

Alternative Ending for: *The Color of Maddie*

By Pam Hardin

Ever wonder what happened after the last scene of *The Color of Maddie*? Where they were playing pool? And most importantly, what happened afterwards? After all that flirting and innuendo, I have my own ideas as to where it went. So skip the bicycle chase – let's assume they caught the bad guy somehow – and slide in these scenes after the pool scene instead. Here is my version of how the episode should have gone.

Episode Directed by Artie Mandelberg

Scene opens on a close up of Agnes in her bed, lights on. She is holding the covers nearly up to her chin, so that we can only see the long sleeves of her pajamas. She is staring into space and looks troubled.

Bert rushes in and closes the door. He strips to his shorts and undershirt as he's talking.

Bert: I'm sorry, buttercup. I had to back up all the files on my hard drive on to disks. There's a new virus out there. I could just see my hard drive crashing. And I couldn't take a chance that I'd lose all that data. The hours logging all those cases... The clues... The evidence... Think of it. Ellery Queen, Sherlock Holmes... I'm sure I don't have to tell you the wealth of interviewing techniques to be gleaned from Columbo. All just for research purposes, you understand... But, I'm here now, and I'm off the clock.

He slides into bed beside her. Agnes hasn't moved, changed expression or even acknowledged that she heard him.

Bert: Agnes?

Agnes: Huh?

Bert (moving closer to her): Did you hear me? I'm here now.

Agnes: What?

Bert: Now we can keep each other company.

Agnes: Not tonight, Bert. I have something on my mind.

Bert (flirty): I bet I can get your mind on something else.

Her starts to nuzzle her neck.

Agnes (louder): I said "no," Bert.

Bert gives up, and lies back on the bed on his back, exacerbated.

Bert: What's wrong, Agnes?

Agnes: I'm worried about Ms. Hayes and Mr. Addison.

Bert: Oh, Agnes. Not again. You've got to stop taking your job home with you.

Agnes: This has nothing to do with my job, Bert. This is about them.

Bert: Them? That's even worse. Agnes, are we always going to live our lives on that roller coaster they're on. Come on... Can't we just let them worry about their own relationship for once, and we can focus on ours?

Agnes: Bert, tonight was important. Very important. Probably the most important night they've had in a long time. This could make or break it. Don't you get it?

Bert: What are you talking about?

Agnes: Ms. Hayes and Mr. Addison. They went out tonight. At least, I hope. They were supposed to go out. Like a real date. And, well, depending on how things go...

Bert: A real date?

Agnes: Well, kind of. As close to a real date as they ever have. They were going to the Annual Investigators Ball. You know, the one Mr. Addison always hates to go to.

Bert (sits up straight): You mean, the one they've been letting us go to every year? They went this year? We didn't go this year?

Agnes: Calm down, Bert. This is more important than us.

Bert: But that's the biggest event of the year for investigators. Our one big chance of the year to get out there. Network. Hobknob. Schmooze. And we missed it?

Agnes: They needed to go this year. You know the only time they ever "date" is when they can claim it's not a date, like when it's for work. And right now, they need to go on a date.

Bert: They do?

Agnes: They do. And that's why I'm worried about them. Remember the last time they tried to go on a real date? We didn't see Ms. Hayes for months, and Mr. Addison was a wreck.

Bert: Yeah. I wonder what really happened that night before she left? Didn't you say that Mr. Addison told you all they did was dance in a Laundromat?

Agnes: Uh-huh.

Bert: But then Ms. Hayes disappeared and came back pregnant. I'm sorry, but you don't get pregnant from dancing.

Agnes: I don't think it happened that night, Bert.

Bert: How do you know?

Agnes: Clues, Bert. Ms. Hayes came back talking about the baby being Sam's. I think things had been... happening between them for awhile before she left. But, anyway, that was the past. The other day, I was in Ms. Hayes' office, and she was talking about being "pals" with someone after you've stopped being intimate. And you know who she meant...

Bert: Pals? Yuck.

Agnes: That's what I said. So that's why they need to go on a date. A good date. Because if it isn't a good date... Well, I just

don't know what's going to happen to them. To us...

Bert: To us? What's that got to with us?

Agnes: Bert, those two can never be pals. You know it as well as I do, even if they don't know it. And if they can't figure out how to... relate to each other, then how are they going to keep working together? See what I mean? I mean, as long as I've known them, there's always been this other thing going on... even when it was just bubbling under the surface, it was always there. If it was ever not there... well, I just don't know if either one of them would know how to act with the other. Then where would they be? And where would we be? And that's why I'm worried.

Bert: Agnes, if they haven't been... in awhile, you can't expect them to start things up again with just one date. Just don't get your hopes up, okay? I mean, they're probably not going to get too...

Agnes: Intimate?

Bert: ...on one date, are they?

Agnes: I guess not.

Bert (pulling the covers up to his chin): Wow. Now, I'm worried.

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Scene switches to the entry way inside Maddie's front door. Maddie comes in the door first with David behind her. He stops in the doorway. Maddie turns back to him. He looks casual, having left his jacket in the car, tuxedo tie hanging loose around his neck and shirt collar unbuttoned. Maddie looks more formal in her evening gown, but has taken off the gloves that she had on earlier. She puts her keys in her handbag.

**Maddie** (smiling): I had a good time.

**David:** Me, too.

**Maddie:** Even though I beat you at pool?

**David:** Even though I let you beat me at pool...

They both laugh, then linger a minute in silence.

**Maddie:** You can go ahead and take the car.

**David:** Okay. Thanks.

She continues to look at him.

**Maddie:** So... I guess this is good night.

**David:** Right. Good night.

He hesitates, but then leans in and kisses her lightly. They hold eye contact for a long second.

**Maddie** (looking back into the house as she speaks): Unless you'd like to come in for coffee...or a drink... or something.

**David:** Well... Yeah. I guess I could come in for a minute.

**Maddie** (smiles): Good.

He steps in and Maddie closes the door behind him. She turns back towards him, nearly causing them to collide. Both startled and slightly embarrassed, they look into each other's eyes for another long second, as Moonlighting Theme plays quietly.

**Maddie** (trying to ease the tension): Did you want coffee or a drink or...

**David:** Something?

**Maddie:** Yeah.

**David** (smiles): Yeah.

David moves closer to her, putting his arms around her. They begin to kiss. Then they look into each other's eyes.

**David:** So...

**Maddie:** So...

David doesn't respond, waiting to see if Maddie will make a move towards him. She looks into his eyes and then begins kissing him again, letting her handbag fall

to the floor. She rubs her hands across his chest, reaching under his shirt. He wraps his arms back around her as they kiss. They both begin to breathe more heavily.

**Maddie** (gesturing towards the stairs): Come on...

**David:** Are you sure?

Maddie just nods as she pulls his shirt out of his pants and runs her hands over his body. As they kiss, David reaches around her to unzip her evening gown and caress her bare back. Without saying a word, they start to make their way upstairs.

The camera cuts to inside Maddie's bedroom. As they fall on the bed together, David rips the covers down as they are kissing. Maddie hesitates for a moment.

**Maddie:** Should we really do this?

**David:** I want to make love with you, Maddie.

**Maddie:** I love you, David.

**David:** I love you, too.

They begin kissing again until gradually we fade out.

Then the scene switches to "afterwards," as the two of them lie together in bed, both looking a little stunned about what has just happened. David finally speaks up.

**David:** I gotta tell you, I didn't expect this tonight.

**Maddie:** That makes two of us. It just sort of happened.

**David:** Are you sorry?

**Maddie** (looks at him): No. Are you?

**David** (smiling back at her): Maddie, I love you.

**Maddie:** I love you.

David kisses her lightly as they lie on their

sides facing each other.

**Maddie:** So, what does this mean?

**David:** Well, I don't know but I'm pretty sure it means we're not pals anymore. What do you mean, what does this mean?

**Maddie:** Well, I mean, this kind of changes things between us again, doesn't it? We haven't really done this in awhile. It must mean something.

**David:** I didn't mean that. I mean... It means a lot.

**Maddie:** You know, this is the first time since the baby.

**David** (gently): Yeah, I know.

**Maddie:** I just don't know what this means.

**David:** Maddie, can't we just take it slow and not try to figure out what this means tonight?

Maddie looks down sadly.

**David** (gently moving her chin up towards him with his finger): I just mean that it might take us some time to figure out what it means. We love each other. Maybe we should just take it from there, okay?

**Maddie** (nodding): Okay.

**David:** Okay.

They kiss good night and then settle in together. David stays on his back, falling asleep with a content expression on his face. The camera closes in on Maddie whose expression can only be described as blank. But as she turns onto her side and looks over at David, we see her expression change to a faint smile as she, too, nods off.

Maddie's bedroom is dark as the camera moves to the French doors. The sun slowly starts to peek through as we pan back in to the bedroom again. In the morning light, we see clothes from the night before, scat-

tered around the bed. The camera pans to the bed, where David lies on his side with his arm across Maddie's waist as they kiss. The radio alarm comes on as Maddie and David look at each other and smile.

**Maddie** (reaching up to shut the alarm off): Time's up. Another successful boink-ing...

**David:** How many's that make since last night? A hell of a workout. Hell of a night!

**Maddie:** I wasn't keeping count. If you wanted to work out, we could go to a gym.

**David:** This was a lot more fun.

David scoops her up as they begin to kiss again.

**Maddie:** David, we better get ready to go to work.

**David:** If either us can still walk. Hey, I don't mean to open an old can of worms, but could I get you to swing by my place on the way in? Or should I just show up for work wearing a tuxedo?

**Maddie** (hesitates): Sure, I'll drop you off. Just take your time getting to the office. No rush.

She grabs her robe as she gets out of bed.

**David:** Do you think I can get you to hang around a few minutes so we could ride in together?

**Maddie:** Together?

**David:** Yeah. Together. As in, in the same car. At the same time. Is that a problem?

**Maddie:** Well, no, it's just that...

The camera shows David from the waist up as he gets out of bed and walks towards her.

**David:** Maddie, what are you worried about? That we'll show up for work together, and everybody will guess that we've been doing exactly what we've been

doing? I think that cat's been out of the bag for awhile now. The baby shower might have given them a clue.

As soon as he says the words, David regrets bringing back the painful memories of losing the baby again. Maddie expression changes but she doesn't respond.

**David:** I'm sorry. I just don't want to start sneaking around again, okay?

**Maddie:** You're right. I'm being silly. They probably know more than I think anyway. I don't even want to know how much they know.

**David** (teasing): You're right, you don't.

**Maddie:** Okay. I give up. Let them think what they want.

**David** (smiles): Thanks, pal.

**Maddie** (smiles back, shaking her head): Yeah, right. Pal...

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Maddie walks into the Blue Moon office with David just a few steps behind her.

Agnes: Good Morning, Ms. Hayes. Good, Morning, Mr. Addison. You're both here. Together. At the same time.

All heads in the office look up at them, obviously curious. Maddie glances behind her at David.

Maddie (suddenly very uncomfortable): Coincidence. (And then) Good Morning, David. Everyone.

Maddie goes into her office and closes the door behind her.

David (shakes his head, chuckling to himself and then leans into Agnes): Yeah, it's a coincidence when two sides of the same car get where they're going at the same time.

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