

Fever Pitch

Ben and Lindsay are in the park. Lindsay is sitting on a bench, all bundled up, next to the dog. Ben is grilling hot dogs.

Lindsay

Ah, Ah! (squaking bird sound)

Ben

(Giggles) Hey you want to know something?

Lindsay

What?

Ben

I like you.

Lindsay

I like you.

Ben

No, I mean I really like you. I I I wrote a list of all the things I like about you.

Lindsay

You made a list?

Ben

Yeah, I don't have it with me but I can remember it. I'll skip down because the first six are all body parts. Uh, number seven, I like that you drink, in the afternoon. Uh, number eight, I like sometimes you talk out of the side of your mouth a little bit and it's like an adorable stroke victim.

Lindsay?

Ha, I do?

Ben

No, it's very cute. It really is. Uh, number nine. You know when you're getting ready in the mirror, just when your about finished you go like (shrugs). It's so cute I want to kill myself. It's fantastic. Uh...

Lindsay

Hey! When's your break?

Ben
Hm?

Lindsay
You know for your school vacation. When do you get off?

Ben
End of March. That's when you're in Baltimore right?

Lindsay
Yeah. Well it's a really big deal in my family because it's my Dad's birthday and Easter and my sister's anniversary. All in the same week.

Ben
A cluster?

Lindsay
Yeah, uh so uh how would you like to come? Oooh..too fast too serious?

Ben
No, why did I look like I was just?

Lindsay
You were a little.

Ben
No, cause I I I have a previous commitment.

Lindsay
Oh, plans?

Ben
Yeah, um see I didn't tell you about it because I knew you would be away so I figured it didn't matter but every year during Easter vacation uh, me and my friends, we go down to Florida.

Lindsay
You and your friends go down to Florida for Spring Break...at your age?

Ben
No, no, no not Spring Break, Spring training with the Red Sox.

Lindsay

Oh you get to train with the Red Sox? Are you allowed to do that?

Ben

Oh we don't actually, we we well we actually we watch the game.

Lindsay

Aren't those just practice games?

Ben

Yeah. Yeah, but it's more to it than that. I mean we scout the players. We, we say which players we should keep, which players we should get rid of.

Lindsay

And the Red Sox ask your opinion?

Ben

We'll...not yet. If they ever do...Uh, ok I've been avoiding this. There's something you don't know about me.

Lindsay

Oh God, here comes the bag of hair.

Ben

The thing is uh I am a Red Sox fan.

Lindsay

Yeah?

Ben

No, no I'm like a big, big Red Sox fan.

Lindsay

I know. I mean I've been to your apartment and seen the Red Sox dish towels and the glasses and the Yankee toilet paper. It's like you live in a gift shop.

Ben

It's worse. See when I was a kid I moved here from New Jersey and I didn't have any friends or anything. So my Uncle Carl started taking me to Fenway Park. I just I got lost in the game. The ballpark, the people, the colors, the sounds, the smells. And then he got cancer and died. He left me his season tickets. And it's a passion. I mean it's a very very big part of my life. And it's been a problem with me and women.

Lindsay

Ah, ah, I know those women. The pay attention to me and why aren't you talking to me!

Ben

Yeah, exactly.

Lindsay

God those women are so pathetic.

Ben

Yeah, it's like uh "why you got to be so worked up for? And your not even doing it, your watching it."

Lindsay

Yeah.

Ben

It's like hey, how about sometimes I like to be eleven years old.

Lindsay

Yeah.

Ben

I like being part of something that's bigger than me, than I. It's good for your soul to be invested in something you can't control.

Lindsay

You're a romantic.

Ben

Hm?

Lindsay

You have a lyrical soul. You can love under the best and worst conditions.

Ben

I don't know. Well, yeah I guess so. Yeah, you took a really big chance inviting me to meet your family. I'm gonna take a chance. A big one. (He bends down as if to propose.)

Lindsay, will you got to opening day with me. (He opens the case to show tickets.)

Lindsay

(laughs) Yes!

Ben

(laughs) Yes, yes! You here that! She said yes! Mary look, merry Christmas! Laurence look how everyone showed up. It's amazing. We're going to opening day, it's official, we're going! Woohoo!

Lindsay

Woohoo!