***Pub guy:*** I noticed your glass was getting a little low. So I took a liberty(自作主张) of bringing you another apple martini.

***Sara Melas:*** Thank you.

***Pub guy:*** And I couldn’t help but notice you look a lot like my next girlfriend.（另外我忍不住注意到你看起来很像我下一任女朋友）

***Sara Melas:*** What is your name?

***Pub guy:*** They call me Chip.

***Sara Melas:*** Aha, you can’t get them to stop?

***Pub guy:*** That was funny.

***Sara Melas:*** Listen, Chip, I understand the courage to walk across the room and try to generate a relationship out of thin air. So don’t take the following personally.（所以别把我下面的话当作是针对你）

***Pub guy:*** You have fantastic eyes.

***Sara Melas:*** Thanks. Try to listen. This is no selection on you.（不是对你挑剔） I am not interested. But thank you for the compliment（恭维） of coming over.

***Pub guy:*** You are welcome, so do you like Cuban food?

***Sara Melas:*** Chip, seriously, that was not a code for “I wish you try harder ”.

***Pub guy:*** Are you always so shutdown（自我封闭）, and afraid that the right man might make you feel like…

***Alex Hitchens :*** Like a natural woman? Sorry, I am late, honey. I could get a cab. How was meeting?

***Sara Melas:*** Oh well, there was a beginning, a middle, and an end. Nice to meet you, Chip.

***Pub guy:*** You too.

***Alex Hitchens :*** Now on the one hand it is very difficult for a man to even speak to someone who likes you. But on the other hand, should that be your problem?

***Sara Melas:*** So life is kind of hard all around.

***Alex Hitchens :*** Well, not if you pay attention. I mean you send out all the right signals. No earrings, heels under two inches, your hairs pulled back. You wear reading glasses, but no book. Drinking a grey goose martini, which means you have a hell of a week( 糟糕的一周), and beer just wouldn’t do it. If that wasn’t enough, there is always the “fuck-off”（滚蛋） that you have stamped on your forehead. Because who is gonna believe that there is man out there that can sit down beside a woman he does not know, and genuinely（真诚的 ） be interested in who she is, what she does, without his own agenda.

***Sara Melas:*** I wouldn’t even know what that would look like. So what would a guy like that say?

***Alex Hitchens :*** Well, he’d say my name is Alex Hitchens, and I am a consultant. But she wouldn’t be interested in that, because she probably be just counting seconds until he left.

***Sara Melas:*** Thinking he was like every other guy.

***Alex Hitchens :*** Which life experience has taught her is a virtual certainty（生活的经验告诉他这几乎是一定的）. But then he’d ask her name and what she did for a living. And she might blow him off（让她滚蛋 ）, or she might say…

***Sara Melas:*** I am Sara Melas. I run the Gossip column at the Standard. Then he would ask all these penetrating（尖锐的） questions about it, because she was sincerely, if atypically（非典型） interested.

***Alex Hitchens :*** No.

***Sara Melas:*** No.

***Alex Hitchens :*** He’d be interested. But he’d see that these was no way he could possibly make her realize that he was for real.（不过他能看出他没有办法让他相信他是认真的）

***Sara Melas:*** Well, he could be funny and charming, and refreshingly original（与众不同的创性）.

***Alex Hitchens :*** Wouldn’t help.

***Sara Melas:*** Doesn’t he hate it when that happens.

***Alex Hitchens :*** Not really. They both probably go on to lead a life they were headed toward（他们也许会继续他们自己的生活）. My guess is, they do just fine. The pleasure to have met you, Sara Melas.