

SIDELINES

TENNIS COURT

DAVE stretches on the sidelines, while watching the others. After several moments, KATE enters, also dressed in tennis attire. She is quite hungover.

DAVE
Morning, sunshine.

KATE
Keep your fucking voice down.

DAVE
Bad night?

KATE
I don't want to talk about it.

DAVE
I hope you got his name, at least.

KATE
Fuck off.

KATE stops and thinks for a moment, trying to remember the name of the guy. She gets it and lets it go. She then unpacks her things, prepares to play.

KATE
Have they started without me?

DAVE
They're warming up. It's you and Angie in the first rotation.

A tennis court. SUE, ANGIE and JENNY are warming up. ANGIE is playing without a partner. They are all dressed in tennis attire.

KATE
Where's John?

DAVE
Running late, as usual.

KATE
Is he alright to play?

*DAVE shrugs, as if to say "we'll see."
KATE joins the others. DAVE continues
to stretch, keeping one eye on the court.*

SUE
My God, she's alive.

KATE
Fuck off.

SUE
Kate, this is Jenny.

JENNY
Hi.

KATE
Yeah, hi.

ANGIE
Morning, Kate.

KATE
Yeah, let's just play.

They resume their warm up.

SUE
My backhand feels off.

JENNY
It looks alright to me.

*Several moments later, JOHN arrives.
He's agitated about something, but
DAVE doesn't notice — Dave's attention
is mainly on the court.*

DAVE
Morning.

JOHN
Sorry I'm late. Are they playing?

DAVE
Still warming up.

*JOHN unpacks, helps himself to coffee,
bagels, etc., while observing the others
on the court.*

DAVE
How are you feeling?

JOHN
Great. You know, I ... physically
speaking, I'm probably in the best shape
of my life.

DAVE
You gave us a real scare. I thought we
lost you for a minute.

JOHN
What's the first rotation?

DAVE
Sue and Jenny versus Angie and Kate.
You and I sit out.

SUE
I don't know ... something's ...

JOHN
Jenny ... is that Sue's new ... ?

DAVE
Angie told me they're just friends.

JOHN nods.

*The others finish their warm-up and
head to the sidelines.*

ANGIE
Look, John's here. Hi, John!

KATE
John?

SUE
It's John!

*SUE and ANGIE applaud John's arrival as they approach him. JENNY and KATE join
in.*

JOHN
Sorry I'm late ... traffic was ... roadwork on the bridge ...

ANGIE
Help yourself to bagels and coffee.

JOHN
(already holding both)
Thanks, I will.

SUE
John, this is Jenny.

JOHN
Nice to meet you, Jenny.

DAVE
(to Jenny)
You have a wonderful form.

JENNY

... thank you.

DAVE

Your stroke, it's ... it's magnificent.

ANGIE

(to John)

Are you sure you're all right to play?

JOHN

Yeah, fine, great.

SUE

You should have seen him. Scared the shit out of me.

JOHN

Are we ready?

JENNY

Fine with me.

ANGIE

I'm good.

KATE

Yes, yes, let's play.

JOHN and DAVE watch the game. They both drink coffee, eat bagels, etc.

DAVE

You don't need to warm up?

JOHN

I'm fine.

The others take the court. Angie and Kate vs. Sue and Jenny.

ANGIE prepares to serve.

ANGIE

Love-All.

ANGIE serves. It's long.

SUE
Fault!

ANGIE prepares her second serve.

She serves.

The ball goes in.

SUE returns the ball.

ANGIE returns the ball.

JENNY hits a winner.

DAVE
Yes!

*DAVE claps. JOHN claps as well, a bit
absently. He is distracted, perhaps has
trouble sitting still.*

SUE
Nice shot.

ANGIE prepares to serve.

ANGIE
Love-Fifteen.

DAVE
Come on, Angie!

ANGIE serves.

The ball hits the net.

KATE taps the ball out of the way.

ANGIE prepares her second serve.

She serves.

It's in.

JENNY returns the ball.

It's out.

JENNY

Ah!

DAVE claps lightly.

DAVE

Almost had it.

SUE

(to Jenny)

Just relax. You'll get the next one.

JENNY smiles at SUE.

ANGIE prepares to serve.

ANGIE

Fifteen-All.

ANGIE serves.

It's long.

SUE

Fault!

ANGIE prepares her second serve.

She serves.

It's in.

SUE returns the ball.

DAVE claps, once or twice.

DAVE
It's alright, Kate.

DAVE
Beautiful! Just beautiful ...

*DAVE looks at JOHN, but JOHN is
distracted.*

KATE hits it into the net.

KATE
FUCK ME!

ANGIE
It's still early ... don't worry about it.

*KATE shakes her head, in disgust with
herself. ANGIE prepares to serve.*

Fifteen-Thirty.

ANGIE serves.

*It's in. JENNY returns, hitting a
winner past KATE.*

KATE
Damn it!

KATE
Try that shit again, honey.

SUE
(to Kate, a warning)
Hey.

ANGIE prepares to serve.

ANGIE
Fifteen-Forty.

ANGIE serves.

It's just out.

SUE
Fault!

ANGIE
Are you sure?

SUE
Am I sure?

ANGIE
It looked like it hit the line.

SUE
It wasn't even close to the line.

KATE
It should be Jenny's call.

SUE
(to Jenny)
What did you think, in or out?

JENNY
I thought it was just long.

SUE nods in agreement.

ANGIE takes a breath. She prepares her second serve.

She serves.

It's in.

SUE returns the ball.

ANGIE returns the ball, hitting it up the middle.

SUE and JENNY gets confused who should take it.

SUE
Ah! Jesus Christ!

JENNY hits the ball into the net.

JENNY
Sorry, I thought you ...

SUE
(overlapping)
It was my fault, I should have called it.

ANGIE prepares her next serve.

DAVE
Incredible, isn't she?

JOHN
Who, Kate?

DAVE
Not Kate. Jenny.

JOHN
Oh — is she?

DAVE
Watch her backhand. Watch how gracefully she moves.

ANGIE
Thirty-Forty.

ANGIE serves.