

"Alice" Reverso 04/21/09

Alice

Sc. One of Two

8.

7

INT. ALICE AND CAROL'S APARTMENT - EVENING (LATER)

7 1/8

Dinner is over. Alice and Jack and Carol sit at the table sipping wine. He looks around.

JACK
I love this flat.

CAROL
Thanks. It feels like we've been here forever. Because we have!
(she laughs)
It's been the two of us for, what? Almost ten years.

ALICE
Ten years August fifth.

CAROL
Alice is meticulous about dates.

ALICE
Well, yeah... that one.

JACK
That's when..?

CAROL
Her dad disappeared on us.

JACK
Yes, of course.

CAROL
Listen, my show is coming on and I'm thinking you'll probably be okay without me for a while, so I'm going to say good night. Leave everything on the table.

She stands. Jack stands.

JACK
Thank you for dinner. It was a treat.

CAROL
My pleasure, Jack. See you soon, I hope.

JACK
I hope so too.

ALICE
Night, mom.

She exits. Alice turns to Jack, a wan smile.

P.g.i. only

BEGIN HERE

ALICE (CONT'D)

I didn't mean to do the family baggage thing.

JACK

No, I want to know all about you.

Jack's cell phone - in his rucksack - makes a beeping sound. He moves to it and flips it open - a text - one word: "RUN".

ALICE

What's up?

Jack looks up at her, smiles.

JACK

How would you like to meet my family?

ALICE

Are they coming to town?

JACK

No. We'd have to go there.

ALICE

Wow. Of course... when?

JACK

How about right now.

ALICE

Are you crazy.

JACK

Why not? It'll be an adventure. Some things are more exciting on the spur of the moment, don't you think?

ALICE

No... not when it comes to meeting your parents. I need some time to get myself together.

JACK

You're perfect as you are. Come on, we can be back on Monday morning.

ALICE

But I know nothing about them... what if they don't approve of me?

JACK

They'll approve when they see you with this.

Jack goes to his bag, pulls out a small box, tosses it to Alice - it's an antique box, made of wood, worn at the edges. She tries to open it, can't.

JACK (CONT'D)

It's got a hidden catch, see..?

He pushes in a corner of the box, slides a panel open, and flips a hidden catch. The lid springs open. Inside is -- an ancient ring, gold with a gleaming stone.

ALICE

Whoa, this looks old...

JACK

It's been in my family a very long time.

Alice takes a step back.

ALICE

Wait a minute? Are you giving me this?

JACK

Want to try it on?

ALICE

I can't take it, I'm sorry.

She shuts the box and hands it back.

ALICE (CONT'D)

A ring means something, Jack... It's too fast.

She turns away from him, agitated.

ALICE (CONT'D)

It's way too fast.

JACK

Okay. I'm sorry, I got the wrong idea. Maybe, after you've seen my home, met my friends...

ALICE

I can't go with you Jack, not tonight, I'm just not ready.

JACK

When?

ALICE

I don't know.

She turns back to him, her voice softens.

ALICE (CONT'D)
Maybe we should take it easy for a while,
see how we feel in a few days.

JACK
Alice I -

ALICE
Give me some time.

Jack just looks at her. He goes to the door, turns back to her.

JACK
Don't I at least get a proper goodbye?

She hesitates, then goes to him. He embraces her, but she's cold.

ALICE
Goodbye, Jack.

He goes. She shuts the door. Slumps down on the nearest chair. When she looks up, her mother is standing there, staring at her.

ALICE (CONT'D)
Don't say it.

8 EXT. ALICE'S STREET - NIGHT 8

Jack emerges from Alice's apartment building, looks across to the doorway where the Man was lurking earlier. No one is there. He hurries away.

9 INT. ALICE AND CAROL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 9

Alice is still slumped in the chair. Carol is in another chair across from her.

CAROL
Was it a diamond ring?

ALICE
No, but it looked incredibly valuable.

CAROL
And after weighing up all the possible cons
against all the unlikely pros, you kicked
him out.