

RS#3 – LAURA & DAVID

Title: *Second Chances*

Characters:

- **Laura** – Early 40s, strong-willed but quietly sentimental.
- **David** – Mid 40s, charming in a worn-in way, uses humor to hide regret.

Start



[Scene: A quiet diner late at night. The hum of a jukebox playing an old love song. Two half-empty coffee cups sit between them. Outside, snow drifts lazily past the window.]

Laura: (smiling faintly) I still can't believe you remembered this place.

David: (shrugs) Hard to forget the diner where we nearly got kicked out for dancing on the counter.

Laura: *You* danced on the counter. I was the one apologizing to the manager.

David: (grinning) Worth it, though. You laughed so hard you cried.

Laura: (quietly) I used to do that a lot around you.

(A beat. The jukebox hums softly.)

David: You know, I didn't expect you to say yes tonight.

Laura: I didn't expect to, either. But... curiosity got the better of me.

David: About me?

Laura: (smirks) About whether you've finally learned how to order something other than pancakes at 10 p.m.

David: (laughs) Some habits die hard.

(They share a look — comfortable, but charged. A long silence.)

Laura: (softly) It's strange, isn't it? Sitting here, talking like we didn't blow the whole thing up.

David: (gently) Maybe it wasn't blown up. Maybe it just... burned down. And now there's room to build something new.

Laura: (studying him) You always did have a way with metaphors.

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David: And you always rolled your eyes at them.

(They laugh quietly. David reaches across the table, resting his hand near hers. She hesitates, then lets her fingers brush against his.)

Laura: You hurt me, you know.

David: I know. And I've spent a long time trying to figure out why I let that happen.

Laura: (after a moment) Maybe because we were both too young to know what we had.

David: (softly) I still know what I had.

(A beat. The jukebox changes songs — something slow and familiar.)

Laura: (smiling) If you ask me to dance again, I'm saying no.

David: (grinning) What if I don't ask?

(He stands, extends his hand anyway. She sighs, pretending to resist, but finally takes it. They sway slowly in the dim light, laughter mingling with the music.)

Laura: This is ridiculous.

David: Completely. **← End**

(They dance anyway, holding on a little tighter than they did the first time.)

End Scene.