams.

BEN

Yeah. Like moving to London.

(SHAKES HIS HEAD)

I didn't know you'd already traveled the world..twice. You must have gotten a big laugh out of that.

2/4

KEARA

I would never laugh at you.

(BEAT, SMILES)

But you could always make me laugh.

(HE TURNS TO LOOK AT HER AGAIN)

KEARA (CONT'D)

I was so determined that you couldn't really matter to me. That what we had, couldn't be about anything more than it was..

BEN

Because of your career.

KEARA

I still have a long way to go. And nothing is going to stop me.

BEN

And you think I would have done that?

KEARA

I couldn't take the chance. I have made some really bad decisions in the past and I wasn't about to put a man in front of my dreams again...

(SHE STOPS HERSELF, SEES BEN LOOKING AT HER, SURPRISED)

BEN

Again?

KEARA

(knows she has revealed too much)
It doesn't matter now. All that matters is that no one ever know about us, right?

(SHE TURNS TO GO. BEN PHYSICALLY STOPS, TURNS HER TO HIM. WHEN THEY TOUCH IT SPARKS MEMORIES FOR BOTH OF THEM)

BEN

I opened up to you that last night..
More than I ever had to anyone. And
you just left -- as if that night
hadn't been any different.

KEARA

Because I was afraid of the feelings I
was having! I had to get away. I
couldn't let myself fall...

(STOPS, THEN:)

But I was up all night thinking about
everything you said, how I felt. I
knew I couldn't stay away. I thought
maybe somehow, we could work it out.
But when I came back the next day--

BEN

(REALIZING)

I was gone.

KEARA

(NODS)

Yeah...it was pretty clear how you felt.

(SHE STARTS OUT AGAIN, HE PULLS HER CLOSE)

BEN

Dammit, don't you understand why I
left?! I thought that was what you
wanted!

(THEIR CONNECTION IS STRONG. HE goes to
PULL HER INTO A HOT KISS AND SHE WANTS TO
RESPOND BUT SHE STOPS IT)

KEARA

Don't... That can never happen again...
I won't let it...

(SHE RACES OUT, BEN LOOKING AFTER HER AS SHE
SLAMS DOOR BEHIND HER. TAKE KEARA OUTSIDE
DOOR, BREATHLESS AND EMOTIONAL. SHE FINALLY
TAKES A DEEP BREATH, GLANCES BACK ONCE AND
THEN EXITS)

FADE TO: BLACK

4/4