

The Last Copy

Romantic comedy · Two-hander · 3 min · Female role · Adult · Beginner

(A bookshop, a rainy evening. Two hands land on the same book.)

ELLE

I was here first.

LUI

My hand got here first. I have witnesses.

(He points at the empty shelf.)

LUI

Well. Had.

ELLE

It's for my sister's birthday. Tomorrow. You can't win.

LUI

It's for me. Breakup. Last Tuesday. I believe we're even.

ELLE

...Someone leaves you and you buy yourself a love story?

LUI

It's a repair manual in disguise. Have you even read it, if you're giving it away?

ELLE

Three times. The lighthouse passage: I can recite it with my eyes closed.

(A beat.)

ELLE

That's not an argument, I know.

LUI

Take it. On one condition: the lighthouse passage. Eyes closed. Now.

(She closes her eyes. She recites. He isn't looking at the book at all anymore.)

LUI

You got the ending wrong. It's "come back", not "stay".

ELLE

...You've read it.

LUI

Three times.

(He slides the book towards her.)

LUI

There's a café across the street. Tell me the ending. Yours, not the book's.

What you can do with it

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