

REAGAN

What do you want to be when you grow up?

TOMMY

I...I don't know. I always assumed I would just keep at the mill and work my way up.

REAGAN

Well what's your dream?

TOMMY

I don't have one, it's not what we do.

REAGAN

Who's we?

*TOMMY hesitates. He notices a small book REAGAN is carrying.*

TOMMY

What're you reading?

REAGAN

Nothing! Look-

*She flips the book open*

Blank pages!

*TOMMY squints at the book in confusion.*

REAGAN (CONT'D)

It's a journal.

TOMMY

Ah!

REAGAN

I read a parlor shop magazine that recommends always having a notebook, because you never know where inspiration might strike!

TOMMY

Where do you usually go?

REAGAN

If I have time, Coney Island. If I don't have time...or find myself scheduled to have a date in the park, then the park will do.

TOMMY

This is a date?

REAGAN

Well do you want it to be?

TOMMY

I wouldn't mind.

REAGAN

Every story is better with a little romance, let's make it one! Tell me, who are you, *Thomas*?

TOMMY

Well actually my name's not- Nevermind.

REAGAN

(jokingly)

So your birth certificate says...*Tommy*?

TOMMY

No, it's, ah-

REAGAN

Please don't tell me you're one of those nut-job 'Roberts' who goes by Tommy.

TOMMY

No, actually...My real name is Tommasso.

REAGAN

Oh! Oh. Did you come over?

TOMMY

My father.

REAGAN

Why'd he leave?

TOMMY

I don't exactly know. But things were really bad over there.

*Beat.*

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Look, I understand if you want to leave.

REAGAN

What? No. I don't care. A little red sauce never hurt anyone. You're not with the mafia though, are you?

*TOMMY shakes his head.*

TOMMY

No.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

That sounded funnier in my head but-

TOMMY

I get it a lot.

REAGAN

Ah.

*Beat.*

REAGAN

Could we start over?

TOMMY

What um-

REAGAN

Here, let me just...

*She stands up, circles the bench, and sits down.*

REAGAN

Hi! I'm Reagan Griffin. We danced the other night, and I thought you were really cute, and luckily I gave you my number before you rushed off with your drunk friends so we could schedule our date. And here we are!

*TOMMY laughs, the tension has broken.*