

(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

OUR FRIEND MR. DARBY

D.B. COOPER SIDE

START

INT. LIVING ROOM / KITCHEN - NIGHT

There is a silence as the two of them just stand there. Finally, Double Dutch speaks.

DOUBLE DUTCH

I'm sorry for your loss DB. Truly, I am.

DB doesn't look over. He stares at a photo on the living room mantle.

DOUBLE DUTCH (cont'd)

But...blaming yourself isn't gonna bring them back. You're still here. You can't harbor those feelings, you gotta just...work through them and try to move on.

DB chuckles at Double Dutch's naivete.

DB COOPER

Oh kid, you've got a lot to learn. Maybe you'll understand someday... but, when a man loves a woman--and when I say love I mean...

DB trails off, trying to find the correct wording.

DB COOPER (cont'd)

...I mean, really, truly, love--a love so sweltering it feels like your hearts gonna burn right outta your chest, a love so tender, so warm, so fragile, it's as if a singular exhale could blow it all to bits--when a man loves a woman *that* much...and when that woman is...

DB makes a slow, violent tearing motion with his hands.

DB COOPER (cont'd)

...wrenched away from him so swiftly, and so violently, and it's all his fault...there's no such thing as moving on.

(MORE)

DB COOPER (cont'd)  
All he has, is the memory of who she  
was once, and that's it. No more, no  
less.

Double Dutch is at a loss for words. After a moment, he  
finds something to say. He walks into the living room as DB  
slumps back into the chair he was seated in before.

DOUBLE DUTCH  
But...have you ever even tried?

DB COOPER  
And what would be the point of that?

DOUBLE DUTCH  
Some solace? Some peace?

DB COOPER  
You should be the first to know we  
don't get that in this business.

DOUBLE DUTCH  
That's why I'm leaving. I'm ready to  
find my peace. You should be too.

DB COOPER  
I'll probably be gone soon enough.  
My attention to details been getting  
sloppy, and I have a feeling the boss  
lady's a little fed up. I don't know,  
I just don't care about it anymore.

DOUBLE DUTCH  
That's exactly why you should leave.  
Relax, retire to some beachfront  
estate. Read a Hemingway novel.

DB laughs heartily.

DB COOPER  
That would be a dream.

DOUBLE DUTCH  
So do it.

DB contemplates what he is being told, almost as if for the  
first time in their entire conversation.

DB COOPER  
Maybe. Or maybe that's for next  
lifetime.

**END**