

LAST RESORT

Book & Lyrics by
Derek P. Hassler

Music by
Helen Park

Last Resort

CHARACTERS:

LAURA Closet smoker. Habitual Liar. Will do anything for the perfect honeymoon.

THOMAS Her fiancé.

JOHN A storm chaser. Laura's ex-husband.

TIME & PLACE: The Gran Estación Resort, Caribbean. Present.

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Written as a succinct short musical, *Last Resort* began with the idea of our main character. Helen and I thought it was funny to have a main character who needed everything to flow smoothly during her pseudo honeymoon. Back in graduate school, I used to be a fairly heavy smoker, so the idea of constantly displacing myself to partake in a guilty pleasure was also appealing to me. With that, Laura was born. Helen and I spent the better part of a month figuring out all the "worst case" scenarios we could throw at her. We think we came up with some rather funny ideas.

SCENE 1

The lobby of the Gran Estación Resort, somewhere in the Caribbean. LAURA and THOMAS enter holding suitcases and look as though they haven't had the most comfortable time getting there. LAURA shakes it off and takes in the beauty of their stunning island getaway.

No. 01 "OPENING"

LAURA

THOMAS, WHAT A RESORT!
LOOK! THEY EVEN HAVE PALM THREES,
A WARM BREEZE, AND —HONEY, PLEASE—
IT'S NINETY-NINE DEGREES.

WHAT A PERFECT RESORT.
FAR AWAY FROM THE BRIGHT LIGHTS.
OH, THE SIGHTS OF STARLIT NIGHTS
CAN MAKE A LADY SWOON
ON HER HONEYMOON.

THOMAS

(correcting)

No,

(singing)

WE'RE ON HOLIDAY.

LAURA

IT IS OUR HONEYMOON.
OKAY?
WHATEVER YOU SAY, DEAR,
BUT ONE THING'S CLEAR
WE'VE GOTTEN AWAY.

IT'S OUR HONEYMOON.
ANOTHER PERFECT DAY
IN JUNE.
AND ANYTIME SOON, LOVE,
THE PERFECT HONEYMOON
AWAITS THE GROOM.

OUR HONEYMOON.

THOMAS

IT'S *NOT* OUR HONEYMOON.
OKAY?
WHATEVER YOU SAY, DEAR,
BUT ONE THING'S CLEAR
WE'VE GOTTEN AWAY.

WE'RE ON HOLIDAY.
ANOTHER PERFECT DAY
IN JUNE.
AND ANYTIME SOON, LOVE,
THE PERFECT HOLIDAY
AWAITS THE GROOM.

OUR HONEYMOON.

LAURA

Oh, c'mon! Say it: honeymoon, honeymoon, honeymoon,
honeymoon...

(she continues under THOMAS' line)

THOMAS

For God's sake, it's a holiday...vacation...whatever you want to call it,
but don't call it a honeymoon.

LAURA

But that's what it is.

THOMAS

No, a honeymoon happens *after* the wedding.

LAURA

You're no fun.

THOMAS

LAURA, WORDS ARE JUST WORDS

LAURA

Then say it: honeymoon.

THOMAS

WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS US, DEAR.
WE ARE HERE, AND TO BE CLEAR
I'M DOING WHAT YOU'VE PLANNED.

LAURA

Tom!

(singing)

YOU AND ME AND THE SAND.
YOU AND ME AND A DRUM BAND.
CASH IN HAND, SUN KISSED AND TANNED.
AS IF WE WERE JUST WED...

(begging)

Please.

THOMAS

How could I say "no?"

BOTH

JUST YOU AND ME ON A SAND DUNE,
AND IT'S ALMOST NOON, SO SOON.

(MORE)

BOTH (CONT'D)
 WE'LL DRINK AWAY THE DAY AND AFTERNOON
 ON OUR HONEYMOON.

AND WHAT A PERFECT PLACE TO STAY.
 WE'RE RIGHT ON THE BAY. OH, YAY!
 MAKE LOVE THEN HIT THEY HEY.
 NOW THAT'S A DAY.

LAURA
 OUR HONEYMOON.

THOMAS
 OUR HONEYMOON.

LAURA
 OUR HONEYMOON.

THOMAS
 OUR HONEYMOON.

BOTH
 OUR HONEYMOON.

LAURA grabs THOMAS and kisses him.

THOMAS
 Let's go *check-in*.

LAURA
 Tom. Wait 'til we get a room. You go check-in. I'll be waiting over here when you get back.

THOMAS
 Now that we've decided we're on our honeymoon, I don't want to spend a single moment apart...

LAURA
 I said it's fine! I'll just be over here...alone.
(beat; no emotion)
 Pookie.

THOMAS briefly pauses, then exits.

No. 02 IT WILL BE GREAT

LAURA immediately rummages through her purse to pull out a pack of cigarettes. She lights one.

LAURA

THOMAS THINKS I QUIT SMOKING.
HE THINKS WE'RE GETTING MARRIED.
I MEAN WE ARE—OR WILL BE MARRIED.
I WAS KINDA JOKING...
ABOUT THE SMOKING...
AND THE QUITTING...
AND QUITE POSSIBLY THE FACT THAT THOMAS WILL
BE MY FIRST HUSBAND.

SO, TO MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING
WE MUST MAKE IT THROUGH THE HONEYMOON.
IF WE MAKE IT THROUGH THE HONEYMOON,
WE'LL MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING.
AND AS LONG AS IT ALL GOES TO MY PLAN,
OH—IT WILL BE GREAT.

She takes another deep hit.

LAURA

JOHN WAS MY FIRST HUSBAND.
HONEYMOON? A DISASTER.
I MEAN IT WAS A DISASTER.
I AM SUCH A LIAR...
ABOUT THE PRIOR...
MARRIAGE TO JOHN, BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT IT'S
NEVER COME UP IN CONVERSATION AND TOM HAS
NEVER ASKED ABOUT IT DIRECTLY.

SO, TO MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING
WE MUST MAKE IT THROUGH THE HONEYMOON.
IF WE MAKE IT THROUGH THE HONEYMOON,
WE'LL MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING.
AND AS LONG AS IT ALL GOES TO MY PLAN,
OH—IT WILL BE GREAT.

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LOVE TOM.
I LOVE HIM MORE THAN LIFE.
IT'S JUST THAT I'M REALLY SCARED
I'LL SCREW MY CHANCE TO BE HIS WIFE.

(MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)

BECAUSE LAST TIME I BECAME A WIFE, I HAD A HONEYMOON THAT TURNED OUT TO BE A FRICKIN' DISASTER, AND THE WHOLE MARRIAGE FELL APART, WHICH IS WHY I TOLD THOMAS I NEEDED TO HAVE THE HONEYMOON FIRST, STILL, HE JUST ASSUMED IT'S BECAUSE I'M A FREE SPIRIT—WHICH I AM—BUT I WAS REALLY JUST AFRAID THAT THIS HONEYMOON WOULD FALL APART JUST LIKE THE LAST ONE WITH JOHN DID.

SO. TO.

MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING

WE MUST MAKE IT THOUGH THE HONEYMOON.

IF WE MAKE IT THROUGH THE HONEYMOON,

WE'LL MAKE IT TO THE WEDDING.

AND AS LONG AS IT ALL GOES TO MY PLAN,

OH—IT WILL BE...

A man kindly grabs LAURA's attention.

JOHN

Laura? It's me, John! Why I haven't seen you since the divorce. Wow. What are the *odds* we would both be on the same secluded island halfway around the world at the same time! How are ya?

LAURA

(pissed)

GREAT.

JOHN

(offering Purell)

Purell? It's a fact: there are traces of fecal matter everywhere. What are you doing here?

LAURA

I'm on my honeymoon.

JOHN

You got married?

LAURA

Kinda. Last week. What are you doing here?

JOHN

Since the divorce, I've been making a conscious effort to make the best out of life.

LAURA

Good for you.

JOHN

I'm a storm chaser now. I know, I know. It's not like me at all, but gotta make the best out of life, right?

LAURA

A storm chaser. How's that working out for you?

JOHN

I haven't actually chased any storms. Honestly, it's a lot scarier than I thought it would be.

LAURA

Well, good luck chasing those storms. I have to go.

JOHN

(looking at his reservation)

Would you look at that! These hotels always book me into a double room when I'm traveling alone.

THOMAS

(offstage)

What do you mean there was a mistake?!

LAURA

Oh, that's my fiancé right over there.

JOHN

Your husband. It's so new, you've forgotten.

LAURA

Yes, my husband. I have to go. You go enjoy your two beds.

JOHN

It was nice seeing you again.

LAURA

Yes.

THOMAS enters. LAURA rushes over to him.

THOMAS

There's a problem. We don't have a room.

LAURA

Are you kidding me? That's horrible! It's terrible! I can't imagine anything worse than that!

THOMAS

This honeymoon is falling apart.

LAURA

It's not the end of the world. It could be worse.

THOMAS

There's a convention going on. The resort is overbooked and lost our confirmation. To make matters worse, the last boat to the mainland just left. We're stuck. Unless we can find a room, this whole trip is going to be a disaster.

LAURA

(lightbulb)

I found a room. My ex is here.

THOMAS

Your ex-boyfriend?

LAURA

Yes.

(pause)

Ex...boyfriend. He has an extra bed in his room.

THOMAS

Oh, Laura. I don't know much, but I don't think we should sleep with your ex-boyfriend on our honeymoon.

LAURA

Yoo-hoo! John!

(waving)

John, over here, silly.

JOHN

Me?

LAURA

Don't be so shy. This is my fiancé, Thomas.

No. 03 TOM, JOHN, TOM

Your husband. JOHN

Husband. LAURA

Fiancé. THOMAS

Fiancé? JOHN

Fiancéhusband. Tom. LAURA
(singing)
 TOM, MEET JOHN.
 JOHN, MEET TOM.
 TOM, THIS IS JOHN.
 JOHN, THIS IS TOM.

TOM. THOMAS
(introducing)

JOHN. JOHN

PLEASURE. THOMAS

SHALOM. JOHN

What? THOMAS

WE HAVE NO ROOM. LAURA

YOU DON'T HAVE A ROOM? JOHN

LAURA
IT APPEARS THAT OUR WHOLE HONEYMOON
IS, WELL, DOOMED.

JOHN
WHAT WILL YOU DO?

LAURA
WE DON'T HAVE A CLUE.
WE DON'T HAVE A ROOM.
JOHN, DO YOU?

THOMAS
(to LAURA)
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

LAURA
JOHN HAS A ROOM
THAT I'M CURRENTLY PURSUING.
TOM! I MEAN JOHN.

THOMAS
YOU TALKING TO ME?

JOHN
YOU TALKING TO ME?

LAURA
CAN I HAVE YOUR BED?
I MEAN, CAN WE?
JOHN? TOM?
GUYS, C'MON!

JOHN
Uh...

THOMAS
You really don't have to...

LAURA
No!

(to THOMAS)
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE.
THIS PLACE IS SO CALM.
AND DON'T WORRY, DEAR.
I NEVER LOVED TOM.

(long awkward silence)
...I mean John.

THOMAS

Nope. Not doing it.

LAURA

Ugh!

(singing)

TOM HAS WIFE.

JOHN HAS A ROOM.

WHAT DO I GET?

A BAD HONEYMOON.

JOHN

I DON'T MEAN TO INTRUDE,

'CAUSE I THINK THAT IT'S RUDE,

BUT I HAVEN'T QUITE OFFERED...

LAURA

OH GOD! I AM SCREWED!

IF IT'S OKAY WITH TOM,

AND IT'S OKAY WITH JOHN,

THEN I DON'T UNDERSTAND

THIS CRUSADE GOING ON!

THOMAS

FINE.

JOHN

OKAY.

THOMAS

LAURA, YOU WIN.

LAURA

THEN THAT'S THAT.

(speaking)

Great. John, take our bags and we'll meet you there. This

honeymoon is really turning out for the best. See, Tom, I told you it

was going to be...

LAURA swings open the door to reveal a small room with one double bed and a tiny window near the ceiling

LAURA

(disappointed)

...great.

THOMAS

Nope. I'm calling the front desk.

LAURA

(to herself)

How the hell am I going to smoke out a window this high?

While examining the window, she hops on the bed.

JOHN

Nooo!!!

LAURA

Agh! What is it?

JOHN

It's a fact! A 2010 Swedish survey found twenty percent of hotels infested with bedbugs didn't know they were infested with bedbugs.

THOMAS

(on the phone)

Well, if something opens up, can you please give me a call?

(hangs up the phone)

They can't move us because the convention is blocking every room. And, apparently, a "double room" means one double bed.

JOHN

You know what they say, when the world gives you lemons, make lemonade! That's why I'm a storm chaser.

JOHN crawls into the bed.

LAURA

Are you sleeping in the bed? Don't you think it would be nice if you let Tom and me have the bed for our honeymoon?

JOHN

No.

LAURA

Tom, I tried. I guess you get the floor.

THOMAS

Laura, really. I don't know much, but I don't think we should be doing this.

LAURA

I'm not sleeping on the floor. I'll look like a mess when we meet the photographer tomorrow.

THOMAS

Then I guess all three of us are sleeping in the bed.

JOHN

Grand! We're all adults, and it's a proven fact that sleeping alone in a large bed can cause scoliosis.

LAURA

It's a double. We're not all going to fit in that bed.

THOMAS

I'll make it work.

JOHN

Then it's decided. You know, this is the first time I'll be sleeping with a woman since...well, you know.

THOMAS & LAURA

Not now.

All three lay down and fall asleep. The lights shift.

SCENE 2

No. 04 YOU ALWAYS SCREW THINGS UP

THOMAS

(like a ghost)

LAURA...

LAURA

Hello?

JOHN

LAURA...

LAURA

Are you guys talking to me?

JOHN
WHY HAVEN'T YOU TOLD HIM
YOUR SECRET?

LAURA
What?

THOMAS
WHY HAVEN'T YOU TOLD HIM
THAT WE'RE NOT MARRIED?

LAURA
Thomas? Are you awake?

THOMAS
YOUR PARENTS WILL PROBABLY
DISOWN YOU.

JOHN
YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL!

THOMAS
OHH—YEAH.

YOU NEVER THINK
BEFORE YOU ACT.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH,
BUT...
OOH—AH!
YOU'RE GONNA SCREW
THINGS UP.

JOHN

HMM—YEAH.
YOU NEVER THINK
BEFORE YOU ACT.
BUT IT'S A FACT:
OOH—AH!
YOU'RE GONNA SCREW
THINGS UP.

LAURA
I don't know why you guys are freaking out. I'm not freaking out.

THOMAS
Your subconscious is freaking out.

LAURA
Everything is going to be great.

JOHN
Will it?

LAURA
I'M GOOD AT KEEPING SECRETS.
I CAN KEEP THEM IN LINE.

THOMAS

Sure...

LAURA

NOW EVERYONE STOP PANICKING.
THE HONEYMOON'S FINE.

JOHN

I've heard that before.

THOMAS & JOHN

THERE'S HUNGER AND FAMINE IN ASIA.

LAURA

What?!

THOMAS & JOHN

THE GEN'RAL SAYS THAT SMOKING
MAY CAUSE CANCER.
ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS ARE NOW MARRIED,
AND YOUR PARENTS HAVE SEX.

LAURA

Stop!

THOMAS & JOHN

OHH—WOAH—OH, OH, OH!
YOU NEVER THINK BEFORE YOU ACT.

THOMAS

I DON'T KNOW MUCH BUT...

JOHN

...BUT IT'S A FACT.

THOMAS & JOHN

OHH—AH!
YOU ALWAYS SCREW THINGS UP!

LAURA

AGH!

Blackout.

SCENE 3

On the beach the next morning, THOMAS paces back and forth on his cell phone in the background. LAURA, down the coast, tries to light a cigarette. It is complicated as the wind has picked up significantly.

LAURA

Why's it so windy?

THOMAS

(into phone)

Okay, thanks.

He hangs up and approaches LAURA.

LAURA

Don't tell me...

THOMAS

The photographer can't get to the island because they've suspended all the ferries.

LAURA

Why?

THOMAS

Apparently, there's a hurricane.

LAURA

You brought me to the Caribbean during a hurricane?! Are you kidding me?!

THOMAS

I didn't know there was going to be a hurricane.

LAURA

Like, a *real* hurricane?

THOMAS

The hotel has a camera, but they can't send anyone out to take any photos.

LAURA

We *need* a honeymoon photo.

THOMAS

I know, but unless there is someone willing to take the photo...

LAURA

I've got it! ...Someone who likes storms!

THOMAS

Oh, no.

LAURA

He's a storm chaser!

THOMAS

No.

LAURA

I'm sure he'll be thrilled! He loves to help me out!

(leaving)

I'll be right back!

THOMAS

Please, don't ask John!

LAURA

Problem solved!

LAURA exits.

No. 05 I TAKE MORE SHOWERS / HONEYMOON [REPRISE]

THOMAS

YOU KNOW I'M NOT GOOD
WITH EMOTIONS.
IT'S TRUE, AND I'VE ALWAYS BEEN
THAT WAY.
I'M RESERVED AND RELY
ON MY NOTIONS.
BUT I GUESS WHAT I'M
TRYING TO SAY...

IS I TAKE MORE SHOWERS.
IT IS TRUE WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE
YOU TAKE MORE SHOWERS.
WELL, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
I MEAN...WHAT I MEAN IS...
I TAKE MORE SHOWERS—
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 BUT WHETHER YOU'RE AWARE OR NOT
 I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE NOT HAPPY
 WITH WHAT YOU GOT.

(spoken)

I love you, Laura. But do you love me?

(singing)

IT'S OUR HONEYMOON,
 AND I'LL SOON BE YOUR NEW GROOM.
 BUT I DON'T SEE WHY I TRY
 WHEN ALL YOU DO
 IS CHASE SOME OTHER GUY.

SO, DO YOU LOVE ME?

The wind picks up. LAURA and JOHN enter, carrying a tripod.

JOHN

I don't think it's safe to be on the beach during a hurricane.

LAURA

John, you're so thoughtful.

JOHN

Please don't make me do this.

THOMAS

Laura, I need to ask you something.

LAURA

What?

(to JOHN)

You know how to work it, right?

JOHN

I think the surge is coming in.

THOMAS

Do you love me?

LAURA

All you have to do is hit this little button.

(to TOM)

What was that? I can't hear you with the wind!

JOHN

The surge is definitely coming in!

LAURA

Tom, what are you saying?

She fights against the wind until she's finally at TOM's side.

THOMAS

Do you love me?

LAURA

Are you ready, Tom?

They awkwardly stand, fighting the wind.

JOHN

Should we really be out here right now? I don't like this.

LAURA

Just take the picture! Do we look good?

THOMAS

Laura! Do you love me?

JOHN

You both look cute. Just like Laura and I did on our honeymoon.

THOMAS

What?

LAURA

Take the photo!

THOMAS

You two had a honeymoon?!

LAURA

Photo!

JOHN

After our wedding. Just like you.

THOMAS

We're not married yet.

LAURA

Oh, dear God.

THOMAS

You were married?!

JOHN

You weren't?!

LAURA

(desperate)

I never quit smoking!

THOMAS

When were you planning on telling me this?

LAURA

You never smelt the smoke, so I didn't think it mattered.

THOMAS

Not the smoking!

JOHN

I'm going back inside.

LAURA

No! Take the damn picture!

JOHN

One...Two...

THOMAS

Do you...

LAURA

For Christ's sake, yes! I love you, John!

There's too long of a silence as LAURA's words sink in.

JOHN

...Three!

JOHN takes the picture sprints towards the nearest building

JOHN

Gotta go!

*Blackout.*SCENE 4**No. 06 YES / NO / MAYBE***In the hotel room, JOHN nervously paces back and forth.*

JOHN

C'mon, John! This is what your whole career as a storm chaser has been leading up to. It's time to stop being afraid and get out there!

(singing)

YES!

NO.

MAYBE?

IT'S THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME
AND YOU'RE SPENDING IT INDOORS.

NO.

MAYBE?

YES!

UGH!

YOU ALWAYS THINK YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH THINGS
AND THEN IT ALWAYS POURS!

(yelling at himself)

AGH! I can't do it. I'm going to bed!

JOHN hops in the sheets and pulls them up over his head.

*The door swings open as palm trees fly through the hallway.
LAURA and THOMAS enter.*

No. 07 GREAT

LAURA

Thomas, please!

THOMAS

You love him?

LAURA

I SAID IT WAS A JOKE.

THOMAS

A JOKE?

LAURA

A JOKE.

I SEE YOU'RE NOT LAUGHING.

THAT'S PROBABLY MY FAULT.

SEE, MAKING A BAD JOKE

IS MY LAST DEFAULT.

THOMAS

I THINK THAT YOUR JOKES ARE RATHER OFF.

LAURA

DON'T SCOFF!

IT WILL BE GREAT.

THOMAS

IT'S GREAT?

LAURA

JUST GREAT!

THOMAS

ARE YOU UNAWARE

OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH?

DO YOU EVEN CARE?

LAURA

WELL, CAN WE AGREE

THAT WE DON'T AGREE?

THOMAS

AND IF WE STOP TALKING,

THAT'S OKAY WITH ME.

LAURA

WELL, THAT'S GREAT.

THOMAS

YES, GREAT.

LAURA

JUST GREAT.

The two share an awkward moment as they both think the conversation is over.

LAURA
SO, YOU DON'T THINK I CARE?

THOMAS
YOU CARE?

LAURA
I CARE!

THOMAS
WHILE I AM OFF CARING
YOU'RE FLIRTING WITH JOHN.
I THOUGHT THAT YOU LOVED ME,
TURNS OUT I WAS WRONG.

LAURA
I SAID IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!

THOMAS
YOUR ACTIONS ARE SELF EVIDENT.

LAURA
WELL, CAN WE AGREE
THAT WE DON'T AGREE?

THOMAS
AND IF WE STOP TALKING,
THAT'S OKAY WITH ME.

LAURA
WELL, THAT'S GREAT.

THOMAS
YES, GREAT.

LAURA
JUST FRICKIN' GREAT.

JOHN uncovers himself.

JOHN
So, how's it going? Patch things up yet?

THOMAS

Why are you always near me?

JOHN

There's a hurricane outside.

THOMAS

How is it possible there are still no rooms available? What kind of convention takes place *during* a hurricane?

JOHN

A storm chasing convention.

LAURA

(grabbing him by the collar)

Are you kidding me?! Get out now.

JOHN

I'm afraid of storms.

LAURA

You're a storm chaser.

(opens the door)

Chase the storm.

LAURA shoves JOHN out the door and slams it shut. She has a little trouble as the wind fights her.

JOHN

No! Please..!

THOMAS & LAURA

SOMETIMES IT FEELS
LIKE WE'RE BEING TESTED.
YOU DON'T CARE
HOW MUCH I'VE INVESTED
AND JUST AS I THINK
EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY,
LIKE A CURSE...

A coconut flies through the window.

LAURA

Great. Now we can see the beach!

THOMAS & LAURA
IT JUST GETS WORSE.

LAURA
Why can't you listen to what I'm trying to say?

THOMAS
Are you listening to me?

LAURA
Just help me clean this up.

THOMAS
No, Laura. Some messes can't be cleaned up.

LAURA
GREAT!
THE BED'S GETTING WETTER
AND YOU'RE STANDING THERE.
THE GLASS IT ALL OVER.
GOD! WHAT AN AFFAIR!

THIS IS JUST GREAT!
YOU'RE NOT EVEN HELPING,
BUT I DON'T EXPECT
THAT YOU WOULD COME HELP ME.

GREAT!
NOW THERE'S SAND
AND IT'S COMING IN FASTER!
GREAT!
OUR WONDERFUL HONEYMOON'S
A FUCKING DISASTER
AND YOU'RE NOT...

THOMAS
Well, maybe we should call the damn wedding off!

LAURA
Great!
(a pause)
What?!

Blackout.

SCENE 5

At a hotel bar, an hour later, Laura holds a margarita in one hand and a cigarette in the other. In front of her is an ashtray filled with cigarette butts.

No. 08 LOVE IS LIKE A CIGARETTE

LAURA

LOVE IS LIKE A CIGARETTE.
IT CALMS AND SOOTHES YOUR SOUL.
YOU NEVER THINK TO SAVOR IT,
OR HOW IT TAKES CONTROL.
THE FIRST TIME YOU FEEL IT,
THAT HIGH YOU FELT BACK WHEN,
IT'S JUST ANOTHER FEELING
YOU'LL NEVER FEEL AGAIN.

LOVE IS LIKE A CIGARETTE.
YOU'RE HOOKED, AND DON'T KNOW WHY.
YOU WELCOME IT INTO YOUR LIFE.
THE YEARS SEEMS TO PASS BY.
YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP IT.
YOU QUIT RIGHT THERE AND THEN,
BUT THE SECOND YOU DON'T NEED IT,
YOU ALWAYS START AGAIN.

IT'S FUNNY HOW YOU KNOW THE HARM,
BUT YOU'RE TRAPPED IN IT'S SIMPLE CHARM.
TOM, DID I EVER LOVE YOU?
OR WERE YOU JUST ANOTHER HABIT
I WAS ADDICTED TO?

LOVE IS LIKE A CIGARETTE.
IT CALMS AND SOOTHES YOUR SOUL.
YOU NEVER THINK TO SAVOR IT,
OR HOW IT TAKES CONTROL.
AS SOON AS YOU FEEL IT,
THAT HIGH YOU FELT BACK WHEN,
YOU'VE BURNT IT TO THE FILTER
AND YOU PUT IT OUT AGAIN.

LAURA puts out another cigarette.

JOHN enters the bar, a new man.

JOHN

Oh my God! Now, that's a storm! Laura! Laura!

LAURA

It's all over. We called the wedding off.

JOHN

You have to check this out!

LAURA

Just like our honeymoon, this one sucked too.

JOHN grabs LAURA and pulls her outside into the storm.

JOHN

Isn't this awesome?!

LAURA

What's so great about it?

JOHN

My whole life, I've been petrified of storms! Now that I'm in the middle of one, it's awesome! Sometimes things don't work out the way you want them to, but they happen the way they're supposed to.

LAURA

How is that supposed to help me? Wait! That's literally my situation!

THOMAS comes running in.

THOMAS

Laura! What are you doing? You can't just abandon your fiancé as he's trying to break up with you.

LAURA

Tom! I lied! I'm a horrible person. I know I really messed up, but I'm going to tell you the truth now. I never quit smoking, I've been married before, I may have forgotten to confirm our hotel reservation, I love you, I never loved John...

JOHN

I wouldn't say "never."

LAURA

Please, Tom. Sometimes life happens the way things were supposed to not...

(aside)

Wait, I'm a little drunk. What was it?

JOHN

Sometimes things don't work out the way you want them to, but they happen the way they're supposed to.

LAURA

That's it. Tom, please tell me you still love me.

JOHN

(jumping in the wind)

Isn't this awesome?!

THOMAS

Laura, I don't know a lot, but I came after you in the middle of a hurricane. Yes. I love you— *a lot*.

THOMAS pulls LAURA into a giant kiss.

JOHN

Now that's the power of a really good storm. I fucking love hurricanes!

No. 09 FINALE

THOMAS & LAURA

ON OUR HONEYMOON,
WE WENT TO HELL AND BACK SO SOON.

THOMAS

WE REALLY WERE FUCKED.

LAURA

IT SUCKED.

THOMAS & LAURA

A CRAPPY HONEYMOON.

THOMAS

A BRIDE...

LAURA

A GROOM...

JOHN

A storm chaser!

THOMAS & LAURA
OUR HONEYMOON.

JOHN
By the way, did you hear? They named the hurricane "Laura."

LAURA and THOMAS kiss.

END OF PLAY.