

Forces of Nature scene

Sarah

I hate to remind you, but we had a deal, remember?
You were supposed to be my husband if I got you a ride.
Do you remember that?

Ben

Yes, I remember that arrangement. I did not, however,
presuppose the fact that Debbie is now on her way down
to tell my fiancée that I'm holed up in a hotel room in
South Carolina somewhere with a woman claiming to be
the wife of the good Dr. Ben Holmes!

Sarah

What was I supposed to do? The Sunshine people think
we're married. They would have stoned us. As it is, I already
feel bad enough about not buying a condo. Why don't you
just tell Bridget the truth? What kind of marriage to you have
if she doesn't believe you? Just explain why you're with me...

Ben

Sarah, I'm not with you! We're not together! This is not a
Relationship! I just happen to be traveling alongside a natural
disaster!

Sarah

You know what? I really feel sorry for you.
[Sarcastic chuckle]
'Cause at least when I was getting married, I could admit I was
scared.

Ben

Well, save me your pity, because I am not scared.

Sarah

You know what? You have such a problem with honesty, Ben,
you know that?

Ben

Oh.

Sarah

You can't tell you fiancée what's going on. You can't explain something absolutely simple and honest to your best man, and you are with me, Ben! You could have left a hundred times, but you didn't!

Ben

I tried to!

Sarah

Then why are you still here?

Ben

I'm leaving! All right, fine! You wanna talk about honesty? Let's talk about honesty.

Sarah

Bring it on.

Ben

You complain about your life, nonstop, all the time.

[Mimicking Sarah]

It's all your fault. You are a beautiful, incredible woman. You could have any guy you wanted, but you keep picking these losers. And the only thing I can think of is that you choose these guys who are intellectually inferior to you so that you can control them, but still feel conveniently wounded when the relationship ends. You're the one that's afraid of commitment. You back out of every job you ever have! You run away from anyone and anything, and you think it's so unconventional and liberating, when in fact, it's just cowardice and juvenile and unable to face the real world!

Sarah

Ha! Okay, you want honesty, I'll give you honesty. Do you know why you can't write your marriage vows? Because you are absolutely terrified that you have nothing to say. And why would you, Ben? Because you run around so scared that life is gonna throw you this curveball that'll completely shatter this crystal clear, perfect existence you've created for yourself in your day timer, that you blurb your way out of feeling anything emotional, anything real.

You have no emotions, and that's what makes you a shitty writer, Ben.

Ben

You know what? At least I don't sit around obsessing that no one's going to come to my funeral, because I have relationships that last longer than a week. My funeral is gonna be packed!

Sarah

You know what, Ben? That is just great.
And I know your eulogy is gonna look so nice on the back
Of a book cover.

Ben

I just think you are an immature, selfish person.
[Sarah gives him the finger]
Well, I'm obviously wrong.

Sarah

Have a fabulous time in Westchester. I do hope you
enjoy the minivan.

Ben

God! How great it must be to be so cool and above
everyone, huh? It must be great! Let me ask you
somethin'. How cool is it to abandon your kid?

Sarah

I was 17 years old, okay? Fuck you.
You don't know anything about it.

Ben

All right, well, try 27 Sarah...

Sarah

...nothing...

Ben

...because seventeen's not working anymore.

Sarah

Okay, Ben, take your marriage Clift Notes and have a nice wedding, okay?

Ben

Have a nice divorce.

Sarah

Okay.

[They briefly kiss but she pulls away]

No, no, no, don't...

Ben

...well, that was smooth.

Sarah

You're getting married tomorrow, Ben.

Ben

What's your point?

Sarah

Well, you see, if I'm gonna turn my life around, I can't very well break up your marriage. I'll have bad luck for the rest of my life, karmically speaking, and I...

Ben

I am getting married tomorrow, I have non-refundable tickets to Hawaii, and I cannot make myself leave this room.

Sarah

Well, I like you too, Ben.

Ben

I...I can't go through with a marriage like that. I can't.

Sarah

Ben, relax.

We didn't even get to second base.

Ben

I'm gonna tell her. I think at the very least she deserves that. I can feel this way about someone else...

[Screeching tires are heard outside]

Sarah

Is that your ride?

Ben

Yeah.

Yeah, it was.

END SCENE