

I LOVE HER - SIDES

By

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INT. HOME - KITCHEN - EVENING

SARAH stands at the stove, making dinner. RICK enters.

RICK
Hey honey.

SARAH
Hey.

She starts ladling some food onto his plate.

RICK
I'll get that. Just sit down. Been
on your feet all day.

SARAH
Thanks.

He kisses her on the cheek. She sits. He serves them both,
pours some wine, sits across from her.

RICK
You look beautiful.

SARAH
Thank you. So how's work going?
Avery cutting you any slack?

He sits down, starts eating.

RICK
Avery?

SARAH
Your boss? The extra hours? Is he
treating you any nicer now that
you're there almost all the time?

RICK
Oh. Ah. No. I mean, he's been gone
a lot, actually. Home office.
Meetings.

SARAH
That's too bad.

RICK
Nah, it's good. I have the office
to myself most of the time.

(CONTINUED)

SARAH

So what're you working on? All these late nights?

RICK

(shrugs)

Just -- tech stuff. (takes a bite)
Is this basil? I like the flavor.
It's tangy.

SARAH

(nodding)

And a little sage. Glad you like it. (takes a sip of wine) I had my mid-term yesterday.

RICK

That's cool.

SARAH

I got a "D" on the lab part. I blanked out when the timer started. I couldn't remember anything.

RICK

(absently)

That's great. Good for you.

SARAH

"That's great"? "Good for you"?

RICK

What?

SARAH

I got a "D," Rick. It isn't "great." It's horrible.

RICK

Sorry. I was -- you got a D. Wow. That must be --

SARAH

Forget it. (hesitates; drums her fingers on the table) That isn't what I wanted to talk to you about.

RICK

What's going on, Sarah?

SARAH

You've been different lately. Preoccupied.

(CONTINUED)

RICK
I'm just tired. All the overtime.

SARAH
I don't think so.

RICK
I'm not lying. Avery is --

SARAH
Screw it. I can't do this anymore.
(takes a breath) Are you having an
affair, Rick?

RICK
What?

SARAH
An affair. Just tell me. Yes or no.

RICK
Of course not! (laughs) I love you,
Sarah. I would never --

SARAH
Right. You love me totally. You'd
never keep anything from me. So who
exactly is Marie?

RICK
Marie?

SARAH
She called when you were out. Left
four messages. She said it's
"urgent." You need to call her
right away. "Darling." She threw
that in at the end. She sounds --
passionate. I can see why --

RICK
I don't even know a Marie.

SARAH
She had your phone number. (stands,
glares down at him) If you're going
to screw around, if you're going to
lie to me, at least have the
decency to --

RICK
Honey --

(CONTINUED)

The phone rings. They both look at it. It rings again. He goes to the phone, looks at the caller i.d., hesitates.

SARAH
Just answer it.

He picks up the phone.

RICK
(into phone)
Why the hell are you calling me here?

MARIE
(voice on phone)
I need you. Get your ass over here. Now.

He scowls, hangs up the phone.

RICK
It's work. I have to --

SARAH
Just go, Rick. We'll talk when you get back.

She exits. He stares after her, shakes his head, leaves.

INT: OFFICE

Rick arrives, starts taking off his coat. MARIE enters through another door carrying a sheaf of papers, winks at him.

MARIE
That was quick. I just got this from the lab. (waves a printed report) It's looking good, babe. Coming in on the finish line! A little fine-tuning, and we should have the product ready to sell and start shipping in about two months.

She comes over to him, kisses him.

RICK
Marie, listen --

She reaches up, starts unbuttoning his shirt.

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MARIE

Wanna play around? I've got time.

RICK

No. (he pushes her away; she looks startled) I'm not -- why did you want me here, anyway?

MARIE

For that, and some other things. Is there a problem?

RICK

My wife, for one thing.

MARIE

(blankly)

Your wife?

RICK

Sarah. She thinks we're...

She looks at him blankly, then shakes her head, laughing.

MARIE

You're not married, Rick. You don't even have a girlfriend. That's why I hired you. That, and your other assets. So you could troubleshoot the product, give it a complete workout, without any -- complications.

RICK

Don't call Sarah a "product."

MARI

Fine, then. She's a "service." Like that better? "Introducing the New Sarah 9000! She fucks! She cooks! She's a housewife and a lover." Oh, and, she thinks she's real. But you're not supposed to! What is wrong with you these days?

RICK

I just don't like you talking about her like that.

MARIE

I'm glad you're getting into your work, Rick. But you need to keep a little perspective. If she's giving

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MARIE (cont'd)
you any problems, just say "Freeze
Wife Program." You can change her
name, erase her memories, fix
whatever glitches she's having, and
start over.

RICK
It's not a glitch! I don't want to
erase her, or change her. I think
--

MARIE
Yes?

RICK
I think I love her.