

It Ends At The Bedroom Door

Man walks through hotel corridor with a smile on his face and a confident swagger - only his part of the stage is lit.

Man - "I can't believe it. These things never happen to me? A gorgeous woman inviting me up to her hotel room. She said goodnight to everyone then looked at me with a.."

Man mimics the wink and delicate jerk of the head in the direction of the hotel rooms.

Man - "I've seen this happen to Ritchie many times but never to me. I must be wearing the right aftershave today."

Man stops walking, face changes to a serious expression. He pulls at the neck opening of his shirt and sniffs into the opening, tilts his head to his left, lifting his left arm and sniffs again. Then repeats the same on the right.

Man - "Manly?" said with a questioning tone.

Man - "She's been sitting next to me all evening. I can't smell that bad if she's invited me up?"

He starts walking again

Man - "If! If, she's invited me up?"

His pace slows

Man - "What if I've got it wrong? Oh god, maybe I've misread this. Maybe her wink and jerk of the head when she said "I'm tired and heading off to bed" was just a tired twitch. Yes she's shown all the signs of flirting, laughed at all my jokes, flicked her hair, touched my arm while talking to me and made eye contact. But even if by some miracle she was actually meaning to flirt with me, and not using me for practice because I'm "safe" and "like a big brother".

-man uses hands to make speech marks as he says the "safe and like a big brother" line

Man continues -"To her like so many others girls do, that doesn't necessarily mean she wants to spend the night with me. Oh what if I've got this wrong?"

Man lifts his hand to his head in a worried pose

Man - "What if I knock on her door and she didn't mean for me to follow her? What will I do then? I'll look a right idiot! Maybe I could ask her if she has a spare teabag?"

Man changes voice to that of a school child

Man - "Please Miss can I borrow a teabag?"

Man changes voice back to normal

Man - "No I can't do that, it sounds pathetic!"

The man pauses outside her bedroom door. He lifts his right hand to knock on the door but hesitates.

Man - "Oh god, I want to go in. I really want to go in"

He says the end of the "I really want to go in" in a husky tone

Man - "But I will totally balls up our friendship if I've got this wrong. Never thought I'd say this but I wish Ritch were here, he'd know what to do."

Man's fist still in the air moves towards the door to knock and back again a few times

Man - "Ok, I think I've got this, I'll go in to my room next door, take a shower"

He lifts his arm up again and sniffs under his armpit and nods

Man - "But I'll make sure I make a lot of noise to let her know I'm there and then, if she does want me she can come and knock my door - yes genius, I've got this!"

Man walks to his room smiling and nodding, obviously happy with his plan.

Lighting goes up on the other half of the stage to reveal a woman walking towards the other side of the door the man has just been standing at. She looks through the door's spyhole as the man is walking away. Woman stands still, looking, waiting.

Man bangs his door against the joining wall as he walks into his room and smiles to himself. He unplugs the travel kettle from the wall, knocking it into the cup next to it before heading into the bathroom to turn on the shower and the sink tap.

Man - "That should let her know I'm back. Better get showered before she gets here."

A mischievous smile spreads across his face and he raises an eyebrow

Man - "I could greet her in a towel when she comes knocking! Oh that sounds crass - fun, but crass. Yes I REALLY fancy her but I really like her too."

Man looks up and talks to the ceiling

Man - "Please don't let me mess this up"

Lighting fades slightly in man's section and raises in woman's half - Woman still standing at the bedroom door, she turns from looking through the spyhole to having her back leaning against the door in a deflated pose.

Woman - "This can't be happening to me, the one and only time I put the moves on a man and he's turned me down! I really thought he liked me as much as I like him."

Lighting goes up in man's half of the stage - Man, quickly tidies hotel room as he takes off his shirt off ready for the shower. He starts to fold it neatly to place neatly on the chair then a cheeky grin crosses his face and he throws it across the arm of the chair

Man - "Careless casual,.. Smooth!"

Man laughs

Light gets brighter on woman's side

Woman - "Oh great, not only has he rejected me but now he's laughing about it!"

Woman slowly slides down the door into an upwards fetal position, her head on her knees and her arms wrapped around her legs.

Woman - "Oh God. How am I going to face him at work next week?"

Lights fade on both sides.