

**"Bridges of Madison County" - Francesca tells Robert "You're a hypocrite and you're a phony."**

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

Francesca is serving Robert breakfast, then sits down beside him. Silence. We can sense some tension between them -- this being their last day together.

Francesca seems ingeniously friendly. Robert is suspicious.

FRANCESCA  
Sleep all right?

ROBERT  
Yes, thanks.

FRANCESCA  
Good. More coffee?  
(he nods, she pours)  
Robert, I hope you don't mind my asking, but I feel like I should.

ROBERT  
What?

FRANCESCA  
Well, these... women friends of yours... all over the world. How does it work? Do you see some of them again? Do you forget others? Do you write them now and then? How do you manage it?

Her facetiousness startles Robert.

ROBERT  
I... What do you want?

FRANCESCA  
Well, I just want to know the procedure. I don't want to upset your routine. Do you want any jam?

ROBERT  
(insulted)  
Routine! I don't have a routine. And if you think that's what this is -

FRANCESCA  
Well, what is this?

ROBERT  
(upset)  
Well, why is that up to me? You're the one who's married. You told me

you have no intention of leaving your husband.

FRANCESCA

To do what? Be with someone who needs everyone and no one in particular? I mean, what would be the point. Would you pass the butter?

ROBERT

I was honest with you. I told you who I was.

FRANCESCA

Yes. Absolutely. You have this habit of not needing and that it's hard to break. I understand.

(beat)

Of course, in that case, why sleep -- you don't need rest or for that matter eat, you don't need food.

She takes his plate away from him, rises and throws it into the sink.

ROBERT

What are you doing?

FRANCESCA

(sarcastic)

Gee, I don't know. I guess I'm not cut out to be a World Citizen who experiences everything and nothing at the same time.

ROBERT

How do you know what I experience?

FRANCESCA

(angry)

I know you! What can this possibly mean to anyone who doesn't "need" meaning -

(mocking)

"Who goes with the Mystery" -- who pretends he isn't scared to death.

ROBERT

Stop it!

FRANCESCA

You have no idea what you've done to me, do you? And after you leave, I'm going to have to wonder for the rest of my life what happened here. If anything happened at all! And I'll have to wonder if you find yourself

in some... housewife's kitchen in  
Romania if you'll sit there and tell  
her about your world of good friends  
and secretly include me in that group.

ROBERT  
What do you want me to say?

FRANCESCA  
(nonchantly)  
I don't want you to say anything. I  
don't need you to say anything.

Robert rises, knocking his chair aside.

ROBERT  
STOP IT!

FRANCESCA  
Fine. More eggs or should we just  
fuck on the linoleum one last time?

ROBERT  
(grabs her)  
I told you! I won't apologize for who  
I am.

FRANCESCA  
No one's asking you to!

ROBERT  
I won't be made to feel like I've  
done something wrong.

FRANCESCA  
(angry)  
You won't be made to feel! Period.  
You've carved out this little part  
for yourself in the world where you  
get to be a voyeur, a hermit and a  
lover whenever you feel like it and  
the rest of us are just supposed to  
feel so incredibly grateful for the  
brief time you've touched our lives!  
Well, go to hell! It isn't human not  
to feel lonely -- it isn't human not  
to be afraid! You're a hypocrite and  
you're a phony!

ROBERT  
(cries out)  
I DON'T WANT TO NEED YOU!

FRANCESCA  
WHY?

ROBERT

BECAUSE I CAN'T HAVE YOU!

FRANCESCA

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH IT?

He throws a cup at the wall. It breaks apart. Covering his face, Robert turns away from her as he holds onto the sink. Francesca reaches for him but he pulls away, embarrassed.

FRANCESCA (cont'd)

(softly)

Don't you see, I've got to know the truth, Robert. I've got to know the truth or I'll go crazy. Either way. Just tell me. But I can't act like this is enough because it has to be. I can't pretend I don't feel what I feel because it's over tomorrow.

Robert, keeping his face from her, tries to tell her:

ROBERT

If I've done anything to make you think that what's happened between us is nothing new for me -- is some routine -- then I do apologize.

FRANCESCA

What makes it different, Robert?

Robert turns to face her. He is so hopelessly in love he can hardly find the words. His eyes fill up with tears.

ROBERT

Because... if I even think about tomorrow -- if I...

(voice cracks)

even think about leaving here without you -- I'm not sure I can... that I -

(he shakes his head)

He can't even finish. He kneels down before her wrapping his arms around her and burying his face into her body. Francesca starts to cry -- out of happiness, out of pain -- holding onto him as if for dear life.

FRANCESCA

Oh God... what are we going to do?

She kisses him -- over and over, not wanting to be even an inch apart. As if any space between them might separate them forever.