

SKI INTO MY HEART

Written by

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EXT. ASPEN SKI LODGE - NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: "ASPEN, 1986"

A lone ski lodge on a mountain top is lit up with Christmas lights and decorations. It just stopped snowing and the ground is covered in a white blanket.

INT. ASPEN SKI LODGE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CHESTER HOWARD, a private detective from LA married to his high school sweetheart, is watching the old noir movie, "D.O.A." on his VCR in the living room, which is only lit by the dim television set and the warm fireplace. Meanwhile his wife, SUSAN HOWARD, a best selling authoress, is upstairs typing on her electric typewriter. Elizabeth's new book is laid out open on the coffee table next to Chester.

TV

All I did was notarize a bill of sale.

Chester takes a sip of his coffee as he hears the typing stop, and then footsteps down the stairs. Susan enters the room. Chester turns his head.

CHESTER

You done writing for the night Sue?

SUSAN

Just taking a break.

She goes to the kitchen and pours herself a glass of wine.

CHESTER

Just a break?

SUSAN

Yeah, I've been feeling really inspired.

She stops pouring the wine, and puts it back.

CHESTER

You know, most people don't work on vacation.

SUSAN

And most people don't write best selling books either.

Chester laughs. Susan walks over to the stereo.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

Music?

CHESTER

Sure, surprise me.

Susan looks over the few records they have and puts on Jimmy Sacca's "You're All That I Need".

CHESTER (CONT'D)

Our kid's goin' to be a real workaholic, you know?

Susan walks towards Chester in the living room on the warm rug that spreads across the two spaces.

SUSAN

I'm sure she won't mind.

Chester grows a smirk.

CHESTER

But he, deserves to relax once in a while.

SUSAN

He?

CHESTER

I was thinking Charles.

Chester rests his cup of joe on the coffee table.

SUSAN

I like Emily more.

CHESTER

That's an awfully girly name for a boy.

SUSAN

She'll get made fun of if we name her Charles.

CHESTER

Which is precisely why we'll have a boy.

SUSAN

Last I checked, we don't get to choose.

CHESTER

Ah, we'll just wait till those liberal scientists come up with some fancy way to choose.

Susan takes a seat on the couch.

SUSAN

Seems a little unnatural. I'd prefer to do it... naturally.

Chester picks up on her flirtation and plays along.

CHESTER

Natural ey? You one of them dirty hippies?

SUSAN

Dirty, well, only if you want me too.

CHESTER

Oh my. I thought we were taking it easy on this trip. Sounds like we're going to be working all night.

SUSAN

Well, you know what they say, work hard play hard.

CHESTER

And all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy?

Chester grins, and Susan leans back, very frustrated.

SUSAN

Agh, you know I hate that movie.

CHESTER

Oh come on, Nicholson was great in that!

SUSAN

Not exactly what I wanted to be thinking about...

She stops mid sentence and sees her book on the coffee table.

SUSAN (CONT'D)

Have you been reading Midnight Blues?

Chester smiles, and then picks up his cup of coffee to take a sip.

CHESTER
I have, I have.

SUSAN
I was starting to think you'd never touch it.

CHESTER
You know how busy I am.

SUSAN
I know, but I've been so excited to hear your thoughts on it.

CHESTER
Oh yeah?

SUSAN
There's something in there for you.

CHESTER
Well that protagonist you whipped up is quite the fella. Any real life inspiration?

SUSAN
Well, you know what they say, art reflects life.

She kisses Chester.

CHESTER
Lets go upstairs, huh?

She nods in excitement.

FADE OUT.