

FADE IN:

EXT. STREET, BOSTON, DECEMBER - DAY

Cold. Light snow falls onto a busy one-way street filled with businesses and residences. Cars are moving bumper to bumper in the slow traffic. On the sidewalks, people are determined to finish their pre-holiday shopping on time.

INT. CHEVY CONVERTIBLE - DAY

MAX (35), an athletically built man, drives slowly with the rooftop down. Music is playing. He looks sad. Rare snowflakes fall on his head and shoulders as he stares forward, ignoring the crowd. The traffic light turns to red.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

EMMA (29) stands near the crosswalk among other people, waiting for the green light. She hears the music coming out of Max's Chevy as the car approaches the intersection. Emma looks curiously at Max. He stops the Chevy by the crosswalk and turns his head toward her. As he sees her, he tenses up as if he sees something unexpected.

INT. CHEVY CONVERTIBLE - DAY

Max stares at Emma as she walks in front of his car, crossing the intersection. She seems to be aware of his stare-down, but chooses not to look at him. She crosses the road and walks downstairs into a second-hand store.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Green light. Max drives through the intersection and parks. The rooftop is going up until it securely snaps. Max gets out and walks towards the second-hand store.

INT. SECOND-HAND STORE - DAY

Cheerful Christmas music is playing.

Emma stands by a rack, picking through the clothes. Finding nothing interesting, she walks to a kids' section and looks through the merchandise. She picks up a cute dress and smiles as she checks it out.

A HOSTESS, wearing a red Santa's hat, brings Max and Emma to their table.

MAX  
(to the Hostess)  
Thank you. Could you please let  
Giuseppe know we're here?

HOSTESS  
Of course.

As she walks to the kitchen, Max pulls out a chair for Emma.

EMMA  
Thank you.

She sits down. Max sits across.

MAX  
This's my favorite place. Giuseppe  
is a magician and here he comes.

GIUSEPPE (60), in a white chef's jacket, walks to their table. Max stands up and offers him a handshake.

MAX (CONT'D)  
Hello, my friend.

Giuseppe smiles widely and grabs Max's hand.

GIUSEPPE  
We missed you on Sunday. Brunch was  
amazing.

MAX  
Sorry, something came up.

He points at Emma.

MAX (CONT'D)  
This is Emma.

Giuseppe turns his head to Emma and freezes for a second. His smile disappears as he stares at her. Then, he turns his surprised eyes to Max. Max nods his head slightly.

MAX (CONT'D)  
We just met. And I told Emma that  
you are amazing. Please don't let  
me down.

Giuseppe looks at Emma again. She smiles.