

A Valentine Carol

ACT ONE

OVER BLACK:

ALLY (V.O.)

No yellow roses. When you get married on Valentine's Day you want red... What kind of Wedding Planner are you?

(beat)

The whole city is not sold out... You're telling me now, two days before my wedding at... what the hell time is it?

ON SCREEN TITLE: FEBRUARY 12TH. 7:11 A.M.

FADE IN:

INT. ALLY'S APARTMENT -- MORNING

A spacious, well-appointed loft. ALLY SIMS, 29, smart, brash, pretty, hops into frame, cell-phone at her ear as she pries running shoes off her feet, and heads to the bathroom.

ALLY

Hold on. Other line.

(beat)

Can't talk, Gillian. I'm... Are you crying?

MATT (O.S.)

Ally.

Ally turns to see her fiancé, MATT DAWSON, 31, handsome in a JFK Jr. kinda way, dressed in a business suit, briefcase in hand, ready to head out.

MATT (cont'd)

I forgot a file at my place. I have to head over there.

Ally nods, not really listening, and hops off-screen into the bathroom, tossing her last shoe off behind her.

ALLY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Gillian, if this is about Derek -- hold on, other line.

INT. ALLY'S BATHROOM (CONTINUOUS)

Ally turns on the shower, undresses while the water heats up, still talking on the phone.

ALLY

I don't care if every florist is sold out... There better be two hundred red roses at my wedding or you'll be planning your funeral.

Ally disconnects, then switches back to Gillian.

ALLY (cont'd)

Gillian, he cheated on you because you're a doormat...

(beat, then)

Mom? Crap. I lost Gillian... No, Dad didn't cheat on you. You're not a doormat.

Ally glances up at the clock on the wall.

ALLY (cont'd)

Mom. I gotta run...

She's about to get in the shower when her phone rings again. She takes a quick glance at her call display, sees the number and smiles.

ALLY (CONT'D) (cont'd)

Hey, I'm one leg away from being entirely in the shower... We'll talk on the show.

MATT (O.S.)

Actually, I'm right here.

And Matt enters the bathroom, talking on his cell phone. Ally whirls around, startled. She smiles and hangs up.

ALLY

Don't do that.

Matt puts his phone away.

MATT

Everything okay?

ALLY

Everything sucks. People are jerks. What else is new?

Matt smiles at her.

MATT

That's why I'm marrying you. Your healthy sense of optimism.

ALLY

Is every bride as neurotic as me?

MATT

Yeah, but they don't have your temper.

ALLY

(proudly)

I go from zero to bitch in two point three seconds.

And with that Ally gives him a quick kiss and gets into the shower, remembering at the last second not to take her phone in with her. As she tosses the phone onto the counter it starts to ring...

ALLY (O.S.) (cont'd)

Dammit.

MATT

Don't answer it.

ALLY (O.S.)

I'm not answering.

Matt shakes his head, and heads out.

EXT. OFFICE TOWER -- DAY

A large skyscraper complex. Ally, with a determined stride, bag over her shoulder, marches to the entrance, still on the phone.

ALLY

The wedding planner quit? I did not threaten him. Okay. You're gonna have to get me two hundred red roses ASAP...Gillian... Stop crying. Take a deep breath.

In the background, a bus passes with an ad for Ally's radio show, "Rich, Single, and Yours, with Ally Sims. Heady Advice on Affairs of the Heart".

DISSOLVE TO: