NOTHING LIKE LOVE

Written by

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INT. HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

In the center of an opulent study, on a large desk, sits a phone. A set meal table is visible outside the office door.

MILO, BEA (70) sit at the table. Both are chubby, both unmedicated bipolars. Milo's jovial, Bea's not.

The phone RINGS. Milo ENTERS the office, SITS at the desk. He ANSWERS the phone. Behind him a chair, ottoman and lamp.

MILO

Mrs. Newman. How are you and (beat) What? (beat) For heavens sake why?

Bea WALKS into the office, STOPS behind Milo.

MILO (CONT'D)

Sure I will, but ya'll think this through, divorce'll seem silly.

BEA

Dinner's waiting. Call them back.

MILO

Mrs. Newman. Can you hold on a sec?

Milo COVERS the phone receiver. His demeanor changes.

MILO (CONT'D)

Shut your suck hole and lemme talk.

He UNCOVERS the receiver, regains his composure.

MILO (CONT'D)

Does Jack (beat) Oh, hi Jack. Glad you're both on. When you find a perfect match like --

Bea SLAPS Milo with ear ringing force.

BEA

You don't get to talk to me like that in this end of the house.

Milo PUSHES Bea. She TRIPS over the ottoman, into the chair. She STRUGGLES to free herself. Milo returns to his call.

MILO

You two have such a great marriage.

BEZ

(Struggling in the chair) I'll kick you in your pacemaker.

MILO

For a love like yours to end over something. So trivial.

BEA

(Kicking at Milo)

I'm gettin' out of this. When I do.

Milo doesn't cover the receiver.

MILO

(To Bea)

Make those empty promises.

Milo PUTS the phone to his ear.

MILO (CONT'D)

I should know. I've been married to the same sainted woman for decades.

Bea APPEARS at his shoulder. She KNOCKS the phone from his hand. Bea SPINS around. Milo KICKS her, KNOCKING her over.

MILO (CONT'D)

I should've killed you when I had the chance.

Milo PICKS UP the dangling phone.

MILO (CONT'D)

Don't make any rash decisions. Just sleep on it. I'll call tomorrow.

As Milo HANGS UP, Bea CHARGES, a plugged lamp held over head.

The lamp cord JERKS tight, SLAMS Bea to the ground. The lamp HITS her in the head, KNOCKS her out. Milo stands over BEA.

Milo LEAVES, LIMPS to the table. He GRABS, BITES a turkey leg. Milo LUMBERS back, stands over Bea. His foot NUDGES her.

MILO (CONT'D)

Honey? You ok?

Bea's eyes POP open. She SWEEPS Milo's legs. He SLAMS the floor beside her. Both LAUGH, SIGH. Milo, Bea KISS.

BEA

MILO

Happy Valentines, Papa.

Love you, Mama.

Milo takes another BITE of the turkey leg.

MILO (CONT'D)

May be the best turkey you've made.