

(SIDE #6)

LAUREN, CASEY,

I-9-53
(7 Actor)

CASEY (w) THERAPIST (M3)

Friend. I really want to be your friend.

AARON

Uh, okay. Well, thank you, Casey, for that offer. That's definitely something to think about. I mean - who doesn't want more friends?! 'Cause, friends, you know, are really the flowers in the garden of life. So, let's just plant that seed of friendship and see how it—

(then; needing to bail)

I'm sorry. Will you excuse me for a second? I'm just gonna run to the bathroom and... try to drown myself in the urinal.

MUSIC 9A: LAUREN'S ENTRANCE #3

(AARON takes off. LAUREN looks over at CASEY from another table.)

LAUREN

So, tell me. How's it feel being a relationship assassin?

CASEY

Please, Lauren, give it a rest.

LAUREN

I just don't understand. You claim you want what Kevin and I have. But then when you actually find a guy who could give you all those same things - you totally sabotage it!

CASEY

I know, Lauren. I have a problem.

LAUREN

You really do. What does your therapist say about this?

(A warm, friendly, sensitive-looking THERAPIST suddenly appears onstage.)

FRIENDLY THERAPIST

Blah, blah, blah... fear of commitment... blah, blah, blah... makes bad choices... blah, blah, blah... two hundred dollars, please.

(The FRIENDLY THERAPIST disappears.)

LAUREN

Can you be a little more specific?

CASEY

Not really. 'Cause that's pretty much *exactly* what I hear in my head every time I talk to him.

LAUREN

Okay, then just talk to me.

(sincerely)

'Cause I'm your sister and even I don't get it.

I – 10 – 54
(7 Actor)

CASEY

Get what – Lauren?

LAUREN

These walls you put up. We're family and I can't begin to break through this hard exterior of yours.

CASEY

Well, I do consider always keeping you at arm's-length one of my most crowning achievements.

LAUREN

Joke all you want, but we both know all this bravado is really just you being afraid of getting hurt. I mean, let's be honest – that's what happened with your photography show.

CASEY

It wasn't ready.

LAUREN

No. You weren't ready. You had these amazing photos and a gallery that was willing to exhibit anything you wanted to give them. And at the last second you backed out.

(then)

And it's the same thing with every single guy in your life.

MUSIC 10: SAFER

LAUREN (CONT'D)

There's always some excuse or another lame reason why things don't work out. Over and over again...

CASEY

Okay, Lauren. I get it—

(then; singing)

I KNOW THAT I HAVE ISSUES
I FACE THEM, I SWEAR
THINK I OVERCOME THEM
THEN TURN – THEY'RE STILL THERE
WISH THAT I WAS DIFFERENT
I'D LIKE TO LET GO
BUT WHEN I TRY TO CHANGE
THERE'S MY PAST, SAYING NO.
MAYBE IT'S ALL 'CAUSE OF DAD
HIS NEW KIDS, HIS NEW WIFE
OR WHY NOT JUST BLAME MOM
WHO'S BEEN NUTS MY WHOLE LIFE...

WHEN YOU'VE FELT SO ALONE SINCE THE MOMENT OF BIRTH
AND YOU'VE STRUGGLED TO FIND YOUR OWN TRUE SENSE OF WORTH
WHEN IT SEEMS THERE IS NO ONE ACROSS THIS WHOLE EARTH
TO DEPEND UPON,
YOU CARRY ON
JUST LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO
'CAUSE IT'S SAFER