

~~MIMI (Josh) (re. her drink) You want another one?~~

~~APRIL (April) I want you to kiss me.~~

~~A long, wretched, kissless moment.~~

~~MIMI (Josh) I'd uh, be happy to proofread your thesis proposal.~~

~~(Beat.)~~

~~(Mimi) HE SAID I'D BE HAPPY TO PROOFREAD YOUR THESIS PROPOSAL! SHE STRAIGHT UP TOLD HIM TO KISS HER AND HIS COUNTEROFFER WAS TO CORRECT HER IN WRITING.~~

~~APRIL He was nervous. We joke about it now.~~

~~MIMI (Mimi) And that was how I found out April applied to grad school. Right, sweetie?~~

~~(back in the scene) April, what is he talking about?~~

~~APRIL I'm applying to grad school.~~

~~MIMI For acting?~~

~~APRIL No.~~

~~MIMI Oh.~~

~~Well.~~

START

~~I'd be happy to read your thing too.~~

EDWARD SNOWDEN *(on TV)* Because of the advance of technology, storage became cheaper and cheaper year after year. Soon it was easy for the government to keep tremendous amounts of data on millions of people. This experimental approach to how we collect intelligence...

Edward's voice becomes intimate and seductive.

...is *nothing* compared to the experimental approach to collecting intelligence you and I will take with each other, *Mimi*.

Mimi looks up.

EDWARD SNOWDEN Yeah, girl. You.

MIMI Did you see that? April?

But April is frozen, or maybe disappeared in darkness. Some crazy magic is happening just for Mimi.

MIMI I actually *love* your glasses.

EDWARD SNOWDEN Oh, that's so funny because right before shit hit the fan, I had *just* ordered my first set of contacts.

MIMI Oh, *no*.

EDWARD SNOWDEN Okay, good, I agree.

MIMI The glasses are crucial to your whole whistleblower

EDWARD SNOWDEN *image*.

MIMI Your glasses say

EDWARD SNOWDEN "I'm serious about the truth."

MIMI "I can do stuff to computers."

EDWARD SNOWDEN "Call your Congressperson."

MIMI "This whistle is *not* going to blow itself."

They chuckle.

EDWARD SNOWDEN You're so funny.

MIMI Wait, take them off.
(Edward takes them off.)
AH! It's like Zooey Deschanel without bangs.

EDWARD SNOWDEN *(putting his glasses back on)* Oh god, she's unrecognizable.

MIMI I used to hate-watch her show. Who do you hate-watch?

EDWARD SNOWDEN *(on TV)* We could have foreign adversaries exploiting those back doors and have no idea it's occurring.

April is back or unfrozen; the world is back to normal.

MIMI Did you just see something incredibly magical? April. I swear, for a second I could really understand what he was saying, and it was like, he was talking to *me*.

April is serious as she mouths to Mimi: "Shut up."

EDWARD SNOWDEN I was shocked that anyone in the UK government would go so far for so little. If the UK had been pursuing, say—
(the magic is back) You, Mimi, then shoot, girl. I'd violate the Geneva Conventions, too.

MIMI I'd violate all the conventions with you.

EDWARD SNOWDEN That could get... *unethical*.

MIMI I've got lots of secret intelligence if you've got the skills to—
hack it.

EDWARD SNOWDEN I bet you're a big fat treasure trove of secret intelligence.

MIMI Big and fat?

EDWARD SNOWDEN On the *inside*. On the outside you're a supermodel.

MIMI No.

EDWARD SNOWDEN Yes. A supermodel of courage.

MIMI *(She gasps.)* I *am* a supermodel of courage! I just don't always
get to show that side of myself, you know?

EDWARD SNOWDEN That side of you is all I see.

MIMI This is nothing. Hold onto your butt, buddy, because I am about
to get *so effing* inspiring.

EDWARD SNOWDEN You're *effing* inspiring me right now.

A beat. Back to normal. Mimi listens to Edward's interview, rapt.

EDWARD SNOWDEN It should have been obvious to anyone who works with data or
journalism or anybody in these intelligence agencies—

APRIL Is there any bourbon left—

MIMI PLEASE SHUT UP EDWARD IS TALKING.

EDWARD SNOWDEN who works with data or journalism or anybody in the
intelligence agencies that you can't grind hard data out of

existence. Unless your name is—*(it's magical again!)* Mimi. She could grind all my hard data out of existence.

MIMI I'd love to try.

EDWARD SNOWDEN If you wait for me, I'll come for you.

Tracey Chapman's voice comes in loud and strong "If you wait for me" as everything else fades to leave Mimi alone in her reverie. Edward pops back in to say—

EDWARD SNOWDEN Oh, and Mimi? Don't worry about The Long Way Home.

Mimi feels caught. What?

EDWARD SNOWDEN You're so brave that I know at your next audition, you're gonna step off that elevator, walk down that hall, and audition your ass off. And besides, the role of Diner Waitress wasn't for you.

MIMI It wasn't?

EDWARD SNOWDEN No. The girl they cast got it by playing it safe. You are a Great Actress.

~~*Tracy Chapman's voice swells in a gorgeous crescendo.*~~

STOP

~~*End of Act One.*~~

~~*Please don't take an intermission but April could come through the house and top off people's drinks. At the New York premiere she passed out Jell-O shots as party music blasted and honestly it slapped.*~~