

# Paige and Dave

**PAIGE.** Dave, uh... listen, I had no idea Arthur was planning on us... making a quick exit.

**DAVE.** No, I know.

**PAIGE.** I haven't even mentioned he kind of... offered me a job—a "wherever he goes" kind of thing.

**DAVE.** That's amazing.

**PAIGE.** I mean, working with him... it's an incredible opportunity. And his kind of politics... is my kind of politics.

**DAVE.** I know.

**PAIGE.** Which isn't your kind of politics.

**DAVE.** No it isn't.

**PAIGE.** But what I want to tell you is... today... what you and Ned did today? That's the most exciting thing I've ever seen. *(Still holding the focus group numbers.)* And it meant something to these people. They felt something. They understood something. So I wanted to ask... could I work with you guys? Could I be a part of this?

**DAVE.** Paige—you're the first person I hired. And the second person I hired just... went off to conquer America, so... Yes, please. I'd be thrilled to have you.

**PAIGE.** Okay. I'll go tell Arthur. Oh, and Rachel Parsons asked me to give you this. *(She hands him a business card.)* She was... hanging around in the hallway outside your office.

**DAVE.** Oh!

**PAIGE.** Great job today, Chief. This is gonna be good.

*(PAIGE exits out the Reception door.)*

**DAVE.** *(At the Hallway door, calling offstage.)* Ms. Parsons?

*(DAVE is examining her business card when RACHEL appears at the door.)*

**RACHEL.** Dave Riley.

# Dave and Rachel

**DAVE.** Are you in trouble with your boss?

**RACHEL.** Well, I was, but then he fired me.

**DAVE.** What?!

**RACHEL.** Yeah. Because Arthur Vance told him to. But then our station manager got wind of it, so he fired my boss, and gave me my job back. But then Arthur Vance got my ex-boss a job at CNN, so... Television news is still a pillar of integrity. Speaking of which. When we first met, I went on a little rant about people in the news business not getting too friendly with the people we're supposed to cover.

**DAVE.** Right.

**RACHEL.** Which... would clearly include... you and me.

**DAVE.** Right.

**RACHEL.** *(Beat.)* You seem not at all troubled by the suggestion that we shouldn't be friendly.

**DAVE.** No, I'm just, I'm just trying to be agreeable.

**RACHEL.** This is one instance where you not being agreeable would be better.

**DAVE.** Okay then, screw your journalistic code of ethics, Ms. Parsons. I like you, and... I think you like me. And though I have never played poker, somehow the idea of seeing you at a poker table inexplicably turns me on, so... I think we should get a drink some time.

**RACHEL.** Okay. That can't happen.

**DAVE.** I knew you were gonna say that.

**RACHEL.** And we never had this conversation.

**DAVE.** Okay, I'll call you later.

**RACHEL.** You don't have my number.

**DAVE.** You left me your card.

**RACHEL.** I have no idea what you're talking about.

*(RACHEL exits out the Reception door. NED steps back into the room from the balcony.)*