The WAITRESS is standing, smoking a cigarette or getting some air. CHRIS enters. He is no longer wearing his coat.

CHRIS
Sorry for staring at you like that. It's just. You remind me so much of someone.

CHRIS'S wife RACHAEL, whom he calls RAYE, enters, obviously irritated at CHRIS. There is an awkward silence. WAITRESS looks at RAYE then at CHRIS.

WAITRESS
I better get back to work.

WAITRESS exits.

RAYE
People are looking for you.

RAYE turns to go back inside.. CHRIS looks at moon.

CHRIS
Full moon tonight. Isn't that supposed to mean everybody acts a little crazy?

RAYE
Is that your excuse?

CHRIS
Just making an observation. *(Looks around.)* This place brings back so many memories.

RAYE
Memories about selling your precious 'Vette or "workin' your ass /off" to pay the bills?

CHRIS
/Look, you know I'm not good at speeches, Raye. Cut me a little slack. *(Takes a drink.)* That moon, this place... *(Beat.)* It makes me think about the night we went on that picnic. The gang, Steve, Joan, you, me--

RAYE
Emily.

CHRIS
Who would have thought when we did that summer internship with the city parks department we'd end up the way we did. Everything was so much simpler then.

RAYE
I don't remember it that way.

CHRIS
Thirty years ago tonight was when we got together.

A pulse of light or a flicker of lightning in the sky accompanied by a faint ripple in time sound.

(Looks up.) Did you see that?

RAYE
You should go back in. People are looking for you.

*RAYE turns to go back in.*CHRIS
Stay out here with me for a minute.

RAYE
Why?

CHRIS
Because I'd like that.

RAYE
I'd rather not.

CHRIS
What's eating you? My coat? I took it off.

RAYE
You can wear whatever you like.

CHRIS
What then? My speech? I don't know what got into me.

RAYE
You gonna blame it on the moon?

CHRIS
No. Maybe. I don't know. Look, I didn't mean I regretted my life.

RAYE
It sure sounded like you did. Sounded like a regular theme.

CHRIS

It was a joke.

RAYE

I didn't find it funny.

CHRIS

No, I guess you wouldn't. But that can't be the only thing bugging you. You've been upset ever since the college reunion.

RAYE

I'm tired.

CHRIS

I suppose that's *your* theme.

RAYE

(Turns back towards door.) You need to get back to your party.

CHRIS

What is it? Talk to me.

RAYE

Now you want to talk?

CHRIS

It's like everything I do seems/ to aggravate you. Tell me.

RAYE

/You really want to do this? Right now?

CHRIS

Yes.

RAYE

(Takes a breath.) Okay. Why did you marry me?

CHRIS

Why?

RAYE

Yes.

CHRIS

Because I loved you. I mean, I love you. I loved you then, and I love you now.

RAYE
I don't think so. I don't think you ever did. I think you regret staying in this town and marrying me.

CHRIS
That's crazy! Why would you say that?

RAYE
Because when we went to the reunion--

CHRIS
I knew it--

RAYE
You saw all those people and you felt like you had missed out.

CHRIS
Maybe I did. So what?

RAYE
I heard you talking about Emily.

CHRIS
I was only asking if anyone knew what she was doing now.

RAYE
That's not what/ I'm talking about.

CHRIS
I can't talk about/ an old friend?

RAYE
/You didn't see me. You said you wished that things had turned out different. Tonight is the second time you've said that.

CHRIS
Doesn't everyone wish that some things had turned out different?

RAYE
Not when you're talking about an old girlfriend.

CHRIS
Wondering about different doesn't mean I didn't want to marry you.

RAYE
You didn't say wonder. You said wish.

CHRIS
I just... I meant... that I missed/ seeing her.

RAYE
/Well, that was obvious when the entire bar saw how you looked at that waitress. I knew who you were thinking about./ You were thinking about Emily.

CHRIS
/That was a just a weird moment. It caught me off guard.

RAYE
You talked about regrets more than anything else.

CHRIS
It was just what came into my mind. We all have obligations/ that we don't...

RAYE
/I'm an obligation?

CHRIS
No, not like that.

RAYE
It sure sounded like that! It sounded like you had specific issues in mind. What?

CHRIS
I just... I can't... explain it right now.

RAYE
You know that's your problem. You can never explain it. You say you want to talk but you don't talk.

CHRIS
Because you jump to conclusions. You want black and white answers. That's not how life is.

RAYE
I'm asking you simple questions. I'm not asking you to explain how the entire universe works.

CHRIS
These aren't simple questions. Look, all I know is that life isn't the way I thought it would be. Can I acknowledge that? I wanted...

RAYE

What! You wanted/ what?

CHRIS

More! *(Beat.)* When I add up the things in my life against where I thought I would be, I end up short.

RAYE turns away, hurt.

CHRIS

Look, I'm not saying I regret being married to you. Yes, we've had rough spots, but that doesn't mean I don't want to keep putting in the effort/ to keep our marriage going.

RAYE

/So you have to put in an effort to stay married to me?

CHRIS

No. That's not what I meant. You're twisting my words.

A pulse of light or flicker of lightning in the sky with a slightly louder ripple sound. CHRIS looks up as RAYE looks at him for a beat.

RAYE

You know what? I've got my own regrets. Maybe I made a mistake, too. You come home from work and you never want to talk about what's going on. When I want to talk, you just get frustrated and give up.

CHRIS

I don't know what you want me to do. You say you're unhappy, but you won't tell me what you want to change. I can't fix something if I don't know what to do!

RAYE

I'm tired of arguing. I'm done.

CHRIS

What are you saying?

A pulse of light or flicker of lightning in the sky with a louder ripple sound.

RAYE

I'm done with you and your regrets.

A pulse of light or flicker of lightning in the sky with a louder ripple sound.

CHRIS

Raye!

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Where is the birthday boy?

RAYE

We'll go back in and just pretend that everything is fine--we're both/ pretty good at that

CHRIS

/Raye

RAYE

--and why don't you find some place else to sleep tonight. Then tomorrow you can go work on your regrets. Hook up with that waitress or whoever.

CHRIS reaches for her but she pulls away.

CHRIS

Raye, wait!

RAYE

Stop!

RAYE starts to exit back into the bar. There is a BLINDING FLASH and a THUNDER CLAP. Everything goes to black. The lights come back up. We see Chris getting up off the ground.

CHRIS

Jesus! *(He staggers around trying to look for Rachael.)* Raye? Raye! *(Looking around.)* Rachael! Where are you?

RAYE is nowhere to be seen. CHRIS goes up to the door. The door to the bar is closed and locked. CHRIS tries the door.

What the hell? *(He yells.)* Oh, nice move, Raye, lock me out. *(Pounds on door.)* Raye, let me in! Raye!