

The Drawing

By HG Holladay

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

SHOP OWNER, late twenties, cute and a little awkward, scoops ice cream and interacts kindly with customers. Shop isn't very busy. An EMPLOYEE serves a customer.

A BELL DINGS. GIRL, late twenties, enters shop with sun shining behind her. Shop Owner freezes and grins boyishly.

She observes the shop, browses the options, obviously new. Shop Owner watches, still frozen.

Employee nudges him, and signals for him to help her.

Shop Owner nods, inhales his confidence, and walks over.

He waves awkwardly at the girl, who returns it with a soft smile.

He SLAPS his face when she looks away.

She points to the mint chocolate chip, and he holds out a cup and cone. She picks the cone.

After paying, she smiles shyly and sits down in the corner table and pulls out her journal and begins to write.

Shop Owner sighs, leaning against his hand on the counter.

Employee shakes his head, laughing, and pushes him lightly back to reality.

They return to work.

FADE OUT.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

Shop fairly busy, people chatting, reading, laughing at small tables. Employee helps customer at register.

A BELL DINGS. Girl enters shop. Shop Owner smiles widely until her DATE, buff and uninterested, follows.

They browse the options. Shop Owner broods.

Shop Owner finally resumes cheerful self, begins scooping, then goes over to couple.

Just before the Girl can order, Shop Owner hands her two scoops of mint chocolate chip on a cone. The girl smiles and shakes her head, grinning.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL
You remembered!

Shop Owner shrugs and motions it's no big deal.

SHOP OWNER
(To Date, blandly) And you?

DATE
Nah, no thanks.

Shop Owner purses his lips, then moves to the register. The Date is prompted by the Girl to pay.

The couple sits in the corner, the Girl forcing conversation.

Shop Owner continues scooping, always watching the Girl.

As the Date continues to be rude, the Shop Owner gets angrier.

He accidentally crushes a LITTLE BOY's ice cream cone, then overly apologizes as he starts to cry, quickly tries to replace it.

He scoops the wrong flavor because he is paying more attention to the Girl than the customers.

He watches them with arms crossed, a line of customers waiting impatiently.

The Date gets up abruptly, SQUEAKING the chair, leaving the Girl, letting the door SLAM behind him.

Girl hangs her head into her hands, then pulls out her journal and sadly finishes the last of her ice cream alone.

Shop Owner ponders what to do, searching for a way to comfort her.

As she finishes, she sighs, a tear rolls down her face but quickly wipes it away.

Shop Owner grabs a tub of mint chocolate chip, two spoons, and walks over to her table.

As he sits down, she jerks up, unaware he was coming, and weakly smiles.

He smiles back and offers her the new spoon.

SHOP OWNER
Want to talk about it?

She looks up, surprised, takes the spoon and begins talking.

MONTAGE

Girl talking animatedly, going from sad to confused to excited to embarrassed. Shop Owner listens patiently, intently. They laugh, and they eat ice cream until the shop empty outs.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - EVENING

GIRL
Wow, I didn't realize it was so late. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to take so much of your time.

(gets up to leave)

Thank you for this, though.

She smiles as she leaves the shop, and he waves goodbye too big. She GIGGLES as she finally exits. Shop Owner lovingly watches her leave.

When he looks back at the table, he sees her journal laying on the table.

He grabs it and bolts outside after her.

EXT. SIDEWALK - EVENING

He runs to the RIGHT, following her, but realizes she is already gone. He places his hands on top of his head, BREATHING HARD.

He turns back to the shop defeated.

EXT. STREET - ACROSS FROM ICE CREAM SHOP - EVENING

Shop Owner walks back inside shop. The ice cream shop is located beside a journal shop, where we see the Girl searching for her journal. The Shop Owner is unaware of her proximity.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - EVENING

The Shop Owner flips sign on door to closed, DROPS journal on the counter by the register.

He begins cleaning already clean counters, restocking waffle cones, refilling topping containers, waiting for her.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - NIGHT

He sits behind the counter on a stool, reading, eyeing the journal.

He shakes his head, knowing he should not open it.

He eyes it, looks away again, then finally concedes.

He picks up the journal, checks around to make sure no one sees even in his empty shop, and flips through the pages.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - JOURNAL - NIGHT

Inside are several drawings of his ice cream shop, some with him working, some of the customers, then towards the end a picture of just him, watching unknown someone lovingly from the counter.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - NIGHT

Shop Owner looks up stunned, amazed that she actually noticed him.

He flips to the next blank page, and begins drawing.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

Shop Owner asleep at counter, on top of closed journal.

A KNOCK on the door.

He awakens slowly, stretching and rubbing the sleep out of his eyes.

Girl waves at him as he looks up.

He grabs her journal and walks to the door to let her in.

SHOP OWNER
Is this what you're looking for?

He hands her the journal.

(CONTINUED)

GIRL

Yeah, thanks! I can't believe
you're still here.

SHOP OWNER

Well, I figured it was really
important.

GIRL

Thank you, so much. It means a lot.
I'll see you around!

He waves bye as she leaves, disappointed.

He begins setting up for the day, taking chairs off tables.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Girl notices a dog-eared page in her journal, pauses on sidewalk to look, confused.

A smile spreads across her face when she opens journal.

She turns around and runs back.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

The BELL DINGS, and the Girl runs to the boy, kisses him.

SHOP OWNER

I didn't think I was that good of
an artist...

Girl laughs, and reopens the journal.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - JOURNAL - DAY

A basic stick figure drawing of two people, one holding an ice cream cone, the other a journal, holding hands. They are dressed for a wedding.

INT. ICE CREAM SHOP - DAY

Still on picture, ZOOM OUT to show it is now framed and hanging in the ice cream shop.

The Girl and the Shop Owner are working together, happy and laughing.

She kisses his cheek.

The ice cream shop is buzzing.

FADE OUT.