

INT. SAM'S BEDROOM - LATER

The door opens. Sam and Charlie walk into the dark room.

CHARLIE

Where are we going?

SAM

It's a surprise.

Sam flips the switch, bathing the room in light. Sam's room is so cool. A shrine to music. A xerox that says "The Beatings Will Continue Until Morale Improves." Virgin Mary icons. Snow globes. Kitsch.

CHARLIE

Is this your room? It's so cool.

SAM

Thanks.

Sam points to a green box with a red ribbon on her desk.

CHARLIE

You got me a present?

SAM

With all that help on my Penn State application? Of course I did. Open it.

Charlie lifts up the box to reveal an OLD MANUAL TYPEWRITER.

CHARLIE

I don't know what to say.

SAM

You don't have to say anything.

Sam goes over and types. "Write about us sometime." He smiles and types back. "I will." They look at each other. We can hear a lovely ballad playing downstairs.

SAM (CONT'D)

I'm sorry we can't be here for your birthday.

CHARLIE

That's okay. I'm just sorry you have to go back and visit your dad.

SAM

I'm in such a great mood, I don't think even he could ruin it. I feel like I'm finally doing good.

CHARLIE

You are.

SAM

Me? What about you? When I met you, you were this scared freshman. And look at you in that suit. You're like a sexy English school boy. I saw Mary Elizabeth checking you out.

CHARLIE

(innocent laugh)No.

SAM

Innocent. Worst kind of guys. Never see you coming. And parents love you. That's like... extra danger.

CHARLIE

Well, it hasn't worked so far.

SAM

Come on. You've never had a girlfriend? Not even a 2nd grade valentine?

He shakes his head.

SAM (CONT'D)

Have you ever kissed a girl?

CHARLIE

No. What about you?

SAM

Have I ever kissed a girl?

CHARLIE

(laughs)No! Your first kiss...

Sam gets this strange look in her eyes. A little haunted.

SAM

My first kiss? I was 11. His name was Robert. He would come over to the house all the time.

CHARLIE

Was he your first boyfriend?

SAM

He was my dad's boss.

Charlie goes silent.

SAM (CONT'D)

You know Charlie, I used to sleep with guys who treated me like shit. And get wasted all the time. But now... I feel like I have a chance. I could even get into a real college.

CHARLIE

It's true. You can do it.

SAM

You really think so?

CHARLIE

My Aunt... she had that same thing done to her, too. And she turned her life around.

SAM

She must have been great.

CHARLIE

She was my favorite person in the world... until now.

Sam smiles. She's very moved.

SAM

Charlie, I know that you know I like  
Craig. But I want to forget that for a  
minute. Okay? I just want to make sure  
that the first person who kisses you  
loves you. Okay?

Charlie nods. And with that, Sam leans over and kisses him.  
It starts softly, then Sam wraps her thin arms around him.  
Holding on for lonely life. When the song crescendos, and  
they part, Charlie and Sam look at each other. Finally...

SAM (CONT'D)

I love you, Charlie.

CHARLIE

I love you, too.