

The Cooler (Shelly and Natalie) (pg 1)

NATALIE

(NERVOUSLY Knocks on door and timidly enters Shelly's Office in his Casino)

Hey Shel. You believe those fucking kids yesterday?

SHELLY

(Coldly) Don't worry about that, because you and I have other problems now. You really fucked things up big time, let me tell you. I hired you to be his cooze companion, not the love of his fucking life. But no, you have to go and get all profound on the poor schmuck. "I love you Bernie". What the fuck were you thinking?! Those 4 words of endearment have cost this casino one million and counting today.

NATALIE

I don't understand what that means.

SHELLY

Lady Luck. You've heard of Lady Luck, haven't you?

NATALIE

Yeah.

SHELLY

Cause that's what's going on out there. Bernie is Kryptonite on a stick. He should have them throwing ice cubes right now, but instead I got a meltdown on my hands. So, here's the situation. You are out of his life before he even gets home. Don't even tell him to his face. Leave him a note. I'm gonna make some calls, you're going to be situated in another joint.

NATALIE

(Pause) I don't think I can do that Shel.

SHELLY (pg 2)

Excuse me?

NATALIE

I said, I don't think I can do that Shel. It wasn't an act. I meant it.

SHELLY

You love him?

NATALIE

Yeah. I love the schmuck.

SHELLY

What the fuck is there to love? He's a loser. Always has been, always will be. I thought you were a smart cookie when I picked you out. You do not want to fuck with me. Because if you do, your next John is going to be a fucking rattlesnake in the fucking desert. Do you understand me?

NATALIE

Yeah.

SHELLY

Now, get out of here.

NATALIE

(Natalie breaks down, and exits)