

Next Time It Rains

by

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Address
Phone number

A bus stop. JOSEPH stands holding his umbrella. He takes a deep breath. AMELIA walks up next to him, soaking wet from the rain. JOSEPH notices her. Despite this, it has not truly begun to rain.

JOSEPH
Need an umbrell?

AMELIA
No, thank you.
(Beat)

JOSEPH
Are you sure?

AMELIA
Yes.

JOSEPH
It's really pouring outside.

AMELIA
It is. Isn't it?
(Beat)

JOSEPH
Just having a bad day?

AMELIA
No. Why?

JOSEPH
Well I mean you're standing in the rain without an umbrella. I just see it in movies a lot.

AMELIA
See what?

JOSEPH
Well like something really bad will happen and then the main character will get caught in the rain and everything just seems... To be falling apart.

AMELIA
That's sad.

JOSEPH
Yeah. They just stand there and know there's nothing they can do to stop what's happening or what's already happened.

AMELIA

I meant it's sad that rain is painted in such a way.

JOSEPH

Painted?

AMELIA

Rain isn't sad for me. People want to get away from it. So today I decided I would just be in the rain.

JOSEPH

Oh. That's... Interesting.
(Beat)

AMELIA

What about you?

JOSEPH

What about me?

AMELIA

Why do you hate rain?

JOSEPH

I don't hate rain I just-

AMELIA

But when it does rain you bring an umbrella right? To keep it away?

JOSEPH

Well, yea. That's what we're supposed to do.

AMELIA

Why?

JOSEPH

Why what?

AMELIA

Why don't you just let the rain fall on you?

JOSEPH

My clothes would get wet.

AMELIA

So?

JOSEPH

They would be ruined.

AMELIA

Don't you wash your clothes in water?

JOSEPH
Well, yes bu that's different.

AMELIA
How so?

JOSEPH
When I wash my clothes it's to clean them.

AMELIA
So it's for a purpose.

JOSEPH
Yes.

AMELIA
It rains for a purpose you know.

JOSEPH
Yeah. The uh... Rain cycle or something.

AMELIA
Yes but rain also cleans.

JOSEPH
Really?

AMELIA
Yes. I stand in the rain and I just feel my mind
(*pause*)
You know?

JOSEPH
Sorry, I don't know-

AMELIA
Peace.

JOSEPH
Peace?

AMELIA
My mind is at peach when it rains.
(*Beat*)

JOSEPH closes his eyes

AMELIA CONT'D
Falling apart you said?

JOSEPH
What?

AMELIA
Earlier you said everything was falling apart.

JOSEPH
Oh, no. I meant that as an example.

AMELIA
For a movie.

JOSEPH
Yeah.

AMELIA
What's it about?

JOSEPH
The movie?

(She remains silent)
Well, it's uh... Kind of a sad movie. The one I was thinking of. It's about this person and they're just going through a lot-

AMELIA
I've seen that one.

JOSEPH
I didn't even finish telling you what it was about.

AMELIA
I've seen it.

JOSEPH
I don't think you have.

AMELIA
Why?

JOSEPH
I just do.

AMELIA
Well I'm telling you I have.

JOSEPH
It's impossible for you to have seen it.

AMELIA
Is it new?

JOSEPH
No.

AMELIA
So it's an older movie?

Well-

JOSEPH

Who directed it?

AMELIA

I don't remember

JOSEPH

When did it come out?

AMELIA

A long time ago.

JOSEPH

Who stars in it?

AMELIA

No one special.

JOSEPH

Where can I watch it?

AMELIA

You can't.

JOSEPH

I can't watch it?

AMELIA

No, you can't watch it! Nobody can!

JOSEPH

(Beat)

Except for me.

There is silence between the two. Then JOSEPH let's his umbrella fall and he begins to cry. It is now raining. AMELIA raises her face to the sky.

AMELIA

It sounds like a good movie. How does it end?

JOSEPH

The only way it can.

AMELIA faces JOSEPH. She then hugs him.

AMELIA

Then let's change the ending.

JOSEPH

It won't change anything. Not really.

AMELIA

Then add a new character... Before the end.

After several moments they both return to their original positions. JOSEPH continues to hld onto the umbrella at his side.

JOSEPH

What's this new characters name?

AMELIA

Amelia.

(Beat)

JOSEPH

The main character is named Joseph.

(Beat)

AMELIA

Where is he going now?

JOSEPH

Not where he was going to go.

AMELIA

That's good.

(Beat)

JOSEPH

How did you know?

AMELIA

I told you. I've seen this movie before.

There is silence. JOSEPH let's go of the umbrella.

JOSEPH

I don't like rain.

AMELIA

You don't have to. But sometimes you have have to let it rain.

(Beat)

So, where are you going now?

JOSEPH

Someplace new.

AMELIA

That's good.

JOSEPH

You want to come with?

Sure.

AMELIA

*They both walk offstage, leaving
behind the upside down umbrella*

Perusal Only