

SOUVENIRS
Madelyn Marks

CHARACTERS

JAMIE.....20's

OWEN..... 20's

TIME: Daytime--Present day nearing December 25th

SETTING: The baking aisle of a grocery store.

NOTE: Jamie and Owen can be any gender.

(OWEN is facing the flour. They have two bags in their hand. They weigh each one in their hand and then put one back on the shelf as JAMIE enters and notices them.)

Owen?

JAMIE

Woah! Jamie, hey-hi-what's up?

OWEN

Oh my god it's been like forever since I've seen you. How are you?

JAMIE

I'm-I'm good yeah. How are you?

OWEN

Same yeah I'm doing ok.

JAMIE

Good good.

OWEN

(they each attempt to read the other one)

JAMIE

So how's...everything-I mean like..how's life?

OWEN

It's good. Yeah. I uh I'm back for the holidays.

JAMIE

Yeah yeah me too.

OWEN

My Mother's baking a whole bunch of Christmas treats for the neighbors and she ran out of flour and baking soda so she-

JAMIE

Sent you out to grab some

OWEN

Yeah and she just texted me asking to bring home some peas for dinner. Were you also sent to grab something for your family?

JAMIE

No. No-I just... needed a break...from...

OWEN

"So how's the dating scene? How about your job, how's work? When are you planning on snagging that promotion?"

JAMIE

Oh my god yes exactly. It's a lot and I thought I might just come here and spend some quiet time with the Baker's chocolate.

OWEN

Yeah I've been weighing bags of flour to find the most bang for my buck for the last 15 minutes now.

(they laugh for a moment)

JAMIE

So your Mom is still delivering treats to all your neighbors every year?

OWEN

Yeah you know how she is. She's gotta make sure everybody feels that "Christmas cheer".

JAMIE

She's so sweet.

OWEN

Yeah... Ya know she uh she misses you.

JAMIE

She does?

OWEN

Yeah she's always asking me "hey how's Jamie doing? Is Jamie on facebook?" and I always have to explain to her how outdated facebook is now and I try to give her your instagram but she says instagram is "too small for her".

JAMIE

Too small for her? What does that even mean?

OWEN

Hell if I know

(they laugh for a moment)

JAMIE

I miss her too.

OWEN

(hesitantly)

Do you..do you maybe want to come over? Just for dinner or just to like pop in, say hi?

JAMIE

Oh I don't know. I should probably get back to my family before they think an alien abducted me or something.

OWEN

Yeah for sure. Gotcha

JAMIE

They worry a lot.

OWEN

I know. I remember.

JAMIE

(pulls out their keys and separates one of the key chains from the rest)

I stole this from you.

OWEN

Oh my god I forgot that existed.

JAMIE

I took it because I thought you were pathetic for buying it.

OWEN

What?

JAMIE

You always said that nobody made the name key chains with your name on it and I always thought it was stupid because your name isn't that unique or special but that was something you wanted so bad; to be unique or special. So you made a really big deal about never finding a key chain with your name on it. Then when we drove like 3 hours to find that salt water taffy shop we talked about for months and halfway there, we made a pit stop at this dinky little gas station and you found an Owen key chain and bought it. Then like a month later, we broke up in your living room so I stole the key chain and went home and put it on my key chain and here it is.

(hands the key chain to OWEN)

OWEN

Thanks...

JAMIE

Sorry I uh...you're welcome.

(It's awkward.)

OWEN

I guess I didn't realize that was such a *moment* for you.

JAMIE

I'm sorry, I wasn't trying to be mean or anything—

OWEN

No it's fine, really.

JAMIE

I feel like it's not. I mean I literally stole from you.

OWEN

I stole your sunglasses.

JAMIE

What?

OWEN

I'm sorry.

JAMIE

You took my sunglasses?

OWEN

Yeah and I know I shouldn't have but for some reason I just sort of lost all logic for a moment and I took them from your car and-and here I have them and-

JAMIE

Owen, have you been wearing my sunglasses?

(pause)

OWEN

(reluctantly)

Yes

JAMIE

That's kind of funny.

OWEN

I'm sorry. It was dumb and unnecessarily spiteful and I'm sorry.

JAMIE

I forgive you.

OWEN

Thank you. And here-

(pulls out sunglasses from their coat pocket and hands them over)

JAMIE

Thank you

OWEN

Yeah don't mention it.

(pause)

JAMIE

I should probably get back to-

OWEN

Yeah yeah for sure

JAMIE

Well it was nice seeing you.

OWEN

Yeah it was.

JAMIE

We should uh-we should do this again.

OWEN

(laughing)

What?

JAMIE

We should steal something from each other and meet up in a couple years to return it.

OWEN

Jamie I seriously cannot tell if you're joking.

JAMIE

Give me your wallet.

OWEN

Pardon?

JAMIE

JUST GIVE ME YOUR WALLET!

(notices a person giving them a look)

Oh I'm not like mugging them or something. We know each other. This is just what we do.

(back to OWEN)

Owen? Your wallet.

OWEN

I think you need to chill.

JAMIE

No listen, I'm not gonna take anything you need. I'm just gonna take like a receipt or a loyalty card that you never use because you can't say no to them but then you always forget you have them.

OWEN

Jamie-

JAMIE

(pulling out their keys)

And here I'll give you something off my keys. Like this tiger keychain I got from the zoo like 4 years ago.

OWEN

Jamie what if-

JAMIE

Or this one. It's a little flashlight. I think I got it at a gas station. Or maybe Target. I don't know. It doesn't matter, I don't use it so you can steal it.

OWEN

Jamie

JAMIE

What?

OWEN

I don't want your keychain.

JAMIE

Oh ok, I think I might have a pen somewhere.

OWEN

No Jamie-

JAMIE

Ok fine you can pick what you want. What'll it be?

OWEN

I want you to come over for dinner.

JAMIE

Owen, I don't know if-

OWEN

This doesn't have to be a whole thing, just dinner.

Dinner with your family.

JAMIE

Who at one point was your family too.

OWEN

I'm not sure that matters much.

JAMIE

You can trust me. Just come to dinner.

OWEN

(pause)

What's for dinner?

JAMIE

I don't know. Something with peas.

OWEN

I'm sold.

JAMIE

After you

OWEN

(gestures for JAMIE to join them)

Oh how kind of you

JAMIE

Hey can I ask you something?

OWEN

(grabs Jamie, suddenly serious)

Yeah of course

JAMIE

OWEN

Do you know where the peas are?

JAMIE

They're in the freezer section.

OWEN

Cool

(OWEN grabs JAMIE'S hand and they exit together heading to the freezer section while "Come A Little Bit Closer" by Jay and The Americans or a similar song plays in the background. Fade to black)

END OF PLAY