

EXT. SMALL COFFEE SHOP - DUSK

Cass and Griff have just seen a play together and are now settled in over a small table drinking cups of tea. Other patrons come and go, someone busses a table.

GRIFF

There were moments when I felt so uncomfortable! Like that sort of embarrassment for another person... I'm sure there's some word for it in German. It made me think I could write a play, but then, you know, more people would have to have this conversation.

CASS

I mean, I've had worse conversations; it wouldn't be so bad.

Griff smiles and snorts a laugh.

GRIFF

Really, who am I to criticize anyone who writes a play. I would love to write a play, but that fear of disappointing myself keeps me from trying. Like what would I even write about?

CASS

Okay, but how do you reconcile respect for someone's effort with boredom over what they've made? You know like how people say "my kid could do that" and they miss the point that their kid didn't do it... their kid sucks.

Griff, nodding along, momentarily lets his focus soften.

GRIFF

I wonder if Netflix has Forgetting Sarah Marshall.

CASS

Are you an artist when you like have art in you or when you share it or what? Probably just when you have an MFA and connections.

Griff shakes his head disappointedly.

GRIFF

I'd probably end up doing something awful and contrived like my play would be about a conversation like this. Just totally on the nose and even further from profundity.

CASS

But you just said "profundity" and someone in the audience might not know what that means, so you'd have to use a more common phrasing.

GRIFF

Right but then someone else in the audience would be wondering why I didn't just say "profundity."

CASS

Maybe it's the audience who ruins plays. Before they're even written...

Griff laughs, hard

CASS

Maybe all art is just an offering for the audience and sometimes the offering isn't right and sometimes the audience is a cruel and dispassionate god.

GRIFF

Sometimes both.

CASS

Usually both.

GRIFF

Do we have a BluRay player? I'm buying Forgetting Sarah Marshall.