



READER'S REPORT

Title:	Two of Hearts	Length:	126
Author:	Nancey Silvers	Genre:	Script
Submitted by:	Saban Entertainment	Location:	Santa Monica
		Production:	Present
Submitted to:	Shavick Entertainment	Category:	Romantic Comedy
Date Covered:	20 Jul 09	Script Eval:	Recommend
Analyst:	101Screenwriting.com	Writer Eval:	Recommend

LOGLINE

What happens when a divorced veterinarian falls in love with her ex-husband's new wife's ex-husband?

EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR POOR

Characterization	X			
Dialogue	X			
Story Line	X			
Setting/Production		X		
Structure		X		

BUDGET

Low	Medium	High
X		

RECOMMENDATION

	Pass	Consider	Recommend
Submission			X
Writer(s)			X

SYNOPSIS

MOLLY SAUNDERS' dog wakes her with his big, wet tongue. The day goes downhill from there. Her ex-husband is getting married. Embarrassed during the ceremony, and humiliated at the reception, she ducks into the piano bar. The PIANO PLAYER strikes up a conversation, and before she knows it, she's confessed her soul to him. She knocks over her wine glass. He leans toward her. She closes her eyes, leans toward him. He wipes up the spilled wine.

She's flustered. He tells her he would have kissed her eventually. She gets up to let him get back to work. He tells her he doesn't work there. But, she told him intimate things! The bride's bouquet bounces off the outstretched arms of all the single women -- and lands in Molly's hands. She turns, and the piano player is standing beside her. Molly takes her daughter SARA's hand. ~~It's~~ time to go. Molly's ex-husband ROBERT, and his new wife JOAN, and step-son SAM join them. Turns out the piano player is Sam's father, JAKE MICHAELS -- her new ... step-in-law? He didn't mention that, either! Molly runs into Jake again when she takes Sara to school. He warns her they should try to be friendly. They're bound to see each other at funerals and weddings. She promises "when she sees him over cake or an open grave, she'll smile."

At her veterinary hospital, MADELINE worries that Molly is going to become a "bitter old woman who dresses up her cats in matching sweaters and calls them her little friends." Suddenly the faucet breaks, and soaks them. Molly has had it with that landlord!

At the grocery store, Molly's friend LINDA insists that Molly attend her son's bar mitzvah. "A Viennese sweet table to die for." Joan and Robert will be there, so bring a date.

Jake gets a shot at an on-air audition to become a television sports reporter.

Molly takes Sara to stay with her father. Jake drops Sam off. He coaxes Molly into going for Chinese.

They share dinner, stories, and fortune cookies. When he drops her off, he steals a kiss and presses his fortune into her hand. He rushes off to DJ his sports call-in radio show. "You will have a passionate encounter with a beautiful woman."

Madeline agrees with Molly that finding the right person is like slipping into a warm bath. Jake's friend TONY helps him rehearse for his audition. He warns Jake that this woman is dangerous. She's practically family. He can't disappear when it goes sour.

Molly listens to Jake's show. Calls to invite him to the bar mitzvah. She doesn't realize she's on-air until the time delay hits. She hangs up, screams, then realizes she's still on-air. The bar mitzvah. Sam tells Sara to get lost when she blows his flirtation with an older girl. Her schoolgirl crush is crushed. Molly and Jake slow dance. Robert fumes. Sara demands they go home. Molly tells Jake it can't possibly work.

Rain falls in buckets on the floor of the animal hospital.

The school cake auction. Molly's lopsided creation doesn't draw many bids. Her ex-husband offers a few bucks. Suddenly, the doors burst open. "\$100." It's Jake. He tops his own bid with \$150. Robert shouts \$200 before Joan can slap her hand over his mouth. Jake bids \$300.

That night, the doorbell rings. It's Jake. He asks if she has a spare glass of milk...He licks icing from her cheek and tells her she tastes beautiful. Her perfect moment. They make love.

The landlord, MR. RIVIERA, inspects the damage at the pet hospital. His immigrant English makes no sense. "It's people like you who make America the beautiful, America the not so much," he says, and slams out the door. Jake laughs.

Molly helps him rehearse for his audition. He tells her how he used to read the sports page to his dad, and how much it meant to him. "Read it like you're reading it to your dad."

Molly gets floor seats to an NBA game. Jake shakes hands with SHAQ. Jake's perfect moment.

Jake and Molly attend GRANDMA SARA's funeral together. The PRIEST laments the passing, while family dynamics draw increasing attention -- until no one is listening to the priest anymore. Robert throws a punch at Jake. Jake knocks him out. Molly calls the whole thing off.

Each, alone, is miserable.

Jake's on-air audition. He freezes. Then he talks about how his dad loved the Dodgers. Everyone in the studio melts with the warmth of his delivery.

A news crew is at the pet hospital. The consumer reporter reports that Mr. Riviera has promised to make all the necessary repairs. Molly realizes Jake made this happen.

She can't stop thinking about him. She returns to the bar where they first met. She sits down to a glass of wine and hears

Jake singing. She joins him at the piano. They kiss. A second perfect moment. "That almost never happens."

ANALYSIS

Concept

The conflict inherent in the premise promises high comedy, complications, and surprise. The script delivers on all of them. Every permutation of the dilemma comes into play, and turns with humor.

Plot

Despite some structural problems, the plot is well-crafted and very funny. Subplots (eg., conflict between the step-children, the ex's jealousy) mirror or push the story. Setups are paid off unpredictably and with flair.

Characters

The lead and supporting characters are clearly drawn and motivated. They're attractively flawed, unpredictable, and interesting. Their dilemmas are real and compelling, and their believable reactions escalate the tension. Even the minor characters have unique touches that offer excellent cameo opportunities.

Dialog

The dialogue crackles with intelligence and laugh-out-loud humor.

Stakes

Their families won't let them be together -- but they can't be apart. Something's got to give.

Structure

Action rises naturally from character, with increasing tension. Structure could be improved by juggling some of the scenes and dumping others. The cake auction and their love scene are climactic, and would work better in the third act. The NBA game, featuring an expensive Shaq, is superfluous. The point, "his perfect moment," should be more intimate. The final football game, and ensuing injury, is anti-climactic, unnecessary, and irrational.

Pace

There are only two bumps in the ride. Both occur after page 100. First, the step-sibs injure themselves in a misguided and unsuccessful attempt to get Jake and Molly together. Their collaboration wasn't established, so it was confusing. It didn't work, and it bumped the pace down. Then, the consumer reporter shows up at the hospital, and Molly realizes Jake had a hand in it. No relationship between the reporter and Jake had been established, so how did she

Are you realizing it? Fortunately, the strong ending brings it right back up to a fulfilling conclusion.

Audience

No doubt, it's a chick flick. Perfect for the Family Channel or Lifetime. Women will be quoting lines and hoping to meet Jake.

Writing

This is a seasoned writer, with an ear for dialog, and a keen sense of humor. Even the action descriptions are funny.

Bottom Line

The story sparkles with wit, charm, and romance. Women will love it. I did. Definite date movie.

Produced