

THE WYOMING PROJECT - LUCY

INT. THE COUNTRY CLUB - NIGHT

The local no-frills roadhouse where all the locals go dancing on a Saturday night. A long bar runs the length of the room. The HOUSE BAND plays and the dance floor is a swirl of Saturday night jeans, boots, and cowboy hats.

LUCY turns to GIDEON and smiles.

LUCY  
Well, if it isn't my knight in shining armor again. You're saving me a lot these days.

GIDEON  
Seems like.

LUCY  
Well, thanks.

GIDEON downs his shot and holds out his hand for another.

MARTY fills his glass then fills one for LUCY.

LUCY (CONT'D)  
I'm Lucy.

GIDEON  
Gideon.

LUCY  
Gideon. Like the bible. Well, Gideon...  
(holds up her shot glass)  
Nice to meet you. They clink glasses.

GIDEON  
Careful, that's straight--

LUCY downs her drink in one gulp. She's completely unfazed.

GIDEON looks impressed.

LUCY  
(explaining)  
Kappa Delta Phi.  
(to Marty)  
Two more.  
(to Gideon)  
So I just moved here.

GIDEON

You don't say.

LUCY

Well, I didn't exactly move here. My grandmother's sick and I came to help her.

GIDEON

Help her do what?

LUCY

You know, cook, clean. I thought she'd need help getting in and out of the bathtub but she washes her paint brushes in there so you wouldn't want to bathe in it. Actually she seems fine. I don't think she needs much help at all.

GIDEON

Well, that's a good thing.

LUCY

(unconvincing)

It is a good thing. A very very good thing.

GIDEON

So, since she's not gonna be bathing much, how long are you staying?

LUCY

I don't know. Strokes are funny things. They're kind of like cookies. You can't have just one. That's a terrible joke. I guess I'm a little nervous.

GIDEON

I'm making you nervous?

LUCY

Yes. No. I'm...you're...I just don't seem to be fitting in very well around here. Everything I do seems to scream "Hey, I don't live here! Shove me and take my money!" Oh well, bored with me. What about you, do you live here?

GIDEON

On a ranch just a couple miles outside of town.

LUCY  
What kind of ranch?

GIDEON  
Horses. We're horse people, my family. Me and my three sisters.

LUCY  
(excited)  
Three sisters! Oh my God. Mary, Laura, and Carrie!

GIDEON  
What?

LUCY  
"Little House On The Prairie"! The book. Mary was the oldest, Laura was the tomboy and Pa's favorite, and Carrie was...never mind. Three sisters. That's great.

GIDEON  
And I got a brother off at school.

LUCY  
What about your parents?

GIDEON  
Dead.

LUCY  
Oh. I'm sorry.  
(beat)  
Gee, and it was going so well there for a minute... Well, I'd love to meet them sometimes. Your family. I'd love to have you all over for dinner. I'm actually a very good cook. I had a French nanny who taught me everything about cooking. And Michael Madsen. She just loved Michael Madsen. So odd. I'd invite you guys over to grandmother's house but I'm not allowed to have dinner there yet. I just negotiated the daily use of the bathroom which is great because that Chevron station is a hike, but dinner's a ways off. Anyhow, what do you think?

GIDEON  
About what?

LUCY  
About me coming over to your house  
and cooking for you and the girls?

GIDEON  
When did you say that?

LUCY  
Just now.

GIDEON  
Nope.

LUCY  
You sure?

GIDEON  
Fairly certain.

LUCY  
I'm sorry. I get ahead of myself.  
Could I come over and cook for you  
and the girls dinner one night? I'd  
be really grateful. I mean, I'm  
grateful to you already. But this  
would be grateful with dinner rolls.  
Please? I know it seems crazy and  
pushy but I don't really know anybody  
in town yet and I'd really like to  
make some new friends. Please?

LUCY looks at him, big eyes and all. GIDEON stares at her.  
There's something about her. He SHRUGS.

LUCY (CONT'D)  
Really? Oh thank you! That shrug  
meant "yes" right? You won't be  
sorry. So tomorrow? Seven? Yes? Good.  
So I go where?

GIDEON  
It's the Thorpe Ranch. Ask anyone,  
they'll guide you.

LUCY  
Wonderful!