

LOVE BOAT

Written by

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1 EXT. PORT MELBOURNE CRUISE TERMINAL - DAY

1

Sunny Summer day. A luxurious cruise ship is docked at the pier with the Melbourne city skyline behind it.

Cruisers are lined up with their luggage waiting to board the ship. Amongst them are 3 highly fashionable women in their early 30s, ROSE, LYDIA and MONIQUE.

Lydia and Monique have a Mimosa in hand, having a grand old time. Rose is sitting on top of her suitcase, scrolling through her phone and responding to emails.

PING! Lydia notices Rose looking intently at her phone.

LYDIA

Rose.. What did we agree on..

Rose doesn't hear Lydia and continues working on her phone.

LYDIA

Rose!

ROSE

(looking up)

Huh?

Lydia is glaring at her, disappointed.

ROSE

I know... I know.. It's just...

PING! Rose looks down at her phone.

MONIQUE

Nope! Nope! Rose, if we, your fellow colleagues who do the exact same job as you, can take time off, you can too.

ROSE

But... look who FINALLY responded to my request for an interview...

Rose shows Lydia and Monique her phone.

MONIQUE

Oo.. Yeah, I wouldn't be able to pass up on Linda Jackson...

LYDIA

Linda Jackson, Sminda Schmackson...

MONIQUE

Lydia! She is Australian fashion royalty..

LYDIA
(retreating)
Yeah, okay fine... Monique's right,
you can't pass up on her...

Rose nods and takes back her phone.

LYDIA
I pray for the day you finally take
a day off work...

2 EXT. CRUISE SHIP POOL DECK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN - DAY 2

Lydia and Monique are in a hot tub in the sun, cocktails in hand.

Rose is sitting at a table in the shade typing away on her laptop. CLACK CLACK CLACK.

LYDIA
Rose! Surely, you've secured Linda
Jackson by now... Come relaaaaaax

ROSE
(still typing)
Oh I did. And the interview is in a
few days.

MONIQUE
A few days? We'll still be on this
ship...

LYDIA
Ugh! I am gonna throw that laptop
overboard..

Lydia sinks back into the hot tub sipping her drink.

CLACK CLACK CLACK. Rose keeps typing.

SCHOOOOOM. The glass doors to the pool deck slide open.

Rose looks up. A pair of striking brown eyes are looking back at her. They are the eyes of a very handsome MAN with LONG LUSCIOUS HAIR.

The Man walks past Rose and they make eye contact. Their eyes are locked until the Man walks out of sight.

Rose freezes. She sees a life with this man flash before her very eyes.

A beat. Rose shakes it off.

ROSE
(shaking her head)
Oh don't be silly, Rose..

CLACK CLACK CLACK. Rose refocuses back to her laptop.

BEGIN MONTAGE

This scenario continuously repeats like a choreographed routine between Rose and the Man, throughout the afternoon.

(1) Rose is typing when the glass doors open. SCHOOOOM.

(2) Rose looks up and locks eyes with the man as he walks past.

(3) Rose pauses.

(4) Rose shakes it off, mumbling, 'No' to herself.

(5) CLACK CLACK CLACK. Rose refocuses on her laptop.

END MONTAGE

3 INT. CRUISE SHIP DINING ROOM - LATER THAT EVENING

3

Rose, Lydia and Monique are eating dinner at a round table in the formal dining room.

Rose sees the Man also in the dining room eating dinner.

ROSE
Ah!

LYDIA
What's wrong?

ROSE
It's the guy!

Rose clears her throat.

ROSE
(whispering)
the guy...

LYDIA
(loudly)

A guy!?

ROSE

shhh...

(quietly)

Yes. Every day, for the past few days, I will be working and this guy walks past and we can't stop staring at each other.

LYDIA

Ooohhhhhh

MONIQUE

Where is he?

Rose gestures to a large round table behind Lydia and Monique. There are 5 adults sitting at the table and the Man, wearing a BLUE SHIRT, is sitting between an OLDER COUPLE and a MAN and WOMAN who look to be around his age.

ROSE

Blue shirt, long hair..

Lydia and Monique turn and look. They are impressed by what they see.

LYDIA

Hot diggity dayuum...

Lydia and Monique quickly turn back around.

MONIQUE

Who do you think those people are?

All 3 women turn and stare at the table of 5 for a moment.

They then turn back.

LYDIA

Oh, his family for sure. His parents and those two must be his brother and sister.

(to Rose)

You should go talk to him.

MONIQUE

He's definitely looked over here a few times since I've noticed him.

ROSE

But he's with his family.. I can't talk to him in front of his family..

LYDIA
What if he's your one true love?

ROSE
Ha! Please.. You and I both know
the likelihood of that...

LYDIA
We're on a CRUISE for goodness
sake! They don't call them LOVE
BOATS for no reason...

Rose stares at the table in front her, deep in thought..

ROSE
Fine. I'll talk to him.. But next
time he walks past me! Not now..

LYDIA
Yay! That's the spirit!

4 EXT. CRUISE SHIP POOL DECK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN - DAY 4

Rose is sitting in her usual spot. CLACK CLACK CLACK. She is
typing on her laptop with a big smile on her face.

SCHOOOOOOM. The glass doors to the pool deck slide open.

Rose looks up. It's not him.

Rose puts her head down and keeps working.

SCHOOOOOOM. The glass doors to the pool deck slide open.

Rose looks up. It's still not him.

Rose puts her head back down and keeps working.

BEGIN MONTAGE

Repeatedly, as the day goes..

(1) SCHOOOOOOM. The glass doors to the pool deck slide open.

(2) Rose looks up. It's not him.

(3) Rose puts her head back down and keeps typing.

Each time Rose gets to (3) her smile becomes more deflated.
By the end of the montage, Rose is frowning and her posture
is slumped.

END MONTAGE

5 EXT. CRUISE SHIP POOL DECK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN - NEXT 5 DAY

Rose is at her usual table wearing a headset, having her important interview with Linda Jackson via zoom.

ROSE
(enthusiastically)
Well thank you so much for speaking
with me, Linda Jackson..
I can't even begin to explain how
special-

SCHOOOOOM. The glass doors to the pool deck slide open.

Rose looks up and the Man is walking towards her. Her breath gets shorter. Then she looks back down at her laptop.

ROSE
(distracted)
-this is me too.. I mean, to me...

MPHMPHMPH. A muffled sound can be heard from Rose's headset.

MAN
You're always working...

Rose looks up and stares at him in a trance.

LINDA JACKSON (O.S.)
Rose... Rose?

Rose snaps out of her trance. She points to her laptop.

ROSE
(whispering)
I'm in a meeting.

Rose refocuses on her laptop and the Man walks away.

ROSE
Oh sorry, Linda. I think my
reception cut out but I'm back now.

6 INT. CRUISE SHIP NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

6

Lots of people are dancing. Rose, Lydia and Monique are sitting on a lounge in front of the dance floor, cocktails in hand.

ROSE

OH! It was so embarrassing... And then he never walked past me again...

LYDIA
Ha.. well it's definitely on brand for you..

MONIQUE
I can't believe we thought this time would be any different honestly...

LYDIA
At least you have us... Cheers!

Rose, Lydia and Monique cheers their drinks. Lydia and Monique sip their drinks. Rose sees the Man at the back of the room with his family.

ROSE
Well, he didn't fall overboard. He's over there with his family..

LYDIA
You know, it is the last night of the cruise.. The likelihood of you EVER seeing him again is real low..

ROSE
I am NOT going to talk to him with his family there.

MONIQUE
Come on, Rose....

ROSE
It's clearly not meant to be.. If the universe wanted me to talk to him, the universe would have made him sit by himself or something...

A new song starts playing and the girls watch the Man stand up and walk towards the dance floor alone.

Lydia and Monique look at Rose...

LYDIA
You were saying...?

ROSE
Oh gosh... Okay okay...

Rose looks at the Man for a moment and finishes her drink in one mouthful. GULP!

MONIQUE

YAS! I'm gonna get us more drinks.

Rose stands up, looks down to adjust her dress and starts walking towards the Man before her anxiety turns her around.

As Rose gets closer, her eyes look up, ready to meet his.

Rose freezes and hears Lydia behind her.

LYDIA (O.S.)

Oh no....

Rose's eyes widen and her stomach drops.

There he is... in the middle of the dance floor...

Making out with his SISTER!

Rose's face sinks. She turns to look at Lydia then Monique, who both look back at her in shock.

A long beat.

Rose starts laughing and Lydia and Monique shortly start laughing too. Rose walks back and sits down on the lounge next to Lydia. Monique follows with 3 fresh cocktails in hand.

Monique hands Rose and Lydia their new cocktails.

MONIQUE

So I was just talking to the bartender... And apparently, not only are those two dating... They got engaged a few days ago right here on the ship. The family that he's with aren't his... they're HERS.

LYDIA

No.... But they all look so similar!? He must be like a 1st or 2nd cousin and they just don't know it yet.. Beat. Rose.. You okay?

ROSE

I'm fine. I just wasn't expecting the guy to be engaged to his sister though, that's a new one!

Rose takes a deep breathe.

ROSE
Imagine if I wasn't doing that
interview with Linda... What a
waste of a week's worth of
daydreaming...

Monique raises her glass.

MONIQUE
(sarcastically)
Well. Cheers to wasted daydreams!

ROSE & LYDIA
Cheers!

The girls cheers and drink their cocktails.

7 EXT. PORT MELBOURNE CRUISE TERMINAL TAXI RANK - MORNING 7

Lydia and Monique are putting their luggage into an uber.
Rose is sitting on the curb with her luggage.

Lydia and Monique get into the car and start to drive away.

Lydia and Monique are now hanging out the window of the car
waving to Rose as they drive off.

MONIQUE
Bye Rose!

LYDIA
See ya Mondaaaaay!

Rose scrolls through her emails on her phone.

AHEM.

Rose looks up. Another HANDSOME MAN clears his throat next to
Rose. He is also waiting with his luggage. He looks at Rose
and they lock eyes.... Rose feels butterflies.

She looks down at the email on her phone. A beat.

She smiles, shuts down her emails, puts her phone in her back
pocket and walks towards the handsome man to about to
introduce herself.

THE END.