

My Meeting with Bruce

**By
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Just another business meeting at the New York Hilton in 1985

I must say, I am very proud of this picture because I had the opportunity to meet Bruce just before he became very famous and a “wanted man.”

It was taken on May 8, 1985 at the New York Hilton Hotel in New York City. The ABC Television Network was throwing an all-star reception for the advertising community (which I am still a member) to celebrate the announcement of their 1985-86 primetime schedule. At that time, *Moonlighting* was a mid-season replacement that aired six episodes, which started in March, and the network added the show to its fall primetime line-up. *Moonlighting* was generating a lot of buzz and third-placed ABC was justifiably proud of it. I became a fan after I saw the pilot. I thought the show was sly, sexy and funny – just like Bruce. I had to meet him and if I did, I had to have a picture (or two) for posterity.

The party was crawling with celebrities – Raquel Welch, Robert Urich (R.I.P.), Lana Turner (!), Dom DeLuise(!?) – but my mission was to meet Bruce. My co-worker Ginny was keeping her eyes peeled, too. We were stationed by the escalator, so we

wouldn't miss him exit the party.

A couple of hours passed, then suddenly, I saw him coming toward me. He saw that I was walking toward him and sensed that I wanted to talk to him. As I was moving closer, someone intercepted and started a conversation with him. He then turned around and looked me in the eye had a little smirk on his face. I nodded my head signaling that I would wait for him to finish talking. Meanwhile, a woman, who stood nearby, saw our “exchange” and asked me “Are you with him?” I replied “I wish!” Now I was getting excited and nervous because I was about to meet Bruce Willis. (I was also very young – not the confident, worldly woman I am now – HA!)

Once he finished his little chit-chat, he turned his attention to me and walked over to me. The first thing I noticed was that he has eyes that are very light green. We shook hands and I told him that I think he is very talented and I enjoyed his performance on the show. I asked him if it was ok for my friend to take a picture of us. He said sure and we politely put our arms around each other's waist. After Ginny took the first

picture, I told her to take another one in case it didn't come out right. We both laughed and that is the picture you are seeing. I then nervously thanked him and he exited the hotel via the escalator.

Did I say I was nervous? The whole encounter took a few minutes, but it was a thrill for me then because I never met a celebrity that I had a crush on. Now I see them fairly regularly and I'm not nervous at all when I meet them. It's not a big deal anymore.

But wait – there's more. Feeling bold, I had the photos developed and I mailed a copy of this photo with a little note written behind it to Bruce, in care of Picturemaker Productions. At that point, he must have received tons of nude photos from fans; but a few months later, I received a sexy black and white headshot photograph where he wrote a funny “endearment” and signed it “Bruce.” I thought it was pretty classy and kind of him to do that for me and my friends are amazed when I show the picture to them.

Bruce, if you're reading this – I look better NOW than I did 17 years ago. Trust me.