

LIGHTS UP: SAN DIEGO WATERFRONT - DAY

CARA, mid-20s, older sister. TREVOR, early 20s, young brother. They stand gazing up at the 25-Foot UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER STATUE in San Diego Bay, a massive replica of the famous photo of the WWII sailor kissing a nurse in Times Square.

TREVOR

Wow. The Kissing Statue. They say it's made of bronze and towers over 25 feet. Amazing, huh.

CARA

A souvenir on steroids.

TREVOR

Take a picture. My phone's dyin'.

CARA

You couldn't pay me.

TREVOR

What?

CARA

I'm not taking a picture of that monstrosity.

TREVOR

Why not?

CARA

Dude. No way. I don't want that in my photo library.

TREVOR

We can't leave San Diego without takin' a picture of the famous Kissing Statue. Just take it so we can go grab lunch. I'm starvin'.

(reads pamphlet)

Oh wait, it says here that the statue is actually called Unconditional Surrender.

CARA

Yeah. No shit.

TREVOR

What's that mean?

CARA

Unconditional Surrender. It's the perfect title for it.

TREVOR

What am I missing?

CARA

I'll wait for you to catch up. I'm used to it. Been doing it since we were kids.

TREVOR

Let's go get food. You're gettin' cranky.

CARA

This statue you're so fond of, little brother, is misogynistic if you ask me.

TREVOR

I didn't ask you.

CARA

I have a right to express my opinion. It's still a free country... barely.

TREVOR

Express your opinion freely but it's wrong.

CARA

Oh really.

TREVOR

You can't just slam somethin' like this. Labeling it misogynistic. It's a replica of an American iconic image.

CARA

Yes. An American iconic image of misogyny and male privilege.

TREVOR

Are you serious?

CARA

What do you think?

TREVOR

Mom and Dad are waitin' back at the car. Just take the stupid photo. I wanna chow down on fish tacos.

CARA

I don't eat seafood.

TREVOR

Here we go with her never-ending list of food restrictions.

CARA

That statue glorifies male dominance. I refuse to take a photo just so you can blast it out to your Insta buds.

TREVOR

What's your problem?

CARA

Right this minute?

TREVOR

Yes.

CARA

That ugly-ass statue.

TREVOR

It's's a... a piece of... a piece of...

CARA

It's a piece of something all right.

TREVOR

It's a work of art.

CARA

That's not exactly what I had in mind, but o-kay.

TREVOR

Maybe it's not art to you -- but art, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder.

CARA

Wow, bro, did you just make that shit up? Like, right here on the spot?

TREVOR

Take the picture, Cara. I mean it.
My stomach is growlin'.

CARA

"Art, like beauty, is in the eye of
the beholder." Wanna know what
this beholder sees?

TREVOR

Not really.

CARA

When I look up at that kissing
statue all I see is the surrender
of a woman against her will.

TREVOR

Here we go. Rant warning.

CARA

What do you see, frat boy?

TREVOR

Not what you see.

CARA

Of course not. You're male. Look
closer at it. It's forced intimacy.
A man's pleasure overpowering a
woman's consent.

TREVOR

Are we lookin' at the same statue?
Because, seriously, all I see is a
sailor making out with a chick in
Times Square.

CARA

Look closer at their body language.

TREVOR

I'd prefer to look at a fish taco.

CARA

Don't change the subject, Trevor.

TREVOR

I see a sailor kissin' a woman. A
tender, patriotic moment. Now
captured in 25 foot tacky bronze.

CARA

Dude, you'll embrace anything if it comes wrapped in red, white and blue.

TREVOR

Don't "wow" me. Okay? Gimme your iPhone. I'll take the picture.

CARA

Nope.

TREVOR

Cara.

CARA

Trevor.

TREVOR

Phone please.

CARA

That statue is a perfect example of rape culture.

TREVOR

Rape culture?! You did not just use the R word? That's harsh.

CARA

Look at the woman. She's powerless. Look at how he's gripping her waist. Look at her hands. Her fist is totally clenched.

TREVOR

It was a celebratory moment. Japan just surrendered and World War II was coming to an end.

CARA

Yes, thank you, History Channel, I know the backstory of the kiss. I'm not talking about the war. Look at the statue, look at the *couple*, look at that *kiss*.

TREVOR

I am. What offends you?!

CARA

What offends me? He practically has her in a headlock.