



BECKY

Whoa whoa whoa whoa ---

CHRIS

She's really into it -- five days a week -- except right now she's on crutches, has some ligament damage ---

BECKY

So, how is she ---

CHRIS

--- so right now I'm running and she's driving her car alongside me. We have these really good talks.

BECKY

Let's back up: you're exercising and you're having really good talks with a girl. How long was I asleep?!

*JOE enters -- dressed for work.
Pencil behind his ear. Big mug of
coffee in his hand.*

JOE

Look at this: you all got up to see me off to work?

BECKY

Joe ---

JOE

That's so nice.

BECKY

--- Chris was telling me about a girl he's seeing.

JOE

I always liked Candace. What happened to her?

CHRIS

Oh, not again.

JOE

Even your Mom liked Candace.

BECKY

She was a nice girl.

CHRIS

Candace had no inner life! She was all lipstick and spandex and exclamation points!

JOE

(whoa)

Okay ---

CHRIS

I don't need that, Dad.

JOE

--- sorry I ever brought it ---

CHRIS

(overlapping)

--- I'm not looking for a *cosmetic* connection here -- I don't require a partner who provides mere auditory and visual stimuli ---

JOE

You have your I-phone for that.

CHRIS

Exactly! -- I am looking -- I would hazard to say that ALL OF US are looking to put *our fundamental nature forward*, in hopes of one day *tapping the well-spring of another human soul*.

JOE and BECKY just stare at him.

JOE

So you don't care what she looks like?

CHRIS

Look, Dad: obviously the process of finding your soul mate can be greatly accelerated if she also happens to be really hot.

JOE

Okay -- good to know.

JOE leaves, giving a smile to BECKY, just as ---

CAR HORN, OUTSIDE, is heard.

CHRIS

That's her. I gotta run.

BECKY

Where's this girl from?

CHRIS

I'll find out today. We're going on a huge run. Turns out we're both really interested in the "*Mere Exposure Effect*".

BECKY

The what?