

## Side 2 The Affair

MICHAEL

By the way, does Roger own a gun?

VERONICA  
*(flashing anger)*

Will you stop it? Will you stop whatever you're doing because you're creeping me out.

MICHAEL

What? *(clueless)* What's the matter?

VERONICA  
*(contemptuously)*

You just can't leave this be, can you?

MICHAEL  
*(taken aback at her anger)*

Why the hostility? I casually asked what Roger would do if he caught us, and you said you didn't know, which, frankly, I find very hard to believe. But then, when I ask if he owns a gun, you get all hostile.

VERONICA

It just seems morbid, that's all.

MICHAEL

It's a valid question. Does your husband own a gun?

VERONICA  
*(firmly)*

No, Michael. Roger does not own a gun. He's afraid of guns. *Satisfied?*

MICHAEL

Yes. Thank you.

VERONICA  
*(pauses a beat, then sarcastically)*

But he has a Samurai sword in the closet. If he caught us in bed, he would probably gut you like a fish.

MICHAEL  
*(annoyed)*

See? See? That's what I'm talking about. *(harshly)* Here I am confessing to having a twinge of guilt, and you joke about it.

VERONICA

So that's what this is? *(scoffs)* Guilt?

MICHAEL

What else could it be? *(waits for an answer)* I'm asking you a question. What else could it be?

VERONICA  
*(carefully)*

Gloating.

MICHAEL  
*(defensively)*

Really? You think that's what I'm doing? Gloating?

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VERONICA  
*(impatiently)*

Well, you're doing something, Michael, and whatever it is, I wish you would stop doing it.

MICHAEL

Hey, I'm new at this.

VERONICA  
*(flashing anger)*

What's that supposed to mean? That I'm not new at it?

MICHAEL

No, it's just that, um...all I really know about adultery and extra-marital affairs is what I've seen in movies.

VERONICA

Oh, please. *(exasperated)* You're killing me here.

MICHAEL

Wait. *(apologetic)* I guess what I'm trying to say is that I'm not...proficient at it.

VERONICA  
*(taking offense)*

And what am I? An old hand at it? Is that what you're implying?

MICHAEL  
*(apologetic)*

That's not what I meant, and you know it. It was a slip of the tongue. My bad.

VERONICA  
*(brooding a bit)*

You think I've done this a dozen times?

MICHAEL

Of course not. Don't be silly. I misspoke. *(pauses, then gently)* But you did tell me there were others.

VERONICA  
*(annoyed)*

I've had three others. Three. *(intensely)* I've been faithfully married to Roger for more than nine years, and in all that time have had only three *(searches for the word)*....set-backs.

MICHAEL  
*(perks up)*

Well, see? That's all I was saying. I haven't had any set-backs

VERONICA  
*(flatly)*

You've never been married, Michael.