

TEASER

1 INT. GREY ROOM (INTERVIEW) -- DAY 1

AN ELDERLY COUPLE, both nicely dressed.

OLD MAN

The secret to a good marriage? Soup.

OLD WOMAN

You've got your creamed parsnip for the small arguments. Chicken and rice for big blowouts. And roasted root vegetable when you wanna get the fire started.

OLD MAN

(smiles)

I like soup.

The sound of BIRDS CHIRPING.

2 EXT. CITY PARK -- DAY 2

A pristine summer sky, complete with puffy clouds and chirping birds right out of a Bing Crosby movie.

We PAN down to two distant figures. They are giggling, chasing one another.

MOVE IN ON -- TOM BELLOW and ELLIE HILL, barely eighteen, giddy from lord-knows-what. Ellie runs from Tom, who dangles a piece of mystery meat he's found on the ground.

ELLIE

Are you trying to make me hurl?

TOM

Bzzzt! I'm sorry, the answer we were looking for is "What is Ellie about to lick?"

Ellie stops. Catches her breath.

ELLIE

You're sick.

TOM

You're stalling.

Ellie hesitates a beat too long.

(CONTINUED)

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TOM (CONT'D)

Ohhh! Too bad. Guess that's it for this week's edition of "Truth Or Dare", we have some lovely parting gifts for --

Ellie snatches the meat defiantly, licks it with gusto. Tom stares at her for a moment.

TOM (CONT'D)

That was so hot.

She punches him on the shoulder.

ELLIE

You're up, Tom. Truth or dare.

TOM

Dare.

ELLIE

An interesting strategy. Foolish, perhaps, but interesting.

She paces around him playfully.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

Let's see. A little crunking outside the 7-11? Something in the nudity family? Or perhaps a combo of both?

TOM

I come from a long line of naked crunkers. Bring it on.

ELLIE

Down boy. A good dare is like a deep dish pizza, you can't just zap it in the microwave. It takes time and patience. I want a dare with impact. Something that will show me what Tom Bellow is made of.

Ellie paces. Thinking.

ELLIE (CONT'D)

I've got it.
(stops walking)
I dare you ... to propose.

TOM

Propose what?

(CONTINUED)

ELLIE

Propose, propose.

The words hang awkwardly in the air. Did she really just say that? Tom stares at her, not quite sure how to react.

TOM

Score.

ELLIE

'Scuse me?

TOM

The bottle behind you. It's returnable.

Tom walks past her and bends to pick up an empty plastic bottle on the ground. Ellie looks embarrassed.

ELLIE

You know I was kidding, right?

(rapid-babbling)

You and me married? As if. We'd have to figure out, like, names for each other, like, "pumpkin", or "cupcake", and you'd need a briefcase and I'd be all "Have a nice day at work, pumpkin" and --

TOM

Ellie Michelle Hill?

She looks at Tom. He is down on one knee. And suddenly it hits her.

Tom plucks the small plastic "ring" from the neck of the bottle. He holds it up.

TOM (CONT'D)

Will you marry me?

Ellie stares at him for a beat. And then bursts out laughing.

ELLIE

Almost got me.

TOM

No joke, Ellie. For real.

Ellie stifles a gasp. Oh my.

END OF TEASER