

"Unhappy Ending," Copyright 2013 Deron Sedy

INT. RESTAURANT -- NIGHT

MAN and WOMAN eat pasta, over wine and candles.

WOMAN

I've really been enjoying spending time with you.

MAN

Me too. And I love that you love Rilke. How many people truly love Rilke?

WOMAN

Like, ha ha... none. But I find your literature degrees sexy. I guess, I mean, I know it's only our third date, but--look don't get scared or anything--but, when I'm with you I could see us having a real fairytale ending together.

MAN

Ha. Uh, I don't think we'd want a fairytale ending.

WOMAN

You don't believe in Happily Ever After?

MAN

No, it's just most fairy tales don't really end happily. Did you realize the little mermaid dies?

WOMAN

Really?

MAN

In the real version, yeah. Her prince chooses another princess. She gets a dagger she can use to kill the prince which will turn her back into a mermaid, but she just can't do it, so shes dissolves into sea foam.

WOMAN

That's horrible. But you know what I meant.

MAN

Or there's Sleeping Beauty. In early versions of that story, the prince finds her sleeping, rapes her, and leaves. She gives birth to twins nine months later, still asleep.

WOMAN

I just meant that I like spending time with you.

MAN

Her boychild sucks on her finger, which removes thorn and therefore the curse. But the rapist prince was married, and when his wife finds out, she orders that Sleeping Beauty and her kids be killed, cooked, and served up to the prince for dinner.

WOMAN

I *used* to like spending time with you.

MAN

What??

WOMAN

I'm eating.

MAN

I thought you wanted a fairytale ending!

WOMAN

You're so good with literature, try analyzing the subtext of my current social cues, you overeducated fuck.

MAN

Little Red Riding Hood gets eaten by the wolf. No woodsman, just eaten by a wolf. The three bears eat goldilocks. The third pig cooks and eats the big bad wolf, with his two brothers still in the wolf's stomach.

WOMAN

Fine. You've proven your point.

MAN

Pinocchio kills Jiminy Cricket.

WOMAN

You know, most guys would have simply smiled and nodded their heads. This is our third date. Most guys would have gone along with my romantic notions, and in doing so... gotten laid.

MAN

Oh. Uh. Sorry. I guess I was... Acting like a beast! My only shot at redemption is your wondrous beauty.

WOMAN

Too late.

MAN

Some day your prince will come?

WOMAN

Not tonight he won't. Check!