



Where's the game?
Crosstown, Civic Center.
Who we got?
Joe, Mark, Larry.
Count me in.
Good. Thanks. Jump shot working?
I'm breathing.
Right.
Everything else good?
Sure, sure.
What is it?
Nah.
What is it?
Oh, you can guess. Female.
Holland?
Mm.
C'mon Nick. It's Mikey.
Yeah. It's just -I don't know. There's something going on.
Another guy? Nah—
No, not that. She's -well, distant. She doesn't meet my eye.
And this to you is a problem. What's the difference?
I don't know. I want -Communion. Validation.
As a lover.
Yes.
As a—
Yes.
Okay.
She -Helen- she's such an enigma anyway.
Really? Helen Holland. An enigma? She
You don't see it.
I don't.

Huh.
She's -I mean, you know, she's a- *cheerleader*.
That doesn't define her.
No?
I don't think so. She's -I wanna say more than that. She's -is Deep the right word?
Deep?
Nah.
She's -what?
Spiritual. I think. I think she's spiritual.
Huh.
I don't know. She's so beautiful—
She is. Helen Holland is beautiful.
Thin as a rose petal.
Nice.
She's nice, too. Sweet.
I know. I meant—
Yeah.
So, what? What's the dig -I don't-
She's -quiet.
When you're together.
Yes.
And that's bad?
I don't know.
She -you- I mean, you've—
Oh, yes. I mean, yes. We—
I thought so -I just—
I know.
You've never said.
Well—
I know. That's good. Really. That's good. It's—
Private.
Naturally.
Okay.
So—
But, she -when- she—
What? When you're—
Yes.
She—
Turns away. She -turns away—
When—
Yes.
Well, I don't see—
You don't—
No, I mean. Girls -you know—
They -turn away—
No, not always. Not all of them. But—
You're saying it's likely.
No, I mean -I don't know. She turns away when—
We start—
Okay. That's not the worst—
I know.
She loves you. You know—
She does. I think she does.
She -Helen- yes, she does.
Okay.
But she turns away—
Yes.

And you think—
I don't know. She seems—
She—
Far away. She's far away from me.
When—
No, always.
She's far—
Away. From me, always. Yes.
Okay.
It's -hurtful—
I see.
Do you? Do you, Mikey?
Yes.
Okay. Good. That's good.
So—
The game. Right. Where—
Its?—
Civic Center.
Yes.
Yes.
Your jump shot.
Yes.
Your jump shot is a thing of beauty.
Yes.
A sweet geometry.
Yes.
As natural as—
Yes.
The turning of the wheel -the wheel—
The cosmic wheel.
Yes.
Thanks. Thank you, Mikey.
Okay.
Let's play. Let's go beat some street toughs at the sweet sport of basketball. Let's do that.
Let's. At least that.
Yes.
Helen—
Loves—
Yes.
Okay, Mikey. Okay.