

PAIN AND LONELINESS

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INT. SCHOOL - ART ROOM - EVENING

Chelsea and Marc, standing shoulder to shoulder. They're both staring at a painted, four by eight canvas displayed on an easel in front of them.

After a long beat:

CHELSEA  
Well? What do you think?

Marc thinks, then:

MARC  
Yeah, I like it.

CHELSEA  
Oh god, you hate it.

MARC  
What? No, I said I like it.

CHELSEA  
Yeah but you said it like you hate it.

MARC  
You're wrong. I think it's very...interesting. I love the colors but -

CHELSEA  
See there's a 'but'.

MARC  
I just have some questions.

CHELSEA  
Well, you do know the artist...

MARC  
Okay. That blue-ish section over there, what's that about?

CHELSEA  
Glad you asked. See the control in the strokes? The subtle shading? It represent the pain that is life and how each man has his own struggle.

Marc struggles to see what she means.

MARC

Hmmm. Okay. Well, this part here just looks like you splattered paint randomly.

CHELSEA

Yeah, if your mind is closed. Here...

She pulls him a few steps away from the picture.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

Now do you see it?

MARC

Ummm.....

CHELSEA

(frustrated)

The inevitable conflict that is inherent in all relationships? It's right there in front of you.

MARC

Seriously?

CHELSEA

I don't joke about art Marc.

MARC

Maybe I'm just not sophisticated enough, 'cause...I don't get it.

CHELSEA

No. You can't *get* it. You're not supposed to understand this. You have to *experience* it.

MARC

That sounds hard.

CHELSEA

It's a pretty basic piece. Most people don't have trouble experiencing it.

MARC

Well, when I see a painting of some fruit in a bowl, I get it right away...It's fruit in a bowl.

CHELSEA

Fruit in a...What are you talking about?!?

(MORE)

CHELSEA(cont'd)

Any caveman with finger paint can  
do some stupid grapes and oranges!  
(pointing at painting)  
This is a movement! It is  
*abandonment* personified!

MARC

Don't get mad. I want to experience  
your painting. I really do.

CHELSEA

Try this: What does the painting  
make you *feel*?

Marc takes a hard look at the picture again...trying really  
hard to make it make sense.

MARC

(to himself)  
Okay. How do I feel?

CHELSEA

Yes Marc. Clear your mind and let the  
piece in. Tell me what you feel.

He's straining his eyes.

MARC

I feel...

CHELSEA

Yes?

MARC

I feel...confused.

Chelsea is IRATE. She's had enough:

CHELSEA

Confused?! You're supposed to feel  
PAIN and LONELINESS! You're an idiot!

She SMACKS HIM IN THE HEAD and storms off.

Marc's alone looking at the painting and rubbing his sore  
head.

MARC

(to himself)  
Oh, now I get it.