

Cutting # 3 Diana & Doctor Madden

DOCTOR MADDEN

Diana? This way, please.

(She walks past him into his inner office, studying him. Once she's past him –

#11a – Doctor Rock

A CHORD, lights hit, and he's briefly a rock star.)

YEAH...

DIANA

(spins around; lights restore)

What did you just say?

DOCTOR MADDEN

(a doctor again:)

I said welcome. Have a seat. It's nice to meet you.

(Watching him suspiciously, she does. She sits, turns, and another CHORD and he's a rock star again:)

LET'S GET IT ON NOW, BABY...

DIANA

Excuse me, what?

DOCTOR MADDEN

(now not a rock star:)

I said, let's get started. Are you...nervous, Diana?

DIANA

I am, a little. A bit out of breath. Tingly, actually. Now you go.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Well, let's start by getting to know each other a bit. Psychotherapy and medication work best in tandem, but we can try the first alone, and see how far we get. Why don't you tell me –

(A sudden CHORD and he's a rock star again.)

(DOCTOR MADDEN)

BAY-BEE...WHAT'S YOUR HISTORY?

WHERE'D YOU GO AND WHO'D YOU SEE? YEAH...

(And just like that he's not a rock star.)

DIANA

Um. My history?

(He nods mildly.)

Well—I was diagnosed bipolar, um, wow, sixteen years ago? But it turned out bipolar didn't totally cover it.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Often the best we can do is put names on collections of symptoms. It's possible bipolar has more in common with schizophrenia than depression.

DIANA

When I was young, my mother called me "high-spirited." She would know. She was so high-spirited they banned her from the PTA.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Sometimes there's a predisposition to illness, but actual onset is only triggered by some...traumatic event.

DIANA

I never know what to say when I have to go over all this. It starts to sound like some story I tell that's about some other person entirely.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Why don't you tell me about the last time you truly felt happy.

(She has no answer for him.)

Were you happy when you got married?

DIANA

I thought I was.

DOCTOR MADDEN

There's a difference between being happy and just thinking you're happy?

DIANA

Most people who think they're happy just haven't thought about it enough. Most people who think they're happy are actually just stupid.

DOCTOR MADDEN

I see. Were you happy when your son was born?

(MUSIC CHANGES.)

#12 - *I'm Alive*

DIANA

My son?

(Gabe appears, watching.)

DOCTOR MADDEN

Tell me about him.

DIANA

About my son?

DOCTOR MADDEN

Why is he still around? Who is he? What is he?

(Diana does not answer. C

DOCTOR MADDEN

Where does he come from, do you think?

(Doctor Madden and Diana sit in silence...)