

JAMIE SIDE #1

9

(HE smiles broadly, comically.)

Get in here.

MAN
(Continued.)

(THEY play together on the same piece for a bit. THEY have fun passing it back and forth and finish with a flourish. MAN picks up his drink and moves away and sits.)

I taught for a while...

MAN

Thanks, thanks a lot!

JAMIE

That's great, really.

JAMIE

MAN

START → Anyway, you were saying, you want to play better, play like yourself. How are you gonna do that?

JAMIE

Well...I think I just need to get really serious. Quit doing things halfway. The last few years, kind of a waste that way. And I'm not a kid anymore.

MAN

You're not that old, believe me.

JAMIE

I'm just saying, it's now or never. So, I've been saving up so I can just practice and play and gig around, not have to work for a while. I've got almost ten thousand dollars, I figure I just need a few more. It'll be like a "sabbatical", so I can get better, you know? I'm gonna... I want to leave a mark.

MAN

A mark?

JAMIE

Yeah, you know how right around New Year's, on the news they do a piece about all the great people that died that year? "In Memoriam"? I want to be one of those someday.

MAN

You want to be dead?

JAMIE

Yeah, no, but hey, I'm going to be anyway, right?

MAN

No one gets a pass.

JAMIE

Right? I just mean that I want to have done something, something so people say, "Hey, I liked that guy. He was good!" And then they show pictures of you in slow motion and play sad music. It makes me think, what are we doing here, right?

MAN

(Beat.) You really should do it, the sabbatical thing. If you have a chance like that, you can't let *anything* stop you.

JAMIE

I won't.

MAN

Listen to me. This is important, I know... (Realizing that HE sounds like a nut, HE taps the brakes.) I mean, I'm an OLD guy. I buy sympathy cards in bulk! Ha! I'm just saying, if you don't do that, if you get sidetracked...you'll regret it.

JAMIE

OK...

MAN

It'll kill you.

JAMIE

OK...

MAN

It'll eat you the hell up. You can't let anything or anyone stop you.

(The door opens and ABBY enters. SHE has a coat over a waitress outfit and carries a Tupperware container.)

END

ABBY

Hey babe!

(SHE walks straight over to JAMIE and kisses him across the bar.)

ABBY

Almost ready to go?