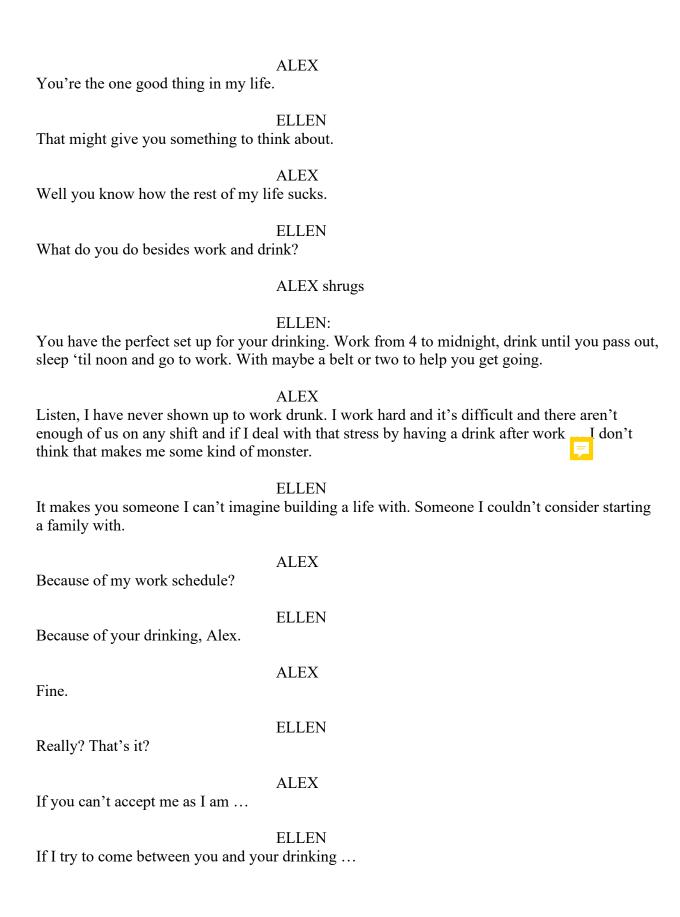


	ELLEN
Do you know what a pain in the ass	you are when we can be together?
Oh that's nice.	ALEX
	ELLEN gets in the way of your drinking. If I suggest going to a refuse or you are jittery and anxious the whole time.
We go to the movies.	ALEX
With you reeking of booze.	ELLEN
I may have a drink or two with dinne	ALEX er. Not a federal offense.
I know you can't stop drinking if you	ELLEN u don't want to
And I don't want to.	ALEX
But I don't want to deal with your dr	ELLEN rinking anymore.
I'm a package deal.	ALEX
Your coffee.	SERVER
Thanks.	ELLEN
Do you want another, sir.	SERVER
I do, but I'd better not.	ALEX
	SERVER

Still need more time to order?

	ELLEN
Yes. Thanks,	
No problem.	SERVER
	SERVER exits.
Happy now?	ALEX
See, this is what I mean	ELLEN
What?	ALEX
You don't have a drink for my sake,	ELLEN but you're such a martyr about it.
You're just pissed because I didn't h whenever I want or need to.	ALEX nave another so you could make your point. I can stop
So here's the deal.	ELLEN
The speech you got me out of bed on	ALEX n a work day to give.
ELLEN I don't want to deal with your drinking and you don't want to stop, that only leaves me one option.	
	A beat,
You're not serious	ALEX
Oh, but I am.	ELLEN
How can you do this to me?	ALEX
You are doing it to yourself.	ELLEN



ALEX You make it sound like we don't have any good times. **ELLEN** You're a good guy when you're not drunk. **ALEX** Thank you, I think. And I can have a few drinks without getting drunk. **ELLEN** You never have just a few drinks and you always end up drunk. **ALEX** I'm sorry to be such a burden. A beat. **ELLEN** You're not even going to consider quitting? **ALEX** No. **ELLEN** Wow. **ALEX** You throw down a crappy ultimatum and expect me to roll over and beg? **SERVER** Are you folks ready? **ELLEN** I'm just going to have the coffee, thanks. **ALEX** I'll have two eggs, sunny side up. Hash browns. Rye toast. A short stack of pancakes. And another Bloody Mary. **SERVER** Thank you. I'll be right back with your drink.

ELLEN

And there's my answer.

ALEX shrugs.

It's not even a difficult choice for yo	ELLEN u.	
You're the one making a choice.	ALEX	
Okay, I am.	ELLEN	
	ELLEN stands and takes \$5.00 from her purse.	
Here's for my coffee.	ELLEN	
You don't have to	ALEX	
But I do. I'm not going to have my e	ELLEN x-boyfriend buying me coffee.	
ALEX Thank you for not saying we should stay friends.		
	ELLEN nods and exits. ALEX sits still for a moment. He looks around the diner. He fiddles with his empty glass. The SERVER returns.	
Your Bloody Mary, sir.	SERVER	
Thank you.	ALEX	
I should have your breakfast right up	SERVER	
I should have your breakfast right up		
I should have your breakfast right up This is exactly what it looks like.).	

I just got dumped.	ALEX
I'm sorry, sir.	SERVER
	ALEX shrugs.
I'm probably better off.	ALEX
I hope so.	SERVER
You in a relationship?	ALEX
Sir?	SERVER
Sorry, none of my business.	ALEX
Let me check on your breakfast.	SERVER
If you are, accept the person as they	ALEX are. Don't try to change them.
Of course.	SERVER
	SERVER exits.
	ALEX take a sip of his drink and visibly relaxes.
	Lights fade to black.
	End of scene 2.