

When Fact Met Fiction  
Season 2, Episode 9

an original screenplay by

Robin Liner, Stefan Liner, Miles Rice

Drafted: 6/5/2017

East Stream Studio  
46 Bonnie Brae Dr.  
Weaverville, NC 28787  
(828) 484-7440  
info@eaststreamstudio.com

FADE IN:

1 BLACK SCREEN

1

FOOTSTEPS running as Olivia's voice narrates.

OLIVIA (V.O.)

...The rose water she wore trespassed  
upon his senses sending his head  
spinning...

DISSOLVE TO:

2 INT. VELMA'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

2

GEORGE'S (Jon) feet cross the room.

OLIVIA (V.O.)

His heart raced with fear until he  
caught sight of her standing by the  
end table fully alive.

VELMA'S (Olivia) hand is about to touch a CORSAGE that sets  
on the table.

GEORGE

(Has a northern accent)

...Velma, don't touch that "pink  
lady slippers orchid corsage" from  
Poppy's Petals... It's poisoned.

VELMA

Oh, so now you're trying to poison  
me?

GEORGE

No, I didn't send you that corsage.  
I'm trying to save you from the person  
who did.

VELMA

Why? I already died when you broke  
my heart, George. You should have  
told me you loved Betty.

GEORGE

Aw, Velma, Leroy lied to you. I  
never kissed Betty. He was just  
trying to keep you away from me so  
he could poison you with that arsenic  
dipped purple orchid corsage.

VELMA

(correcting)

Pink lady Slippers orchid corsage.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

GEORGE

Leroy, wants the inheritance all for himself.

VELMA

And what do you want, George?

He steps closer and pulls her against him.

GEORGE

I only want you, Velma.

Melodramatic kiss.

OLIVIA (V.O.)

The door squeaked as the lovers looked to see a blown out silhouette of a man...

CUT TO:

3 INT. SOUTHERN SUNSET OFFICE - DAY

3

A silhouette of a man holding a box in blown out light steps into the room. It is Vic who holds a BOX OF OFFICE SUPPLIES.

VIC

...Don't get too excited everybody but, I'm back.

CELESTE

(crosses to Vic,  
whispers)

Vic, what are you doing here? I thought we said you could start Monday.

Olivia watches with confused curiosity.

VIC

(sucking up))

I just thought I'd go ahead and bring my stuff so I can hit the ground running on Monday.

CELESTE

Well I guess you can go ahead and unpack.

OLIVIA

What is he doing here?

CELESTE

He's filling in for Mel while he's gone.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

OLIVIA

What happened to Country Comforts Magazine?

VIC

You know, it's a funny thing, But some people don't realize how great I am. Thankfully, Celeste does.

CELESTE

No I don't. But I'm willing to give you a chance to prove yourself.

Celeste's phone rings.

CELESTE (CONT'D)

Southern Sunset... Yes, one minute I'll look that up.

(to Vic)

We'll talk in a minute.

OLIVIA

I thought you were a writer not a photographer.

VIC

Olivia right? Something you're gonna find out about me is that I have a wide range of abilities.

She is repulsed.

OLIVIA

So, Mel's station is over there and that's where you'll be.

She points to the area.

VIC

But wouldn't it be better if I was right here - across from you? I mean, what if I forget how to spell something?

She draws out a check in the air.

OLIVIA

Spell check.

VIC

What if I have a really important question.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

OLIVIA  
(mimics typing)  
Email me.

VIC  
What if I just need someone to talk  
to.

Touches nose.

OLIVIA  
Not it. If you don't mind I have  
work to do. And you need to unpack...  
over there.

Vic concedes and goes to the photo area.

Olivia looks into Celeste's office. Celeste is hanging up  
the phone.

Olivia goes in a huff

And knocks on Celeste's door frame looking through the open  
door.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)  
Celeste, could I have a moment?

CELESTE  
Come on in.

4 INT. CELESTE'S OFFICE - DAY

4

Olivia enters, sits across from Celeste, leans in and  
whispers.

OLIVIA  
I don't want to be difficult, but...  
you hired Vic Freeman? The guy who  
walked out on you six months ago?

Celeste continues the conversation in a whisper.

CELESTE  
Yes.

OLIVIA  
He's a creep. He just hit on me.

CELESTE  
Olivia, he hits on everyone. Believe  
me, I know.

Olivia is aghast.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

CELESTE (CONT'D)

Listen, Mel's grant for his documentary about the mating rituals of Amazon tree frogs came so suddenly, and with the higher lease of the new office he was the perfect choice.

(whisper)

Plus, Country Comfort Magazine had just let him go, so he was desperate making him willing to take a pay cut.

She gives two thumbs up.

CELESTE (CONT'D)

Besides, he actually takes really nice pictures.

OLIVIA

What kind?

CELESTE

Not that kind.

OLIVIA

How am I supposed to work with a guy like that? He's incorrigible.

CELESTE

Isn't that what you said about Jon?

OLIVIA

No comparison.

CELESTE

Speaking of Jon, did you two get a chance to talk?

OLIVIA

(unsure)

Good question. The truth is, I... don't... actually... Know?

CELESTE

How can you not know?

OLIVIA

It's all a little fuzzy.

CELESTE

And now you've lost that chance.

OLIVIA

(sigh)

That's for the best.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

CELESTE

No, its not.

OLIVIA

I disagree. But Jon or no Jon, which  
is for the best...

CELESTE

It's not.

OLIVIA

Is to. Anyway, it doesn't matter.  
Jon is gone for two months following  
that Nathaniel Embers tour...

CELESTE

...Hadn't you heard? Nathaniel Embers  
canceled his tour.

OLIVIA

(worried)

Really? That's not good. I need  
more time to straighten things out  
with Giovanni.

CELESTE

Just do it.

OLIVIA

I'm trying.

CELESTE

Not hard enough.

OLIVIA

It isn't that easy. Every time I  
have a chance to talk to Giovanni he  
has

(mimicking his accent)

'urgent family business' and leaves.  
It's a mess. Don't ask me how, but  
I'm even missing Jon's rolled up  
pants and awful sandals.

CELESTE

(sympathetic)

Oh, honey. You've got it bad.

OLIVIA

That's why it's good that he's gone.  
In spite of knowing how wrong I am  
for Jon, every time I see him I'm in  
serious danger...

(appalled shock)

of becoming...

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (3)

4

CELESTE  
Of becoming what?

OLIVIA  
Jessica Butz.  
(appalled)  
You know, kissing one person when  
you're dating another.

CELESTE  
Isn't that what you did? You kissed  
Jon while you were dating Giovanni?

OLIVIA  
(Dismissive)  
That kiss was fake.

CELESTE  
Olivia, I know you think you are  
doing the right thing for Jon...  
wait, why are we whispering?

OLIVIA  
Because this is a private conversation  
and you don't have a door on your  
office.

CELESTE  
I have an open door policy. I want  
to be approachable.

OLIVIA  
Whatever...  
(back to normal volume)  
Thanks for this nice normal talk, I  
love it that you're so approachable.  
I'm gonna get back to work now.

5 INT. SOUTHERN SUNSET OFFICE - DAY

5

P.O.V. Olivia

She looks down as she exits Celeste's office. As she opens  
the door she sees a pair of SANDALS like Jon's.

OLIVIA (O.S.)  
Jon?

She gradually takes in sandals, pants, HERO MAN SHIRT to  
reveal...

OLIVIA (CONT'D)  
Owen? What the heck? Isn't that  
Jon's shirt?

(CONTINUED)



5 CONTINUED:

5

Olivia walks over to Owen and Sunny.

OWEN

Not anymore.

SUNNY

Uncle Jon gave it to him before he left.

(hugging Owen's arm)

Doesn't he look cool?

OWEN

Love the shirt, but I didn't feel I could do it justice without the full ensemble. You know, the rolled up pants and sandals.

OLIVIA

Oh, you could have.

SUNNY

(adoringly)

You know, when you really care about someone it doesn't matter how stupid they look.

OWEN

(sincerely)

Thanks, Sunny.

Olivia goes to her desk and grabs her PURSE.

OLIVIA

I need some aspirin.

Owen looks at the new office with approval.

OWEN

Love the new office.

Olivia pulls out a house KEY.

OLIVIA

(sighs dejected)

I forgot to leave the key under the flower pot. This day is just going from bad to worse.

SUNNY

What key?

OLIVIA

A friend from college needs a place to stay for awhile. I'll have her pick it up here.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

5

Gets phone starts texting.

SUNNY  
(dumbfounded)  
Your friend wants to live in  
Walterville?

OLIVIA  
She's had a rough time. She just  
left some government agency.

VIC  
Which one?

OLIVIA  
I think it's the M.F.F.

VIC  
You mean the M.I.F.?

OLIVIA  
That's it.

VIC  
Wow, you have a friend in the M.I.F?

OLIVIA  
Well, she just left. Don't know  
much about it.

VIC  
It's the Mafia Infiltration Force.  
I was at Quantico for about six months  
and heard whispers about it. They  
had this operation where they got  
Vladimir Budnikov to confess to  
running the Red Mafia - from his  
jail cell.

OLIVIA  
Whatever.  
(re: aspirin)  
Found it.

Olivia holds up bottle and exits to the bathroom as A stylish  
Jon enters.

Celeste comes out of his office.

JON  
Hey, everybody, don't get too excited  
but - I'm back.

SUNNY  
Uncle Jon!

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (3)

5

JON

Hey, Sunny.

She rushes over and hugs him.

JON (CONT'D)

Celeste, Owen... Vic?

He looks at Celeste questioningly.

CELESTE

Long story.

Jon releases Sunny.

SUNNY

What are you doing here?

JON

Change of plans.

(to Owen)

Looking good, by the way.

OWEN

Thanks. Hey Sunny, we need to get going if we want good seats.

Sunny gives Jon a look that says, 'sorry'.

JON

Don't worry, plenty of time to catch up later.

SUNNY

Bye everybody.

CELESTE

Don't be too late.

Owen and Sunny leave.

Celeste pulls Jon aside.

CELESTE (CONT'D)

(whispering)

What took you so long to get back?

JON

(whispers)

Canceling the tour ruffled a lot of feathers. I've been smoothing things over with my publishers while Rhonda's been trying to calm down Poppy.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (4)

5

CELESTE

So, Poppy's giving you a hard time?

JON

Evidently, I'm as rotten as road  
kill... Wait, why are we whispering?

CELESTE

Because this is a private conversation  
and we're in the middle of the office.

Olivia comes out of the supply room with a BOTTLE OF WATER.  
She takes a swig then sees Jon but doesn't recognize him.  
She crosses by Vic does a double take at Jon and spits her  
water all over Vic.

OLIVIA

(re: Jon's new look)

What happened to you?

JON

I decided to come home early.

OLIVIA

No, I mean, what happened to you?

... as she curiously slides the lapels through her fingers.

JON

(RE: his wardrobe)

My agent thought I should clean up a  
little. Olivia, you and I need to  
talk.

OLIVIA

Could you hold that thought for a  
second.

Olivia starts messing his hair. She takes a step back and  
looks him over as she bites a nail.

JON

What are you...?

OLIVIA

Take the jacket off.

Jon hesitantly begins to remove the jacket but before it's  
completely off Olivia begins pulling his shirt tails out in  
frustration.

JON

(to Olivia)

What are you doing?...

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (5)

5

Olivia takes a step back again and looks.

OLIVIA  
Still not working.

She goes from frustrated to an epiphany.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)  
The pants.

JON  
Yeah, apparently my agent thinks the  
whole rolled up pants thing...

Olivia squats in front of Jon and starts rolling up his pant  
leg.

JON (CONT'D)  
Olivia?

OLIVIA  
Please, I'm trying to fix this.

Door opens. Giovanni enters.

Vic sits back down at Jon's desk wiping his face.

GIOVANNI  
Olivia?

Olivia leans to the side and peers out from behind Jon's  
leg.

OLIVIA  
Giovanni? What are you doing here?

He leans his head to the side to match her pose.

GIOVANNI  
Um, change of plans... thought we  
might get lunch?

Olivia stands, pushes Jon out of the way and...

OLIVIA  
(emphatic)  
Yes! I'll get my purse.

Olivia leaves the room as Giovanni crosses over to Jon.

Giovanni holds a SMALL BOX.

GIOVANNI  
I thought you were going to be gone  
for awhile?

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (6)

5

Jon eyes the box in Giovanni's hand.

JON  
(challenging)  
Surprise. I'm not.

They stare briefly then Giovanni slips the box in his pocket.

Olivia comes out from the side door.

GIOVANNI  
Ready?

OLIVIA  
Yes.

Giovanni heads for the exterior door. Jon stops Olivia.

JON  
Olivia, please don't go. I need to  
talk to you.

OLIVIA  
(emphatic)  
Oh, I'm going. I've been waiting  
for this opportunity for weeks and I  
am NOT missing my chance now.

Olivia leaves with Giovanni as Jon watches with concern.

CELESTE  
(to Jon)  
Since you're here, Let me get you  
caught up on what's been happening...

She leads him into her office.

DISSOLVE TO:

6 INT. SOUTHERN SUNSET OFFICE - DAY

6

Celeste and Jon come out of her office.

CELESTE  
... and you know how NatGeo can be,  
Mel could be out there for years.

Vic watches and Eavesdrops.

CELESTE (CONT'D)  
(whispers to Jon)  
Oh, and where Olivia is concerned...  
It isn't over 'til it's over.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

JON  
(whispering)  
Celeste, did you see the jewelry  
box? You don't think it's...

Vic whispers from across the room.

VIC  
I have been considering the same  
thing. Answer this. How long have  
they been dating?

CELESTE  
(normal volume)  
Why are you whispering?

VIC  
Because you were. You've been doing  
it all day. Just answer my question.  
How long have they been dating?

CELESTE  
A few months.

JON  
Two months, three weeks and a day.

VIC  
Two months three weeks and a day.  
I'd say it's a necklace... Nope,  
earrings.

CELESTE  
That makes sense.

VIC  
But...

JON  
But what?

VIC  
He is European.

CELESTE  
So?

VIC  
Everybody knows Europeans are romantic  
and impulsive.

JON  
Which means.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

VIC

Which means it's obvious.

JON

What's obvious?

VIC

It's an engagement ring.

JON

Its an engagement ring... it's obvious. He's asking her to marry him.

Olivia enters alone. Everyone stares at her.

CELESTE

So, how was your lunch?

OLIVIA

(gushing)

It was perfect.

Olivia quickly glances at Jon and thoughtlessly takes his Jacket from the HALL TREE.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

I can't even begin to describe how good I feel right now.

CELESTE

I'm glad it went the way you hoped it would.

Jon moves to Olivia. She hands him his jacket. He takes it.

JON

Olivia, you can't marry him.

She reaches up and starts fixing his hair.

OLIVIA

I'm not marrying anyone.

Jon takes her hands from his hair and looks at them.

JON

(to Vic)

No ring.

CELESTE

What was in the jewelry box?

(CONTINUED)



6 CONTINUED: (3)

6

Olivia pulls the box from her purse.

OLIVIA  
Earrings.

VIC  
Nailed it.

JON  
You said a ring.

VIC  
After I said earrings.

OLIVIA  
I tried to give them back, I don't  
think I should keep them after  
breaking up with him.

JON  
You broke up with him?

She turns back to Jon, stoops down and and starts unrolling  
his pants.

Giovanni enters.

GIOVANNI  
Olivia?

She leans out from behind Jon's leg again. Sighs.

OLIVIA  
Giovanni, what are you doing here?

Again he leans over matching her angle.

GIOVANNI  
I was wondering if we were still on  
for tomorrow?

OLIVIA  
Giovanni, I'm sorry, 'it's over'.

GIOVANNI  
(turns on Jon)  
This is all your fault. You with  
your puppy dog eyes and smooth lips.

JON  
Back off.

GIOVANNI  
Or you'll what, write me a curt  
letter?

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (4)

6

OLIVIA

Enough.

Olivia stands. Giovanni goes to her and holds her hands.

GIOVANNI

Olivia, please reconsider.

Olivia hands the box back to Giovanni.

OLIVIA

You'll find somebody else.

ROXY enters. Vic sees her. His jaw drops.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Roxy, You made it!

Giovanni locks eyes with Roxy she looks from him to the box subtly, has a brief flash of anger then covers it with a smile for Olivia.

Giovanni abruptly drops Olivia's hands. Roxy turns her attention to Olivia.

ROXY

Did you get the key?

OLIVIA

Let me get it.

(fumbling through  
purse excitedly)

Everybody, this is my friend, Roxy.

Roxy checks out Giovanni.

ROXY

(facetious)

Nice shirt.

She looks him over with humor.

Giovanni crosses to Roxy.

GIOVANNI

I have more that I could show you.

ROXY

That could definitely be interesting.

She takes a pen from her purse and writes on Giovanni's hand.

ROXY (CONT'D)

Call me.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (5)

6

GIOVANNI

Oui. Until later.

Giovanni exits.

CELESTE

(re: Giovanni and  
Roxy)

That was fast.

JON

Olivia, I need to talk to you about  
last Friday night.

OLIVIA

(confused)

Last Friday night?

JON

Come with me.

He grabs her hand and leads her away.

ROXY

Uh, key?

Olivia and Jon go to the supply room. Roxy smiles  
uncomfortably.

Vic approaches her.

VIC

So, Olivia tells us you were with  
the M.I.F.

ROXY

So?

VIC

You know, I was at Quantico.

DISSOLVE TO:

7 INT. SUPPLY ROOM - DAY

7

Olivia turns toward Jon.

OLIVIA

Listen, the only thing I remember  
about last Friday was coming by the  
office to give you my copy of "The  
Love in Our Tears" so Nathaniel Embers  
to sign it.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

JON

You didn't have a book with you.

OLIVIA

I forgot it. I wasn't exactly lucid.

JON

Well, if you forgot the book then why did you come?

OLIVIA

I guess I wanted to say good-bye.

JON

And ask for a kiss?

OLIVIA

No.

JON

Then why did you?

OLIVIA

What?

JON

Ask me to kiss you.

OLIVIA

I would never have... Did I?

JON

(realization)

You don't remember. Do you remember what happened at your apartment?

OLIVIA

(horrified)

What happened at the apartment?  
Nevermind, I don't want to know.

Olivia pushes past Jon to exit but he grabs her hand and stops her.

JON

I know you have feelings for me.

OLIVIA

You're delusional.

JON

No I'm not. You may not remember, but you told me at your apartment that you love me.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

OLIVIA

If I did it was because I was drugged  
and drunk.

JON

Well you're not now. So, be honest  
with me. Do you love me?

BEAT

OLIVIA

It doesn't matter if I love you or  
not...

JON

I'll take that as a yes...

OLIVIA

It can't work for us.

JON

Why not?

OLIVIA

It just can't. I'm sorry. You have  
no idea how sorry.

Door opens and Roxy peeks in.

ROXY

Don't mean to interrupt, but can I  
get that key?

OLIVIA

Coming.

Olivia follows Roxy out leaving Jon alone in Celeste's office.

THE END