

REACHING THE MOMENT

Character: Pedro Gonzalez

Age: 26-32

Description: A hopeless romantic. Born and raised in Brooklyn. Works as a customer service rep for a bank. Awkward and shy, he tends to play it 'safe' in life. Until he meets Alicia, a 3rd grade teacher. Only thing is, she's aiming to move to California to take care of her ailing mother. She plans on staying in New York for 1 more month, just as the school year ends. This is the moment where Pedro decides to live in the 'now' and tell Alicia how he feels.

PEDRO

Look, I know you're not gonna be here for long and I-, I'm just someone who's recently popped into your life. But I really want to get to know you as much as possible. I'd love to make whatever days left we've got together count. I really want to...I dunno.

(beat)

...you know what happens when you go skydiving?

(off Alicia's stare)

I mean, I wouldn't know! I've only heard stories from my friends. They tell me that as soon as you're about to jump, the instructors say, "On 3. 1-", and then they jump! No warning, no second guessing. They just...jump. Because the moment the door opens and your legs dangle mid-air, you get scared. Which only makes the jump more dangerous if you freeze up.

(rubs his palms together)

It's human nature. To get scared at the very last second. Sensing how unrealistic it is, to be able to see the world from that high above. I've always been someone who's tried to plan out every step. So I'd be prepared for any obstacle. But I stop and-, and think and process for so long that I never end up doing shit!

(stares intently at her)

I don't wanna freeze up anymore. I just wanna jump and enjoy the fuckin' view as I'm falling. And I'll worry about the landing once it comes, but not before.

(MORE)

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PEDRO (CONT'D)

Not during. And-, and I know you're probably thinking - "I'm not looking for anything serious", "I don't wanna get attached". But I mean, we've made it this far. We passed the point of only talking about the weather, we stopped talking about our work lives the second day we met. Now we're talking to just...talk. It takes a lot of fuckin' work to reach that point with someone you've never met before. So I just wanna live it with you. I wanna keep the momentum going - even if I don't know where any of it's gonna lead to.

(beat)

'Cuz what's the point of reaching that moment if you're not gonna enjoy it?