

Louise  
Well hello! How are you?

Julia  
How was your night?

Louise  
How was yours?

Julia  
Excellent

Louise  
So what's the deal? ....Where d'ya go last night? D'ya have a boyfriend or something? Girlfriend?

Julia  
No... it's a man it's a man from work. Its not a relationship

Louise  
What's the deal?

Julia  
There's no deal it's just fine

Louise  
I thought woman your age would kill to be married

Julia  
I was married

Louise  
What happened?

Julia  
I got divorced.

Waiter  
Excuse me you can't smoke in here

Julia  
'Since when?

Louise  
Since like 5 years ago. God truly sorry, here give it to me. Don't you ever go out? Do you have kids?

Julia  
Yeah

Louise  
How many?

Julia  
Two

Louise  
You're weird...  
Don't you wanna' know anything about me? Don't you want to know who I am?

Julia  
I know who you are

Louise  
Who?

Julia  
So you're adopted?

Louise  
Yeah. Stuart and I both were. Well, I don't think they ever technically adopted us, we were whatever fosters, probably had 9 brothers and sisters in total

Julia

But who were your parents?

Louise

I guess you can say Paul and Stephanie were. They were severely odd though, Paul was this incredibly skinny guy and Stephanie weighed like 400 pounds, no wonder they had to adopt. They were also religious fanatics, we had to pray to a plastic statue of Jesus like 50 times a day, couldn't watch any TV, had to eat these little biscuits like you get in church, for snacks

Julia

Stuart – called you Maggie

Louise

That's what Paul and Stephanie called me I like Louise better

Julia

But where were you before?

Louise

I don't know ...that's the first place I remember

Julia

There is something I want to ask you..... -have you ever considered doing anything, I mean, other than this sort of drifting around?

Louise

Ahh... ambition...

Julia

College?

Louise

Nah. I'm not real big on being force fed or regurgitating information

Julia

What about a job?

Louise  
I've had jobs

Julia  
What?

Louise  
Florist, surgical nurse, performed in the circus for a while, ran guns to Ethiopia during  
the war...

Julia  
Which war?

Louise  
You know ...THE war...  
So I guess I'm kinda' a fuck up huh?

Julia  
Maybe – maybe I am too

Louise  
You?? Nice job, nice apartment, doing exactly what you want, whenever you want...

Julia  
Right

Louise  
Well the thing to remember is we are both simply bursting with potential...What is  
that?

Julia  
It's some old photos..

Louise  
Of you?

Julia  
Yes, some

Louise  
Let me see...Well you got 'em out now...Come on! Give it up!

Julia  
They're old

Louise  
Oh my god, is that you?

Julia  
Yes

Louise  
Oh my god, Julia...look at those earrings, that's ridiculous! I can't believe you even wore that....

Julia  
OK, (closing album)

Louise  
I'm sorry, I'm sorry ...Come on, come on, show me more... You look good, show me some pictures of your husband when you divorced

Julia  
No

Louise  
Why not, is he ugly or something?

Julia  
No

Louise  
Does he have a beard and no moustache? I bet he had mutton chops , yeah, big fat mutton chops... like eeeerrrrrr

Julia  
No

Louise  
Show me then, Come on!

Julia  
Here..

Louise  
Hey...He's pretty handsome... nice going, good work..Is that Chris?

Julia  
Yes

Louise  
He seemed nice, you know, when he came over

Julia  
He is... Yes

Louise  
Is he gay?

Julia  
What?

Louise  
Well you don't really ever talk about him... Did he disappoint you in some way? Or  
is he some kind of loser?

Julia  
No, no...He has his own construction business, he's quite successful, actually

Louise  
Hmmm..But gay...

Julia  
No he's not gay...he's getting married in... Why do you ask these idiotic questions?

Louise

It's the only way to get you to say anything

Julia

Jesus...

Louise

Julia... You look really happy? Where is that?

Julia

I don't remember.....I/You have to go

Louise

Just stay for a minute okay? Just talk, ok?

Julia

About what?

Louise

I don't care, anything... Talk about the pictures

Julia

Well these were... I guess Chris was 5, we were still living downtown... tiny place... Aaah... he's starting school here... he's 6... Oh no, he must be 7 because we're up town .. Doug was teaching that year...

I remember that lunch box... Thor.

He wouldn't eat lunch that 1<sup>st</sup> week or 2 at school, I mean if Chris wasn't comfortable in a place he didn't complain or make a fuss, he just didn't eat... and then one day the teacher told us Chris ate his lunch, so we know he'd settled in... kids just adapt...

Oh God...(giggle).. Doug won an award for this article he wrote and he had to wear a tux to the dinner, so I went out and spent \$150 on this dress... I thought I had gone absolutely insane... I wore it for years though... God, look at Doug... Look at us...  
(turns page to see daughter)

.....and then... you came along, I'd always wanted a girl.. I thought I didn't care.. I thought it was ...old fashioned or sexist to care, but... I did, ..and you were it... and by then we had the park just down the street.. as soon as I could I took you there.. and you loved it so much..(close book.. fights emotions)