

BUY NOTHING  
(WORKING TITLE)

Written by

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Based on, If Any

Address

Phone Number

WORLDWIDE  
LAB

INT. KITCHEN-DAY

Blasting music Dakota (30 something) rummages through the kitchen. Surrounded by boxes and bags she dances through every inch of her space stopping only to hold an object. Then contrast. Then compare. Then to consider. And then reconsider each item before ultimately deciding to discard whatever it is that no longer serves her in this moment. She's feeling good as hell.

She continues into the living room bopping to the music and rummaging when's she interrupted by Charlie.

CHARLIE

(jokingly/over the music)  
So you're finally leaving me for  
that tall strapping junk collector  
I see

DAKOTA

Ha ha. Very funny. Actually i'm  
purging

CHARLIE

What?

DAKOTA

(turns the music down)  
I'm Marie Kondoing the hell out of  
this whole damn house!

CHARLIE

Is that the woman going around  
telling everyone to spark fire-now  
you're not gonna burn down this  
house-

DAKOTA

Sparks "joy" and yes thats the one.

She pops a kiss on his face and twirls away.

CHARLIE

(suspicious)  
Mmm hmmm and what sparked this  
little "purging" movement.

DAKOTA

(excited he asked)  
Well. You know the neighbor who I  
swore up and down was a drug  
dealer?

CHARLIE

Yup. The guy who's always having random people stop by to "pick up" at all kinds of hours in the day and night? The one who i'm *still* convinced is a drug dealer?

DAKOTA

Yup. That guy. Well after I did some sleuthing...I Found out he's not a drug dealer after all-

CHARLIE

(fake disappointment)

Womp. Womp.

DAKOTA

He's actually just a member of his local Buy Nothing group.

CHARLIE

Buy nothing group...whats a buy nothing group?

DAKOTA

It's a community of people who gift things to each other.

CHARLIE

So like you guys can trade stuff and excha-

DAKOTA

Nope. There's no bartering, there's no trading, purchasing, exchanging- its pure, simple, *gifting*.

(beat)

Or borrowing on occasion.

CHARLIE

Ahhhhh

DAKOTA

Yeah! You can literally ask for anything. *Anything*. Lool!

She walks over to the dining table and hops onto her laptop to pull up the page.

DAKOTA (CONT'D)

There's no gift or ask thats too big.

(MORE)

DAKOTA (CONT'D)

Theres no gift or ask thats to  
small-It's an infinite amount of  
Gifting and Receiving.

(beat)

Or borrowing on occasion.

CHARLIE

CHARLIE peruses the website.

(impressed)

I have to say that sounds like a  
fantastic idea. Very sustainable in  
the long run.

DAKOTA

Exactly.

CHARLIE

And very useful if I wanna loan out  
my wife for some peace and quiet  
every once and awhile! You ready to  
go cook and clean for somebody  
else?

DAKOTA

Shut up!

She play slaps at him and wrestles him to the floor. They  
take each other in. After a moment they kiss.

DAKOTA (CONT'D)

Okay up we go! Help me get through  
some of this please. If we have  
double of anything or we haven't  
used an item in over a year, set it  
aside for someone else.

CHARLIE

Sir yes sir!

DAKOTA

Oh and will you gather all the lint  
from the laundry room?

CHARLIE

Sure. Buuut what cha gonna use that  
for?

DAKOTA

Buy Nothing. Judy down the way is  
in search of a buuuunch of lint.

CHARLIE  
(he shoots her a  
questionable look)  
Really? Lint? Now what in the world  
are you going to do with lint?

DAKOTA  
A lot.

CHARLIE  
Like what?

DAKOTA  
Well she's needs it as bedding for  
her son's small hamster...but its  
super flammable and you can use it  
for camping, composting, packing  
material, mulch for plants, art-

CHARLIE  
-Alright alright I've heard enough.  
This group really is an infinite  
black hole of gifting and  
receiving.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

INT. BATHROOM-DAY

DAKOTA and CHARLIE purging looking cute (TBD)

INT. KITCHEN-DAY

DAKOTA and CHARLIE purging looking cute (TBD)

INT. DINING-DAY

DAKOTA and CHARLIE purging looking cute (TBD)

END MONTAGE

INT BEDROOM-LATER THAT DAY

Dakota, alone and on a roll continues purging and piling up  
item after item when she unearths a small, dusty, jewelry  
box. This stops her in her tracks. Inundated with a flood of  
emotions and memories she thought she had long buried with  
this box come rushing back to her all at once...

CHARLIE (O.S.)  
Dialogue dialogue dialogue

Dakota doesn't hear him. Then CHARLIE enters the room.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
Did you hear me? I said...(insert  
dialogue) Dakota. Hunny you okay?

DAKOTA

Dazed. She sits on the bed. Charlie sits next to her. She hands him the jewelry box.

CHARLIE  
(trying to be funny)  
Are these the rings from your child  
bride days? I thought you sold  
those trinkets and took yourself on  
a nice vacation?

DAKOTA  
(she doesn't take the  
bait.)  
I did do that.  
(beat)  
No these are actually my parents  
wedding rings. A trophy for the  
aftermath of the divorce. Among  
other things.

CHARLIE  
Wow. I had no idea you had these.

DAKOTA  
Honestly, I forgot I had them.

CHARLIE  
Well how'd you get ahold of them in  
the first place?

DAKOTA  
  
Well, my father mailed them to my  
mother alongside an apology letter,  
asking for her forgiveness.

CHARLIE  
I take it she never forgave him?

DAKOTA

Nope. Sure did not. So she gave them to me...said she had no use for them anymore and that it hurt to have them around because after everything-*everything* that man put her through...she still loved him.

CHARLIE

(sympathetically)  
So you kept them.

DAKOTA

(she nods)

Yeah I mean I was little I had no idea what to do with them. Honestly, for the longest time I thought my parents would end up back together again. Thought I could pull a Lindsey Lohan on em and Parent Trap them back together.  
(remembering)

It's just a faint memory but it's there...me sleeping in bed with my mama and waking up in the middle of the night to her crying softly...I would pat her head with my little hand and say 'its okay mama you and daddy will get back together again...' I didn't realize until I got older that she was the one who left him.

CHARLIE

(he takes this in)

These rings are beautiful and unique and special...just like you. But, it looks like they also bring up a lot of pain and resentment in you Dakota. Now, I may be no Maria Kondo or some big time guru/therapist but it looks like you've held a lot attachment and emotions to those rings. Do you think maybe it might be time to let them go?

DAKOTA

(she takes a moment to consider this)

I forgave my father a along time ago. And we've worked hard to mend our relationship. So yes, I think you're right.

(MORE)

DAKOTA (CONT'D)

I think it's time to close that chapter in my life...move on.

CHARLIE

Okay. Okay my dear.

(after a moment)

(lightening the mood)

Okay so are you sure you don't wanna sell those rings and take yourself on another fancy vacation?? Or go get your hair did? Or do a little spa day-

DAKOTA

(she laughs)

No fool haha! No no... It just wouldn't feel the same. Wouldn't feel right spending the money on myself.

CHARLIE

Understood.

Suddenly he rises (a man on a mission)and quickly leaves the bedroom with an idea.

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

Charlie is feverishly typing and searching on the laptop. Dakota follows in after him curious. After just a few moments:

CHARLIE

Aha! Here! Look. This person posted a little over a month ago but look right there. They're in search of a set of wedding rings. Maybe reach out and see if they're still in need?

DAKOTA

Baby...I love you. And yes, that sounds like a great idea.I'd rather have these rings that once sparked joy in my parents life, spark joy in someone else's life for sure. I think its time.

CHARLIE

Agreed. But maybe we should sage them first or perform some sort of cleansing ritual? Don't wanna pass on the bad juju-

DAKOTA

Stooooop...

CHARLIE

Don't you have some witchy friends  
or brujas in your life?

he continues to crack jokes, they laugh, and dance to music  
as we...

FADE OUT

THE END