

BIG LITTLE LIES

Season 1, Episode 2

Madeline & Ed

EXT. MACKENZIE RESIDENCE - DAY

ED checks on MADELINE, who's standing on the beach behind their home.

MADELINE

I just have a very low tolerance for injustice, which is exactly what's going on with Ziggy and his mom.

ED

You fled the table when Abby brought up Bonnie. I'd ask what's the deal with Bonnie, but I think we both know it's really about Nathan.

MADELINE

That is not true.

ED

Yeah, it is true.

MADELINE

Ed! I shouldn't have to constantly run into the guy. Monterrey has 30,000 people, and I can't go to a Goddamn yoga class without seeing him and her? And... yoga?! I mean, give me a break! When I was married to him, he wouldn't so much as go for a walk. And when he finally did, he never came back.

ED

Remember that big fight I promised?

MADELINE

Yeah.

ED

I think now would be a good time.

MADELINE

Why?

ED

Is Nathan the one?

MADELINE

What? What do you... what do you mean?

ED

"The one"? For every person there's the one. Case in point, you're my one.

MADELINE

Well, you are my --

ED

-- Shut up! But for you, he's the one you fell irreparably in love with, who irreparably broke your heart, who you apparently can't get over 15 years later.

Madeline scoffs.

MADELINE

Have you lost your mind?

ED

No. I'm never out of my mind. I don't get to be crazy, Madeline. I'm stable. I'm grounded. Good ol' steady Eddie, that's me.

MADELINE

Wow. Where is this coming from?

ED

It's coming from the fact that you don't really seem to adore me, that you're rarely interested in having sex, but specifically today it's coming from your constant carrying on about Nathan and his seemingly perfect life, which tells me that you are far from satisfied with your own. And I am fucking sick of it. Look, I may not be the good-looking adventure ride, okay? But there is something to be said for being there, for being truthful, for being somebody you can steadfastly count on. I will not be anybody's runner-up. You need to hear that.

He walks away.