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## As Good As It Gets – Carol and Beverly

INT. CAROL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Carol seated working on a letter... She is trying to express her gratitude... An enormous sheaf of completed pages sit next to her... She is so involved she doesn't even look up as a young man, SEAN, knocks on the door and is let in by Beverly.

They exchange greetings and move inside where we faintly hear Spencer greeting him... We MOVE IN and read over Carol's shoulder -- "I'm sorry to have gotten sloppy and emotional in this letter, but it would have been on my conscience (sic) forever if I didn't tell you how gratefull (sic)..."

BEVERLY

You're not still writing that thank-you note?

CAROL

I'm on the last page. How do you spell conscience?

BEVERLY

C-o-n-s-c-i-e-n-c-e. I got Sean from the bakery to baby-sit so let's go out.

CAROL

I still don't feel safe leaving Spencer with someone. How do you spell it again?

BEVERLY

Spencer is okay. You'd better start finding something else to do with your free time. If you can't feel good about this break and step out a little...

[REDACTED]

You ought to get Mr. Udall to send you over a psychiatrist.

CAROL

[REDACTED]

I don't need one 'cause I know what's really going on here. I have to finish this letter or I'll go nuts.

[REDACTED]

This can't be right -- conscience.

Carol breathes heavily -- gets control, stopping herself on the brink of crying.

BEVERLY

Carol. What?

[REDACTED]

CAROL

I don't know... It's very strange not feeling that stupid panic thing inside you all the time. Without that you just start thinking about yourself -- and what does that ever get anybody. Today, on the bus there was this adorable couple and I felt myself giving them a dirty look -- I had no idea everything was...

BEVERLY

Go ahead.

CAROL

[REDACTED]

... moving in the wrong direction... Away from when I even remembered what it was like to have a man to... anything... hold fucking -- sorry -- hands with, for Christ's sake. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Which is probably why I make poor Spencer hug me more than he wants to... Like the poor kid doesn't have enough problems. He has to make up for his mom not getting any.

[REDACTED]

BEVERLY

Spencer's doing fine. So what are you saying, that you're frustr...

CAROL

Leave me be! Why are you doing this? [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] What's  
with you? I hope getting me  
thinking of everything that's  
wrong when all I want is to not  
do this has some purpose.  
(puffy; red;  
furious)  
What is it, [REDACTED]? No kidding.

Slumped, fought out -- Carol gets out one last, naked  
husky voiced question.

CAROL

What is it you want? What?

BEVERLY

I want us to go out.

[REDACTED]

CAROL

(simply)  
Okay.

**END**