

THE NEXT WEEKEND...


GOD, STOP WORRYING SO MUCH, HOWARD.

IT'S JUST A GIRL'S WEEKEND AWAY.

AND IT'S NOT EVEN THE WHOLE WEEKEND, JUST ONE NIGHT.

I KNOW... I'VE JUST BEEN MISSING YOU.

I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.




DO YOU
NEED ANY HELP
WITH YOUR
BAGS?

THEY'RE
ALREADY IN THE
CAR, HOWARD.

WELL,
MAYBE I
CAN-

I REALLY
HAVE TO GO,
HON.



OF COURSE... I DON'T WANT TO KEEP YOU.

DON'T WORRY, WHEN I GET BACK WE'LL SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME TOGETHER, OKAY?

YEAH, SURE.



I LOVE YOU,
HOWARD.

I...
LOVE YOU
TOO.

DRIVE
SAFE.

THANKS, I
WILL.

TOODLES!

SLAM!

SIGH





ENJOY YOUR
LITTLE *GIRLS*
WEEKEND,
HONEY.


MORE LIKE
ENJOY YOUR
WEEKEND
TRYST WITH
HARLEY...



A GIRL YOU
HAVEN'T SPOKEN
TO OR SEEN A
PICTURE OF...

...BECAUSE
SHE DOESN'T
EXIST.

WELL... AT
LEAST NOT
YET.



BUT SHE
WILL IN A FEW
MINUTES.
CHUCKLE

MOMENTS LATER...

COME ON,
HOWARD...
YOU CAN DO
THIS!

A man with short, dark hair, seen from the back, is looking at a dark wood cabinet. On the cabinet, there is a red candle, a yellow vase, and a white vase. The man is wearing white shorts. The background is a white wall with a decorative mirror frame.

YOU'VE
CHANGED INTO
COUNTLESS OTHER
MEN...

THIS IS JUST
THAT AGAIN... BUT
DIFFERENT...



IT'S THE ONLY WAY...

IT'S JUST A NIGHT...

AND IT WILL WEAR OFF.

GOD, THESE NERVES.

MY STOMACH'S SO KNOTTED UP IT'S LIKE I'VE ALREADY LIT IT...

SIGH

JUST LIGHT THE DAMN THING, HOWARD!

LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!

A man with short, dark hair is shown from the back, looking at a lit candle on a dark wooden table. The table is set with several vases: a white one, a yellow one, and another white one. A mirror with a dark, ornate frame is visible in the background. The scene is lit with a warm, soft glow from the candle.

WHOA...

THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY
A DIFFERENT
CANDLE.

THAT
FLAME...
IT'S SO
RED...



COUGH

COUGH

THE
SMOKE IS....
COUGH

SO THICK!

A man with short dark hair, shirtless and wearing white shorts, stands in a room. He has a distressed expression and is coughing. The room has a white textured wall, a lamp with a yellow shade on a black stand, and a wooden post. Three speech bubbles contain text.

COUGH

**I CAN
FEEL THE
CHANGES
COMING!**

**IT *COUGH*
FEELS SO
DIFFERENT!**

TO BE CONTINUED...