

# ONE GOOD EGG

By  
Annie Evans

Annie Evans  
(203) 770-4346  
[Anniegwenevans@gmail.com](mailto:Anniegwenevans@gmail.com)  
[www.Annieevans.com](http://www.Annieevans.com)

Lisa Marber  
Atlas Talent: 212-730-4500

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CAST:The couples:

Nikki Bookbinder– Female, 43 – White

James Bookbinder – Male, 43 – White

Myra Williams – Female, mid/late-thirties – Black

Chris Williams – Male, mid/late-thirties – Black

Syd Bernstein – Female, mid-thirties – Asian

Adam Bernstein – Male, mid-thirties – Jewish

Other characters:

Dr. Ashok – Male, middle-aged - Indian

Nurse, Therapist, Masseuse, Mother – Woman, White or Latino/any age

SETTING:

Very open set with lights and a few set pieces delineating the many locations.

TIME:

2012

(LIGHTS RISE ON NIKKI PACING IN SKIMPY PJS IN FRONT OF A CLOSED, UPSTAGE BATHROOM DOOR. A COAT IS DRAPED ON A HOTEL-STYLE CHAIR PLACED NEXT TO THE CLOSED DOOR.)

NIKKI

Do you want a magazine?

(JAMES SPEAKS FROM BEHIND THE DOOR.)

JAMES (O.S.)

...no

NIKKI

How about I pull in the flat screen? The hotel channel must have loads of porn. (NO RESPONSE) I can come in, do the dance no touch.

JAMES (O.S.)

This is hard enough, Nikki.

NIKKI

You think I can't. I can dance dirty, or talk dirty, without laughing.

JAMES (O.S.)

You can't.

NIKKI

Ooo, look at that massive, erect, organ. I wish you could stick your throbbing...manhood...into my wet...but that's not sterile, so into cuppie...that hot (STARTS LOSING IT) plastic, specimen cup.

JAMES (O.S.)

Step away from the door!

NIKKI

Think of that nun poster with the garter under her habit.

JAMES (O.S.)

This is serious, I have to be there by 7!

NIKKI

And don't touch the head of your penis or you'll need the Dial soap again.

JAMES (O.S.)

Go away and leave me alone!

(NIKKI STEPS AWAY)

NIKKI

And that, my sweet child, is what your father said to me on the day you were conceived...I hope.

(NIKKI ABSENTMINDELY MASSAGES THE AREA AROUND HER OVARIES AS JAMES BURSTS OUT OF THE DOOR. HE IS WEARING SWEATS AND HOLDING A SPECIMEN CUP FULL OF SEMEN.)

JAMES

Cuppie came through.

(NIKKI RUSHES UP AND LOOKS AT THE SAMPLE AS JAMES TIGHTENS THE LID.)

NIKKI

Maybe next time we should draw on a negligee.

JAMES

We can't afford a next time.

NIKKI

Circumstances change.

JAMES

Let's not talk about a next time when we're trying not to have a next time.

NIKKI

Right. BFP.

JAMES

BFP.

NIKKI

(STARING CLOSE AT THE SPECIMEN) Looks like semen.

JAMES

Hopefully only half are idiot shrimp heads.

NIKKI

It only takes one. Wrap them up. Remember, they have to stay warm.

(SHE HELPS HIM INTO HIS COAT AND HE BUTTONS UP THE CUP INSIDE.)

NIKKI

There you go little darlings. (LOOKS AT PHONE) 6:40AM.

JAMES

When's the extraction?

NIKKI

Hour and a half. (GLANCES AT PHONE) 45 degrees outside. Keep them close to your heart.

(THEY EXCHANGE A LIGHT, AFFECTIONATE KISS AND JAMES DASHES OFF.)

(LIGHTS DOWN. LIGHTS UP ON THE SAME DOOR. CHRIS IS SITTING IN THE CHAIR WITH HIS BACK TO THE AUDIENCE. HE'S WEARING A MUSCLE SHIRT. HIS BOXERS ARE AROUND HIS ANKLES AS HE "MASTURBATES." MYRA IS DANCING EROTICALLY IN A NEGLIGEE BETWEEN HIM AND THE DOOR.)

MYRA

No touchie touchie, but you can lusty lusty.

CHRIS

Oh, I want to touchie.

MYRA

No touchie. These tits are all yours.

CHRIS

Mine, mine. I want to cum all over them.

MYRA

Cum in the cup. (TURNS AND WIGGLES HER REAR AT HIM) This tushie is all yours.

CHRIS

My personal tush. I want to stick my dick in that tush.

MYRA

In the cup.

CHRIS

(STOPS) God honey, did you see that bruise above your left cheek? It must kill.

MYRA

Progesterone shot! FOCUS! My tits. (SPINS AROUND MASSAGES HER BREASTS) I want to nurse you and our baby with these goddess givers of the milk and honey of life. They'll just get bigger and bigger every month, bursting and leaking my body's love for you, our children...

CHRIS

---uhhhhhhhhhh.

(AS HE RELEASES, MYRA WHIPS A KLEENEX FROM UNDER HER NEGLIGEE. CHRIS "CLEANS" HIMSELF UP, PULLS UP HIS BOXERS THEN TURNS, REVEALING A SPECIMEN CUP IN HIS HAND.)

CHRIS

That image gets me every time.

(THEY EXAMINE THE CUP.)

MYRA

Hello boys.

CHRIS

That was great.

MYRA

Aw come on.

CHRIS

Really. The best, if I can't be inside.

MYRA

(LOOKS UP) Hear that little souls? There's a great opportunity about to harmonically converge down here in a Petrie dish. Come, join the family.

(THEY SQUEEZE IN CLOSER AROUND THE CUP.)

CHRIS

Mommy and Daddy love each other very much.

MYRA

And we'll love you.

(THEY KISS AND STROKE EACH OTHER.)

THE SPECIMEN CUP DROPS WITH A CRASH TO THE FLOOR. IT IS CLEARLY CONTAMINATED. THEY BOTH LOOK AT IT IN SHOCK.)

FUCK ME!

MYRA

What time is it?

CHRIS

(MYRA THROWS OPEN THE BATHROOM DOOR AND DASHES INSIDE.)

6:45.

MYRA (O.S.)

I can do it, I can sprint.

CHRIS

(SHE RETURNS AND SHOVES ANOTHER SPECIMEN CUP AT HIM. HE SITS BACK DOWN, HIS BACK TO AUDIENCE AND BEGINS PULLING DOWN HIS BOXERS. SHE STARTS TO DANCE AS SHE WIPES UP THE MESS.)

MYRA  
My big boy, he's got another shot in him, oh yeah, oh please sweet lord.

(LIGHTS DOWN. LIGHTS UP. SAME DOOR. SYD IS IN THE CHAIR TYPING ON HER LAPTOP. ADAM IS BEHIND THE DOOR.)

ADAM (O.S.)  
This is impossible without KY.

SYD  
Use those sterile little ketchupie thingies? Ooo, how about this one – girl on girl – you like that, ah, nope, here comes a guy. Is he going to -- ? (HER FACE CHANGES TO HORROR) Uck, that's disgusting.

ADAM (O.S.)  
What?

SYD  
He's peeing on them. This is horrible. People find this sexy? I'm going to puke.

(ADAM PEEKS AROUND THE DOOR AND WATCHES WITH HER.)

ADAM

Golden showers.

SYD

The guy must not have peed for a week.

ADAM

Footage isn't half bad. (TO SYD) Can you help me? Please? Just hold my balls, anything. I'm begging.

(SYD HOPS UP AND THEY DISAPPEAR BEHIND THE DOOR.)

ADAM (O.S.)

Better, better, I'm feeling some life --

SYD (O.S.)

Where's the cup?

ADAM (O.S.)

The sink. NO don't stop -- Ouch!

SYDS (O.S.)

Sorry, where's the sterile stuff --

ADAM (O.S.)

-- I said don't stop --

SYD (O.S.)

-- I can open it with my teeth --

ADAM (O.S.)

...Oh hallelujah, so much better...heaven...what's --?

SYD (O.S.)

Fingers.

ADAM (O.S.)

OH!!! OOOHHH!

(SYD REENTERS SCREWING THE TOP ON THE SPECIMEN CUP AND TALKING TO IT.)



SYD

Now listen up. You've got a job to do. I expect nothing less than 100 percent fertilization. It's time for procreation not recreation.

(ADAM ENTERS DRESSED. HE HOLDS OUT A SMALL CAMERA CASE. SHE CAREFULLY PLACES IN THE CUP.)

ADAM

Here we go, again.

SYD

Thank you.

ADAM

For what, successfully jerking off?

SYD

No, you know, all of it.

(SILENT BEAT)

SYD

Three's a charm, right?

ADAM

I better go, they frown if you're late.

SYD

I'll take a shower and meet you.

ADAM

Just not golden.

SYD

Ick, don't remind me!

(ADAM HEADS DOWNSTAGE WHERE JAMES IS NOW STANDING, HAND PLACED GENTLY ON HIS JACKET HOLDING HIS SPECIMEN. ADAM STEPS IN AS IF ENTERING AN ELEVATOR. HE SUDDENLY HOLDS THE "DOOR" AS CHRIS SPRINTS IN, ONE HAND IN HIS POCKET, BREATHING HEAVILY. HE LOOKS AT THE "ELEVATOR PANEL" NOTING HIS FLOOR IS

ALREADY PUSHED. THEY RIDE SILENTLY A FEW BEATS.)

JAMES

...I'm guessing there's 300 million sperm traveling with us this morning?

(THE TWO OTHERS LOOK AT JAMES SURPRISED AND SLIGHTLY PUT OFF, THEN THEY RELAX.)

CHRIS

Try 500. I average 250 mil a shot.

ADAM

That many, you think we'd all have better odds.

(THE "ELEVATOR DOOR" OPENS.)

JAMES

Our destiny awaits, gentlemen.

(THE THREE FILE OUT AND OFF STAGE.

NIKKI, MYRA AND SYD ENTER. THEY SIT ON TWO BENCHES FACING EACH OTHER, DRESSED IN BLUE CLOTH HOSPITAL GOWNS, BLUE HAIR

CAPS AND BLUE NON-SKID HOSPITAL SOCKS. THEY SIT IN THEIR OWN THOUGHTS.

MYRA HOLDS UP HER HANDS AS IF PLEADING TO GOD AND MOUTHING WORDS. SYD AND NIKKI BEGIN TO WATCH FOR A FEW BEATS.)

MYRA

...If you're wondering what I'm doing -

NIKKI

No no, not at all.

SYD

(WHISPERS) Sorry to disturb.

MYRA

-- I'm talking to my spirit children. Telling them to come on down. There's 8 fertilized vessels waiting for them.

(SYD AND NIKKY EXCHANGE LOOKS AGAIN.)

SYD

...Eight. Congratulations.

MYRA

Congratulate me when it's BFP.

SYD

I've got four, two with more than eight cells.

NIKKI

It only takes one.

SYD/MYRA

Right.

(ALL THREE REST IN THEIR THOUGHTS AGAIN)

NIKKI

If your spirit kids see my spirit kids up there – tell them I've only two fertilized vessels worth the effort and we're running out of money.

MYRA

...no shit.

SYD

How many have you done? This is three for us.

NIKKI

Let's see. We started with Clomid for a few months, then we did two ICSIs. This is IVF number 4.

MYRA

We went straight to IVF – our second try.

NIKKI

Hope none of you are afraid of needles.

(THEY ALL LAUGH AND RELAX A LITTLE)

NIKKI

James shot me up in a movie theatre once.

MYRA

Try a train. Ducking behind the seat, tap tap taping the needle, they'd think we were doing heroin or something. "No officer, it's just Lupron."

NIKKI

Must stay on schedule.

SYD

We stayed in the hotel three nights ago, my husband hates to, you know, in those bland rooms with the used magazines.

NIKKI

My husband can't either. We always stay at the hotel the night before.

MYRA

Makes it a special occasion. It is. We're creating a child. We actually, oh, never mind.

SYD

What?

MYRA

We dropped the cup.

NIKKI

Oh god, that'd be the end of us.

SYD

Your husband obviously had a second wind, you've got 8 eggs.

NIKKI

Lucky you.

(MYRA HOLDS UP HER HANDS AGAIN.)

MYRA

All of you children waiting on the other side of the veil, you're wanted, you'll be loved.

(THE CONVERSATION STALLS FOR A BEAT)

NIKKI

Do any of you have children already?

MYRA

Not yet.

SYD

Me neither. Do you avoid kid parks?

NIKKI

Drive blocks out of my way. And seeing a pregnant woman --

SYD

-- hurts like hell.

MYRA

We might have miscarried once. I felt a presence, but then I got my period.

NIKKI

They say if they're not cooking right, your body is meant to let them go, so I've heard. I've never miscarried.

SYD

...I've had seven.

(EVERYONE IS SILENT A BEAT.)

NIKKI

So sorry.

SYD

I'm Syd, by the way.

(THE LADIES SHAKE HANDS)

NIKKI

Nikki.

MYRA

Myra.

(SILENT BEAT)

NIKKI

Seems to be taking longer to start.

SYD

Doctor's probably late. I heard his mother's ill.

NIKKI

Have you always used this clinic?

MYRA

I like this doctor. He doesn't bullshit you.

SYD

I had a horrible doctor at a hospital, told me to give up, my uterus is obviously hostile.

MYRA

You're kidding me.

SYD

Not those exact words, my PH balance...blah blah...

MYRA

I'd get hostile on him if he said that to me. I get pissy when I'm "told it's just bad luck" or "I work too much."

NIKKI

Or "don't wait too long to try again," like it's their money paying for this.

SYD

Have any of you tried alternative therapies? I've been doing Mayan fertility massage.

NIKKI

Aren't you worried massage will, you know. Dislodge --

SYD

Not at all, they massage the uterus so that it's in the right place for implantation.

(A NURSE WALKS IN.)

NURSE

Nikki Bookbinder?

(NIKKI CATCHES EYES WITH MYRA AND SYD)

SYD

I'll leave my card at the front desk if either of you are interested. Good luck.

MYRA

BFP.

NIKKI

BFP.

Excuse me? NURSE

Don't go on infertility sites? NIKKI  
*(to nurse)*

Big fucking positive. MYRA

(LIGHTS SHIFT. NIKKI GETS ON AN OB/GYN EXAM TABLE. THERE IS A LARGE MONITOR VISIBLE TO THE AUDIENCE.)

DOCTOR ASHOK ENTERS.)

So, Nikki, we have two viable candidates. ASHOK

(A PICTURE OF FOUR FERTILIZED EGGS APPEAR ON THE BIG SCREEN.)

These two have eight cells, but some are a little misshapen as you can see. ASHOK

Yes, parallelogram bad. NIKKI

We want nice, solid circles. I give them about a B-. These other two, just didn't really get going. ASHOK

So like - D-? NIKKI

(ASHOK SHRUGS EMPATHETICALLY)

I get it. So long as you don't call my uterus hostile. NIKKI

How's that? ASHOK

Never mind, I appreciate your honesty, Dr. Ashok. NIKKI

ASHOK

Still, we never know, had a C- take last week, I was as surprised as anyone, told her she had a 5% chance, but she was determined.

NIKKI

What's the percentage with two B-s? 20%?

ASHOK

Still only around 10% at best.

NIKKI

But four's a charm, right?

ASHOK

We'll do our best.

(HE SITS ON HIS STOOL BEHIND NIKKI AND STARTS PUTTING ON GLOVES AS NIKKI STARES UP AT THE MONITOR.)

NIKKI

So, if those two are D-, and if you believe life begins at conception – God got a D- on those two?

ASHOK

(LAUGHS UNCOMFORTABLY) You know I don't talk about belief systems in the OR.

NIKKI

The lady in the waiting room talking to her spiritual children might bring some in.

ASHOK

I didn't say not to pray, just don't ask my opinion.

NIKKI

But there is something spiritual in all this, mysterious, miraculous, if a C- can take despite your doubts. Grow into an A+ fully-formed baby. And you never know if an egg fertilized the natural way was a C- and took, or even a D-. God moves in mysterious ways.

ASHOK

You're making me uncomfortable, Nikki.

NIKKI

As I sit here with my legs spread. You just can't help thinking about all this, after four rounds of looking at your potential children. All of whom so far have – nature has rejected?



ASHOK

What do you say we try and help nature along with these two cells. (LOOKS OUT AT NON-PRESENT PEOPLE IN THE OR) Let's get started.

(LIGHTS SHIFT.

EACH COUPLE ENTERS, GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY BUSINESS. MYRA IS WEARING HEADPHONES AND DOING A CANDLESTICK. CHRIS IS DRIVING AND TALKING INTO HIS EARPIECE. SYD AND ADAM ARE LOOKING AT FOOTAGE ON A LAPTOP. NIKKI IS CUTTING UP VEGGIES WHILE JAMES READS ON A PAD.)

MYRA

You don't get paid if you don't get their kids' scores up? Screw them.

CHRIS

They'll come back. And his best friend's Mom just called. Pre-SATS have landed. I'll do them back to back after coaching on Fridays.

MYRA

You're going to be wiped.

CHRIS

We need the dough. What are you doing?

MYRA

Inverting.

CHRIS

Your head is going to explode.

MYRA

It's good for all my organs, including my womb. What if all three take, can we handle triplets?

CHRIS

Can I just watch the game when I get home? No egg discussions?

(SYD POINTS TO THE SCREEN)

SYD

Did you see that?

MYRA  
Yes, Christopher.

ADAM  
The clownfish bit the moray.

CHRIS  
I just need a little break.

MYRA  
I'm hanging up now.

CHRIS  
Maybe you should, too. Just don't think about it for awhile?

NIKKI  
James. I've been thinking.

JAMES  
Is that wise?

CHRIS  
Can we have sex tonight?

MYRA  
Too superstitious.

NIKKI  
I might call this woman I met. She was talking about some kind of uterus massage.

CHRIS  
Good thing it's playoffs. Love you. (HANGS UP)

SYD  
Do they have a budget to buy some NatGeo footage?

ADAM  
No.

SYD  
This part's good, shows the snorkler's POV.

NIKKI  
It's kind of woo-woo, an ancient Mayan technique. But I liked this woman at the clinic. She's had 7 miscarriages, poor thing. But still trying. (PICKS UP A CARD)  
Syd. Looks like she and her husband work in video.

ADAM

Feeding the rays at the beach is okay, too.

SYD

A little dark.

ADAM

It'd been nice if I'd just gone there, rather than futzing with someone else's footage. I could have used the good underwater camera.

SYD

What can I say. The clinic sets the schedule --

ADAM

Don't say anything, just for once I'd love to do a project I felt really proud of.

JAMES

Wouldn't you be afraid uterus massage would dislodge the fetus?

NIKKI

Not according to her. And our problem isn't really my uterus. It's my (FUNNY VOICE) very old, geriatric, eggs who just can't seem to make cells replicate in lovely, little circles.

JAMES

You forget my shrimp heads.

NIKKI

Don't try and take the blame. One hearty sperm got into each egg. The cells just don't know how to split into the right shape, they're geometrically challenged.

JAMES

You're talking about our potential children. They could grow up to be spatially inclined, architects, mathematicians.

NIKKI

I'm not feeling anything, by the way.

JAMES

There's still another week.

NIKKI

I get so hyper-vigilant. Every twinge. I wonder if those other ladies are like that.

JAMES

Dr. Ashok said anything you feel now is probably gas.

NIKKI

A constant.

JAMES

You forget to rinse the beans from the can.

NIKKI

I don't always. My breasts are feeling full. But that's also a sign of getting your period.

ADAM

So, I've been meaning --

SYD

All good, no discharge, nothing. Going to the masseuse tomorrow.

ADAM

Good. Good. Want me to rub your feet?

SYD

Reflexology didn't work.

ADAM

Not for the baby, for you. I want to take care of you.

SYD

It's all the same. (PUTS HER FLIP-FLOP CLAD FEET UP ON ADAM'S LAP.)  
Inner and outer heel, just in case.

(ADAM RUBS HER FEET.

LIGHTS SHIFT TO JAMES AND HIS THERAPIST.)

JAMES

You canceled, twice. That's not like you.

THERAPIST

Sorry, I haven't been feeling well.

JAMES

Pass clients my way if you need a break. You okay?

THERAPIST

Fine, this is your time. How'd the procedure go?

JAMES

Another B- in fertility. If only I could just reach in and stick those eggs in place.

THERAPIST

How's Nikki?

JAMES

Wishing, hoping, praying.

THERAPIST

Still no talk about adoption?

JAMES

We've two potential kids maybe implanting as we speak. Adoption doesn't come up.

THERAPIST

Because she knows you only want biological kids?

JAMES

Why do you keep pushing adoption? She's leading the charge, keeping the schedule, doing the shots, this is a lot harder on her than me.

THERAPISTS

Because you're both over 40?

JAMES

People have biological children in their 40's. Nikki wants to feel --

THERAPIST

You keep speaking for your wife, she's not here.

JAMES

Fine. I want to feel that visceral love for a child, that you'd do anything, give up anything, a kidney, take a bullet, literally.

THERAPIST

Parents of adopted children feel the same visceral love.

JAMES

I can't explain it any better, I want a child who is truly a part of me. Maybe it just doesn't matter as much to you.

THERAPIST

I don't know. I'm about to find out.

JAMES

What – are you?

THERAPIST

-- pregnant. I was on the fence about telling you. If you want to switch to --

JAMES

Not at all. We can explore my deep capacity for jealousy.

(LIGHTS SHIFT.

CHRIS AND ADAM WALK PAST EACH OTHER. CHRIS STOPS, CONSIDERS MOVING ON THEN THE OTHER STOPS AND TURNS.)

ADAM

Hi, we've met, right?

CHRIS

Took me a moment, but yes.

ADAM

Remind me.

CHRIS

We shared a few uncomfortable minutes while a nurse logged in our –

ADAM

Of course. Yeesh. (HOLDS OUT HAND) Adam.

(THEY SHAKE HANDS)

CHRIS

Chris. How's it going? You know.

ADAM

Trying not to think about it.

CHRIS

Us, too. You a Bulls fan?

ADAM

Can't say I am. Syd – my wife – we've been binge watching "Penny Dreadful," which is why my eyes are spinning in my head. I wish we were taking long, healthy walks. We used to, we'd hike for miles, now, she's afraid to move or the eggs won't implant.

CHRIS

Myra has been spending a great deal of time doing shoulder stands.

ADAM

What brings you to a synagogue parking lot?

CHRIS

Tutoring. SATs. I'm a teacher, and coach. You?

ADAM

A bris. Only kidding –(LAUGHS) I'm shooting a fundraising video for them, capital campaign, expanding their building. Anyway.

CHRIS

I hope we both get good news.

ADAM

Yes. Blood test on Friday.

CHRIS

So I keep hearing. It's all – pretty intense, isn't it.

ADAM

Soul sucking. Well –

CHRIS

Good luck.

(THEY GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS AS MYRA AND SYD WAVE ACROSS STAGE, EACH HOLDING A COFFEE CUP. THEY MEET AT A COFFEE BAR. SYD IS UNSURE HOW TO GREET, BUT MYRA EMBRACES HER IN A BIG HUG.)

MYRA

Good to see you again.

SYD

And not in blue gowns.

MYRA

How are you feeling?

SYD

(HANDS ON BREASTS) I keep checking to see if they're fuller.

MYRA

That could mean --

SYD

Bad news, too, I know. Did you call about the massage?

MYRA

It's not covered, so.

SYD

Say no more. Nothing is covered for us. Remember Nikki?

MYRA

Clomid, 2 ICSI, this is her fourth try.

SYD

She's having a massage right now. She and her husband are family therapists, been together since high school.

MYRA

Same with my parents. Met when they were twelve. Took turns getting their degrees while raising us.

SYD

How many is us?

MYRA

12. Nah, only two. My sister and me. Mom had cervical cancer and they took everything out but the kitchen sink for safety, or sterilization, still kidding, don't know what's gotten in to me today.

SYD

Maybe you're pregnant.

MYRA

More likely inventory day.

SYD

What kind of business do you have?



MYRA  
Guess.

SYD  
I really don't like guessing games.

MYRA  
Then I'll tell you. I own a pet store.

SYD  
You're kidding. You're not.

MYRA  
All God's Creatures.

SYD  
Is that something you always wanted to do?

MYRA  
Hell no, I wanted to be the first black Laverne, or Shirley. 10 years in Hollywood, and well, I felt I could be of better service to the world, and kids and animals – stick to me like glue. Except making my own. How long have you been trying?

SYD  
Geez, intensely? 5 years.

MYRA  
6 years for us. We stopped using birth control out in LA, then Chris got the private school teaching job, perfect for an ex-professional tennis player, except for the parents, and we moved here.

SYD  
And you started the store?

MYRA  
First, we adopted a dog. Bummer.

SYD  
I read people do that a lot, their first kid is a dog.

MYRA  
He was used for target practice down in Arkansas. They pulled about fifty pellets from his backside. I found him on an internet rescue site.

SYD  
Definitely a bummer.

MYRA

Chris was so busy at the school, and I needed my new thing, especially to get my mind off trying to get pregnant.

SYD

I know, sometimes it's all I think about. It makes Adam frustrated, to say the least.

MYRA

So, I started a non-profit called Fuzzy Hearts, going into low performing schools with Bummer, telling his story, the kids telling theirs back. And then, people started giving me more rescue animals -- oh, can you take this parrot with no feathers, I found this ferret in the park. And I still wasn't getting pregnant, and the perfect location opened up and --

SYD

You had child number two, so to speak.

MYRA

Yeah, well, we almost didn't make it through the recession.

SYD

Us, too. Corporate video budgets slashed to nil.

MYRA

I actually let go of an employee recently. Even more work for me, but I how else can you pay for an IVF? Is that all you do? Corporate videos?

SYD

You mean, are we trying to be real artists, too?

MYRA

I guess I mean that.

SYD

I have a degree in documentary filmmaking. But with the internet, everyone's a documentarian. These past few years have been difficult, hustling for work, doing projects you don't like so you can try again. IVF's I mean, we're trying all the time.

MYRA

My heart hurts for you, honey, all those miscarriages.

(SYD NODS. MYRA LOOKS UP, HOLDING OUT HER PALMS.)

MYRA

You kids are not making it easy for us. (SIGHS) Maybe I will shake the piggy bank and get one of those Mayan Massages.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO NIKKI ON A MASSAGE TABLE. WHITE TOWELS COVER HER UPPER AND LOWER BODY, LEAVING HER STOMACH EXPOSED. THE MASSEUSE IS MASSAGING HER STOMACH IN A CIRCLE.)

MASSEUSE

So your uterus is displaced –

NIKKI

Ow, that kinda hurts.

MASSEUSE

Sorry, you have IBS, too.

NIKKI

I've earned it. Sorry, I'm worried you're going to smush my eggs and I'm going to pass a canister of gas.

MASSEUSE

Occupational hazard. And no worries, there's plenty of tissue protecting your eggs.

NIKKI

I'm not really a massage person. Except if it's James. But I'll do anything to get my little vessels to implant. Do you have kids?

MASSEUSE

Six.

NIKKI

Wow, I take it you massaged yourself.

MASSEUSE

Two are adopted, but yes, of course, I practice what I preach.

(THE MASSEUSE PUSHES HER FINGERS AND THUMB DOWN INTO NIKKI'S BELLY BUTTON AREA.)

NIKKI

Can't talk, must breathe.

MASSEUSE

This is your vitality center. You need energy flowing through here for conception, no matter how many IVFs you do.

NIKKI

And is that happening?

MASSEUSE

Not yet, but I'm trying...

(SHE RELEASES NIKKI'S VITALITY CENTER SO SHE INVOLUNTARILY TAKES A BIG INHALE.)

NIKKI

Pregnant or not, I'm going to have a great bowel movement.

(LIGHTS SHIFT BACK TO MYRA AND SYD. THEY'RE WEARING DIFFERENT SCARVES AND HAVE DIFFERENT "TO GO" CUPS.)

SYD

I'm so nervous, my coffee is shaking. Chris is at school?

MYRA

He'll try to be home for the call.

SYD

Adam is editing.

MYRA

I feel – like a wreck, I'm glad you're here.

SYD

Keep an eye out for Nikki.

MYRA

I'll try, white girls all look the same to me.

(THEY CRACK UP.)

MYRA

Did you notice there's so many Hasidic Jews at this clinic?

SYD

That's for the egg donor program. They really trust Dr. Ashok to make good matches for them.

MYRA

My sister said she'd give me eggs. Or be my surrogate.

SYD

That's so sweet.

MYRA

Possibly. You never know, could be her way of getting back at me, the successful sister, but she's the real woman popping out babies.

(NIKKI RUSHES IN. SHE SEES THEM AND WAVES WITH HER OWN TO GO CUP.)

NIKKI

Hi! Nikki remember?

(SHE SHAKES MYRA AND SYD'S HAND)

MYRA

Yes, I recognize you.

NIKKI

I threw up this morning. Don't know if it's a sign or nerves.

SYD

Could be both.

NIKKI

Any positive signs to share? Kids talking to you from up above, Myra?

MYRA

No, but I had a weirdo dream last night. There were all these babies growing on trees. And parents were down below explaining to the tree why they deserved one of the babies.

SYD

Did you get one?

MYRA

Chris and I were too busy arguing about what we wanted to say.

(A NURSE ENTERS)

NIKKI

Let's hope none of us gets the jabber. Had a bruise down my entire forearm last time.

NURSE

Syd Bernstein.

(SYD PICKS UP HER POCKEBOOK)

SYD

She always says my name like I'm a guy about to subpoena her. Maybe I should use my maiden name.

MYRA

What's that?

SYD

Shalala.

NIKKI

Then you can sound like a Carpenter's song.

NURSE

Syd Bernstein, are you here?

(MYRA HUGS SYD AND PULLS IN NIKKI)

MYRA

Good luck. To all of us.

NIKKI

BFP.

SYD

BFP.

(LIGHTS OUT.

LIGHTS PICK-UP CHRIS DRIVING AND TALKING ON HIS EARPIECE AS MYRA ENTERS UPSTAGE WITH AN EXCEL PRINTOUT. ADAM AND SYD ENTER WORKING ON THEIR COMPUTER.)

CHRIS

Mrs. Talbot...Mr. Talbot. (SIGHS) I can't hear you when you're both talking. Can you both...did you call to argue with each other or talk to me. Yes, I can hear you're angry, are you angry at me or at each other? Both. Fine. Can we get back to why you called? Yes, I'm not playing Meghan BECAUSE she said she didn't want to. She wanted to practice but wasn't feeling up to the pressure of the next two matches. She doesn't want to play BECAUSE some recruiters are coming. She's fine. She is improving. Her net game especially. No, she's not one of our top-seeded players. Why not? That was her club team. We're one of the highest-ranking tennis teams in the state. You have to put in the work. She is, but I don't see her in the weight room in the mornings. Mr. Talbot, Mrs. Talbot, have you asked Meghan if she wants to play tennis in college? Yes, it all looks good on a transcript, that's not what...you're right, I'm not her college advisor. I'm a coach. I know tennis. Perhaps you should just call the principal's office if you have a problem with me. I can't hear you both...but I do hear the sound of helicopters hovering...never mind...I need to hang up now, I'm about to find out if I'm going to be a father. (HANGS UP) Lord! Help me not be a shitty parent.

(SOUNDS OF THREE DIFFERENT RING TONES.

BRIGHT LIGHTS RISE AS EVERYONE RUNS ON STAGE AND LOOKS AT THEIR PARTICULAR CELL PHONE. FROM THEIR FACES, WE KNOW THIS IS THE CALL.)

MYRA

Hello?

SYD

Hello?

NIKKI

Hello?

(THE NEWS IS NOT GOOD. THEY EACH SINK IN THEIR OWN WAY.)

NIKKI

Yes. I understand. We'll call him next week.

MYRA

Thank you.

SYD

Bye.

(SYD STARTS TO CRY. SHE WAVES ADAM AWAY. CHRIS RUNS IN.)

MYRA

Big fucking negative.

CHRIS

Oh, honey.

(THEY EMBRACE. NIKKI THROWS HER PHONE THEN SCRAMBLES TO PICK IT UP.)

NIKKI

Shit shit, I can't break the phone, it's new.

JAMES

Don't worry about the damn phone.

NIKKI

This is it. We're wiped out. What do we do now?

JAMES

I don't know.

(HE TAKES HER HAND. THEY STAND THERE A MINUTE ABSORBING THEIR NEWS, BREATHING.)

SYD

I'm sorry, Adam. I'm sorry. You married a barren woman.

ADAM

I married you. Syd. (EMBRACES HER) I want kids, but can we get off this roller coaster?

(MYRA LOOKS UP, TALKING TO THE KIDS.)

MYRA

What is it you want from us? What do you need?

CHRIS

I need a beer and a good fuck.

ADAM

We need a break.



JAMES  
Glass of wine?

NIKKI  
Tequila.

JAMES  
Hey, if you're going to jump off the wagon.

NIKKI  
I might as well eat the worm. It's protein.

(BLACK OUT. LIGHTS RISE ON DR. ASHOK  
DOWNSTAGE.

NIKKI ENTERS ON THE PHONE)

ASHOK  
So, how would you like to proceed, Nikki?

NIKKI  
To be honest, Dr. Ashok, your guess is as good as mine.

ASHOK  
Your numbers are still good enough to try probably one more IVF.

NIKKI  
But we've cashed in our last IRA, if you catch my drift.

(MYRA ENTERS WITH A PHONE. HE TURNS TO  
HER ANSWERING HER QUESTIONS)

MYRA  
What does that mean, my numbers are still good.

ASHOK  
You wisely started working on your fertility issues in your early-thirties. We can keep trying.

MYRA  
Thank you, I'm so tired of people telling me it's just bad luck. Or to eat yams, or drink cough syrup.

ASHOK  
Excuse me?

NIKKI

Ways to up your odds to get pregnant. You haven't heard them?

ASHOK

Sorry, I am a scientist.

NIKKI

Maybe that's why the Robitussen didn't work.

MYRA

So, just keep doing what we're doing. And in the meantime, what?

NIKKI

We rob a bank?

(SYD ENTERS WITH A PHONE)

SYD

You're not going to tell me my uterus is hostile, are you? I couldn't bare it, Dr. Ashok.

ASHOK

Uteri don't have emotions, Syd.

SYD

But I do, and my husband does. He's been wanting to make a video about his great grandfather's service in WWII, it's been on hold for years.

ASHOK

Yours is a complicated case.

SYD

Adam wants to stop IVFs, and I don't, what can I do?

ASHOK

Some people achieve success after many IVFs, others never.

SYD

Am I a never?

ASHOK

I want to see all my patients achieve a healthy pregnancy. But that is a question I cannot answer. I'm sorry.

NIKKI

Oh, and Dr. Ashok, I'm so sorry –

MYRA

I heard your mother passed.

SYD

My condolences.

ASHOK

Thank you very much. But her passing has given us at the clinic an idea how to honor her legacy. You will be receiving an email from the clinic shortly

(NIKKI AND MYRA EXIT AS SYD RETURNS TO HER LAPTOP. ADAM IS AT HIS OWN COMPUTER).

SYD SUDDENLY SITS UP.)

SYD

Did you get this email from the clinic?

ADAM

What's the gist?

SYD

They're doing a contest. To win a free IVF.

ASHOK

The Neti Bharti Helping Miracles Happen Fund.

ADAM

Syd, we said we were going to let it all go for awhile --

SYD

That was before --

ADAM

-- try to get back to normal --

SYD

-- a free IVF. You just have to submit a video.

ASHOK

3-4 minutes about your fertility journey.

ADAM

I was enjoying not thinking about it --

SYD

-- but it's what we do!

ASHOK

They are happening in clinics all over the country, asking infertile couples to submit their stories for the chance to win.

ADAM

It's hard enough making a video for some elite, tourist mecca in the Maldives, I don't want to make a video of the shit we've been going through the last 5 years!

ASHOK

We believe this is an excellent opportunity to honor my mother, and bring our humble clinic more into the modern world.

SYD

It'd be free! How can we turn that opportunity down! I wonder if Myra saw it yet?

(SYD TAKES HER CELLPHONE AND HITS A NUMBER.)

MYRA WALKS IN, ANSWERING HER CELLPHONE.)

MYRA

I was just going to call you.

SYD

You saw the email.

MYRA

Chris doesn't think we should do it.

(CHRIS ENTERS NEAR MYRA AND STARTS DOING PUSH-UPS.)

CHRIS

I didn't say that.

SYD

Of course you should.

CHRIS

I said we won't win.

MYRA

Why not, why wouldn't we have a shot like anyone else?

CHRIS

What do we know about making a video? My students help me with the smart board.

MYRA

Hey! I made those video Christmas cards.

ADAM

Why not a raffle or a lottery if they want to give a couple they've helped go broke another shot.

ASHOK

We chose a video contest since we believe social media is the best way to get the story of infertility out into the world.

CHRIS

Myra, those folks do it for a living, how will they not make a stellar video.

ASHOK

We do not expect these videos to be masterpieces. We want to hear and share the heartache and expense of couples who walk through our doors everyday.

SYD

Myra, tell Chris we can help.

ADAM

We can?

SYD

We won't do it for you, but I mean, we can make suggestions, give you tips.

MYRA

They'll help us.

ADAM

I haven't agreed to that.

SYD

He's giving us, someone, another chance at a baby.

ADAM

Even if we win, we'd still have what, a 5% chance.

SYD

Please don't say that.

CHRIS

You really want to put our life these last few years up on the internet for everyone to see?

MYRA

I don't know. Syd, it is kind of icky.

CHRIS

And I'd just be too embarrassed. It's no one's business what we're going through. And they'd be all over the internet, right? Kids would play it for a lark on the morning announcements.

SYD

Let me try and conference in Nikki. Hold on.

(SYD WORKS THE CELL PHONE.)

MYRA

She's conferencing in Nikki.

CHRIS

The therapists? I don't think they'd get the sympathy vote.

(NIKKI ENTERS A DIFFERENT PART OF STAGE WITH JAMES. HER PHONE RINGS.)

NIKKI

Syd! What a coincidence. James and I are taking a walk wondering if judges would give two family therapists a free IVF.

SYD

I'm bringing back in Myra. (HITS BUTTON) Hi, Myra, I have Nikki.

NIKKI

James doesn't think we'll get enough sympathy.

MYRA

Why not? You've had mine for weeks.

JAMES

I'm still recovering from the last IVF. We need to discuss what's our next step.

NIKKI

Maybe our next step is winning a free IVF. He said we could try one more.

MYRA

I think Dr. Ashok's heart is in the right place about this. He wants to help out people like us, right.

NIKKI

And help his clinic. He may say he's a scientist, but he has a business to run.

SYD

Please, Adam, we know infertility, I feel obligated to help them.

ADAM

If they even want to do it.

SYD

Well, I do. I really do.

ADAM

I can see there's no stopping you. (EXITS)

ASHOK

So, submit your videos to the Neti Bharti Helping Miracles Happen Fund.

(THE GIRLS HANG UP THEIR PHONES.  
ADAM RE-ENTERS WITH TWO GLASSES  
OF WINE. HE HANDS ONE TO JAMES AS THE  
GROUP GATHERS TOGETHER. CHRIS ENTERS  
WITH A PLATE OF FOOD AND A BEER.)

ADAM

Just an average Cab, sorry.

JAMES

At this moment, I'd take it from a box. Your wife is on a mission.

ADAM

Welcome to my world. Cheers.

(ADAM TAKES A DRINK WHILE SYD TAKES THE  
FLOOR)

SYD

So, I have been doing research. Reviewing other contest videos.

CHRIS  
Are they anonymous?

SYD  
First names only.

CHRIS  
Food, ladies.

SYD  
And very authentic. One finalists' had no edits, just a woman holding up signs. But you can only watch about three without bursting into tears.

ADAM  
Or feeling this is too personal to be aired in public.

SYD  
Half of the internet is like that.

ADAM  
I'm just saying.

MYRA  
Is there anything else similar about the videos?

NIKKI  
Besides heartbreaking?

MYRA  
White, black, old, young?

SYD  
So far, predominately white.

JAMES  
It's been said infertility is a white, middle class issue.

MYRA/SYD  
Bullshit!

SYD  
Some couples seem a little older, one actually had a ticking grandfather clock. But I don't think any of us can play that card.

(JAMES AND NIKKI LOOK AT EACH OTHER. THE OTHERS NOTICE.)



ADAM

Hello, did the air just leave the room?

NIKKI

We're 43.

SYD

You must wear a gallon of sunblock.

ADAM

Then, that's an angle you two can play, especially since you've been together so long. It's now or never.

SYD

Right. Thank you, Adam.

JAMES

Perhaps judges will think why bother, they're over-the-hill, why waste a free IVF on a couple with such low chances of success.

NIKKI

(OLD VOICE) My decrepit eggs, like little raisins with canes.

JAMES

And honey, that's getting old, too.

NIKKI

Hey, they're my raisins. Where's my glass of wine?

ADAM

Oh, sorry, assumed you're -

NIKKI

Off the wagon still. On, off, on, off, it's been a ten-year ride according to ovulation schedule, or IVFs. Taking my temperature every morning has gotten really old. So bring it on.

ADAM

I'll make it a double.

(ADAM GOES AND RETRIEVES ANOTHER WINE)

SYD

Some of the winners do have something in common we don't have. At least, none of you have mentioned it.

What's that?

NIKKI

Bet I can guess. Military.

CHRIS

Bingo.

SYD

I've military siblings – brother and sister. But I had a tennis scholarship.

CHRIS

(ADAM RETURNS WITH WINE FOR NIKKI.)

JAMES

Well, at least you're not in therapy for PTSD.

CHRIS

You don't know college tennis. And I hate to say it guys but -- the black card.

MYRA

Oh, we'll play that to the hilt. In every photo, we will be black.

SYD

I'd go for some black music, too. Underscoring tends to be some version of the Titanic song.

JAMES

Would black music be too stereotypical?

CHRIS

Hey, you do your video, we'll do ours.

SYD

So, you're on board, Chris?

MYRA

Chris?

CHRIS

Tell me something else about the winners.

SYD

Ok, this is the filmmaker talking. And the marketing director. 'Cause remember, these are about selling yourselves to the judges.

ADAM

Like you're the product. What about your story is different?

SYD

Exactly.

ADAM

What can make the judges even more empathetic to your cause.

SYD

A medical issue. Cancer.

ADAM

Any of you lose a parent or parents early? Or recently?

JAMES

Being an orphan affects your fertility?

SYD

Tragedy piled on tragedy. It seems to be the common denominator.

NIKKI

In between deployments.

MYRA

And I assume lots of IVFs and miscarriages.

SYD

Yes, well, that's our card.

CHRIS

But we shouldn't put in anything too personal, right? They'll be out there in cyberspace.

NIKKI

It is anonymous.

CHRIS

I teach elite high school students, you think their black tennis coach is going to be hard to find on the internet?

ADAM

True, Chris, but you'll need a hook. What set's your story apart from the others.

SYD

Good story telling is dramatic.

NIKKI

Or comedic.

MYRA

How about showing what good parents you'd be?

JAMES

Any shots of a fully-stocked baby's room?

SYD

Actually no. Maybe that's an assumed? You're spending 50, 100 grand to get pregnant, you better be a damn good parent?

NIKKI

Remember your dream, Myra? The babies in the trees.

MYRA

And here we are, figuring out how to convince the tree we deserve a baby.

CHRIS

*(to Adam)*

So, where are you on this?

ADAM

What do you mean?

CHRIS

Helping the other teams. I don't send video of my top players to the competition.

SYD

We're fine with it.

CHRIS

I know you are. Adam?

ADAM

We're helping you right now. Anyone feel uncomfortable?

JAMES

I'm always uncomfortable about something. I think we're well-meaning, good people. But we're also desperate. Desperate people can get –

NIKKI

How about we try to stay above that.

ADAM

Or you can use it, desperation, tension, that's what makes a video pop. If you're going to put yourself out there, do it.

CHRIS

Which I still haven't agreed to.

MYRA

Well, I have – (HOLDS OUT FINGER TOWARD CHRIS) -- we'll talk at home.

SYD

So for now, we'll serve as advisors. Okay, Adam?

ADAM

Okay.

JAMES

And may at least one of us win.

SYD

I truly hope one of us wins. I can honestly say that.

NIKKI

Here's to honesty.

(SHE HOLDS UP HER GLASS TO THE OTHERS)

(BLACK OUT. LIGHTS RISE ON ADAM, NIKKI AND MYRA AT THEIR VARIOUS COMPUTERS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE STAGE.)

ADAM

So when's this deadline?

(SYD ENTERS WITH A THERMOMETER IN HER MOUTH)

SYD

Myday mafter next.

ADAM

How's that?

NIKKI

Friday after next.

(JAMES ENTERS WITH A BOX OF PHOTOS.)

JAMES

So soon, didn't they just announce it?

MYRA

If you're serious it's plenty of time.

(CHRIS ENTERS WITH A TENNIS RACQUET).

CHRIS

To make a video?

MYRA

I'm not a neophyte! Alright? And Syd has already given me the basics. I'm pulling footage.

CHRIS

What footage, I better have veto power.

(CHRIS LOOKS OVER MYRA'S SHOULDER.)

CHRIS

No – nothing with the beard.

MYRA

Six-pack is fine though.

CHRIS

I worked hard for that.

(JAMES PULLS A FEW YELLOW PHOTO PACKAGES OUT OF THE BOX)

JAMES

We never found time to put these into albums.

NIKKI

Prehistoric storage. I can just scan in the ones we need.

JAMES

We have a scanner?

NIKKI

It's called a 3 in 1.

JAMES

I continue to be one step behind our life.

(JAMES EXITS. SYD PULLS OUT HER  
THERMOMETER)

SYD

I'm ovulating.

ADAM

...okay.

SYD

I'm ovulating. We need to have sex. Now.

ADAM

Are we doing this video, or trying to get pregnant?

SYD

Both, of course. Adam?

ADAM

I'm focusing on the video at the moment.

SYD

But if we get pregnant we won't need it.

ADAM

I'd just...like to have sex for once not on a schedule.

SYD

Fine. But right now I'm ovulating.

ADAM

Can I just do this? I'm actually enjoying it. Your egg will still be there in an hour.

SYD

Maybe it's about to fall into oblivion and it's now or never.

ADAM

I'm not a performing monkey, okay?

I understand this. SYD

Maybe you don't. ADAM

Want me to find some porn? SYD

NO! ADAM

(SYD WALKS OFF. ADAM GOES BACK TO THE COMPUTER.)

JAMES REENTERS WITH MORE PHOTOS.)

JAMES  
I'm overwhelmed already. Want me to pull out some of the best shots? Peace rallies?

NIKKI  
Find that picture right afterward. Remember? Where I'm looking blank.

JAMES  
Right after what?

NIKKI  
Right after what else?

ADAM  
Syd?

JAMES  
You're going to use that in the video?

NIKKI  
They said use what makes your story dramatic.

JAMES  
I don't agree.

NIKKI  
What do you mean?



JAMES

I don't agree to use that part of our life.

NIKKI

But it's a video to show why we deserve to get a free IVF.

JAMES

It's long, long behind us.

NIKKI

It's why we waited.

JAMES

We waited to start our careers.

NIKKI

Oh, bullshit.

ADAM

Syd?!

NIKKI

We're out of money. And I think our story is a good one. A winner.

ADAM

SYD?!

JAMES

It's a terrible idea. I'm going to make a phone call.

NIKKI

Yes, go ask your therapist. First pass me the boxes.

JAMES

Get them yourself.

ADAM

SYD! FOR GOD SAKE GET BACK HERE AND TALK TO ME.

(JAMES EXITS. SYD RETURNS.)

ADAM

What's happened to us? Where's the staring across the candlelight at my beautiful wife, holding hands, eating some amazing curry chicken with water chestnuts you made while we talked about art and movies. I've lost you.

SYD

I'm right here.

ADAM

Some stranger ordering me to have sex is right here.

SYD

I hear what you're saying, it's just right now there's an egg.

ADAM

SCREW THE EGG! Can we, please, just, let it go for one hour –

SYD

I don't know if I –

ADAM

Just try – for one hour – let it go – walk up the hill with me, and enjoy the view. Try.

SYD

Alright. How about I whip up that spicy cole slaw –

ADAM

With the capers.

SYD

With the capers.

ADAM

Thank you. I'll even bring some KY.

(LIGHTS SHIFT. CHRIS AND MYRA ARE AT THEIR COMPUTER.)

MYRA

Okay. This is what I've put together so far.

(HITS A BUTTON.)

It'll come up on the big screen.

(THE BIG MONITOR STARTS TO FLICKER)

CHRIS

How'd you figure that out?

MYRA

I told you I'm learning, fast.

CHRIS

You should have been the one trying to program the VCR way back when.

(A VIDEO PLAYS ON THE SCREEN.)

VIDEO: CHRIS AND MYRA IN FRONT A CHRISTMAS TREE. THEY WAVE.

MYRA: Hello family out there. (she looks up) Family up there. Gone or not yet here.

CHRIS: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

MYRA: May the new year bring you whatever bundle of joy you are praying for!  
Remember – love is the answer, no matter the question!

(VIDEO FREEZES)

MYRA

Then boom – Diana Ross starts singing - AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH, AIN'T VALLEY LOW ENOUGH, AIN'T NO RIVER WIDE ENOUGH, TO KEEP ME FROM GETTING TO YOU, BABE! Pull the volume down, it's video of you playing tennis with a voice-over about reaching the mountain already in so many ways. The pet shop.

CHRIS

What about the flood clip, volunteers lifting cages?

MYRA

Yes, yes, exactly. Voice-over about leaving Hollywood behind for animals and family. Then picture after picture, fast. We've a village here, our Fuzzy Hearts kids.

CHRIS

There's a clipping somewhere of kids petting Bummer.

MYRA

Perfect, we're a team, you and me, Bummer, the store, the tennis, but there's one missing part of our family. Help us bring on the family. More Diana Ross. You and I dancing on that marriage video card. We will get to you! We will keep trying. You and me and our community are ready but out of money. Please give us another shot at bringing our children down into this world.

(LOOKING UP)

Come on down, my loves, come on down! Then we freeze on our faces looking up.  
NOTHING CAN KEEP ME, KEEP ME FROM YOU!

(SHE STOPS AND SMILES)

What do you think?

CHRIS

I have no idea. But when you sing Diana Ross. They can keep Beyonce, Rihanna, whoever. But Diana - I just - come on --

MYRA

Come here.

(CHRIS TAKES HER HAND AND PULLS HER OFF.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO NIKKI AND THE MASSEUSE  
AT THE MASSAGE TABLE.)

MASSEUSE

So, what are we working on today?

NIKKI

Constipation. Seriously, you're a miracle worker.

MASSEUSE

Where are you in your cycle?

NIKKI

Spin. Rinse.

MASSEUSE

Planning another IVF?

NIKKI

We're working on this video for a free one.

MASSEUSE

Yes, Syd told me. I was asked to jury a contest once. Your uterus definitely feels much happier.

NIKKI

But uteri don't have emotions.

MASSEUSE

Oh, I don't believe that.

NIKKI

We need to get you and Dr. Ashok in a room someday.

MASSEUSE

Are you taking your temperature, watching your ovulation?

NIKKI

Do I have to?

MASSEAUSE

A happy uterus conceives.

NIKKI

Yes, but who'd of thought sex could turn so tedious.

MASSEUSE

Understandable, you've been trying for so long.

NIKKI

We could have been trying longer, we started in our thirties, thinking it'd happen right away, and suddenly you're 43. So – having been a judge. What do you think really puts you at the top of all the stories of infertility woe?

MASSEUSE

Oh, I didn't do it.

NIKKI

Why not?

MASSEUSE

It just didn't feel right to me. Putting all those desperate stories up on social media to be judged which one is the most worthy. I didn't want to be a part of that.

NIKKI

No offense, but you've a well-placed uterus and six kids.

MASSEUSE

Oh, no judgement. I wish you and Syd the best of luck.

NIKKI

Me, too.

(LIGHTS RISE ON ADAM, SYD, CHRIS AND MYRA  
LOOKING AT ADAM'S COMPUTER.)

ADAM

I'm loving the whole Diana Ross angle.

SYD

Breath of fresh air.

MYRA

Thanks. It's been fun. Reflective.

ADAM

What about you, Chris?

CHRIS

I'm the cheerleader. Offering a few suggestions here and there.

MYRA

He remembered that local news footage.

SYD

It's good. Maybe a little long.

CHRIS

Doesn't feel long to me.

SYD

More off topic.

CHRIS

It's about who we are in the community, shows how much we're connected to the kids we work with.

ADAM

I get it. You're just pushing the 4 minute cut-off, so we're looking for places to trim.

MYRA

I understand. We're here to get your perspective, right, coach?

CHRIS

Right.

ADAM

There's other ways to make up time, too. Watch your ins and outs, it's amazing how you can shave a second or two on both ends of a section, and suddenly you've got 20 seconds out of it.

CHRIS

And 20 seconds is really that big a deal?

SYD

You know that feeling you get, "move it along, move it along."

CHRIS

I don't feel that with ours.

MYRA

I think you're a bit biased, love.

CHRIS

I am, I see no reason not to use all 4 minutes, you just admitted that ours feels like a breath of fresh air.

ADAM

These are just suggestions, Chris.

CHRIS

Have attention spans really gotten that short? I see it in my teenagers, I feel like I have to jump around like a circus clown all day or after 30 seconds they're ready to click to the next topic. It wasn't like that when I started teaching.

ADAM

Hey, it's your video, and the deadline is –

MYRA

Friday. How's yours coming?

(SYD AND ADAM LOOK AT EACH OTHER)

SYD

We've decided to focus on just one of the miscarriages.

CHRIS

Want any notes? Really, want our perspective?

ADAM

Maybe. We'll see how tight we are getting it finished.

MYRA

How's Nikki and James?

SYD

We haven't seen anything yet, actually I'm getting a little nervous for them.

CHRIS

Maybe they've pulled out.

ADAM

Not that we heard. They're coming over shortly.

(JAMES AND NIKKI ENTER.)

NIKKI

Hel-loooo.

ADAM

I mean now. (GLANCES AT PHONE) Early.

NIKKI

We're early.

JAMES

We did knock, several times.

SYD

That's okay.

JAMES

Not for me. But Nikki insisted we enter.

NIKKI

I knew Myra and Chris would be here, and I wanted to catch them, too.

JAMES

She wants advice.

NIKKI

I have a mouth. (TO OTHERS) I'd like your advice.

CHRIS

So you're thinking of pulling out?

MYRA

Chris.

CHRIS

Adam just said they hadn't gotten anything from them yet. I was assuming.

MYRA

In a minute, I'm going to make you go outside and check your competitive bags at the door.

NIKKI

We can go in another room if you aren't done talking about yours.



ADAM

Are we done?

(MYRA EXCHANGES A LOOK WITH CHRIS.)

MYRA

I think so. Thanks, Syd, your texts got me out of a jam a bunch of times.

SYD

I'll do that for you, too, Nikki, when you're ready.

NIKKI

I'd appreciate that. I've got all the photos ready on this plug-in-a-ma-jig. (HANDS PLUG IN TO ADAM) Pull it up so everyone can see.

SYD

Great.

ADAM

So you're still a go?

NIKKI

Oh sure.

JAMES

Sorry to disappoint you, Chris.

CHRIS

Hey, why am I suddenly the bad guy.

ADAM

You're not.

JAMES

I said it before, we are all desperate, and desperate people --

CHRIS

We're not desperate. Okay. Myra's just been working hard on this. And I'm starting to hope we win it. I tend to want to win. It's my job.

NIKKI

I don't care if you're competitive. I'd like everyone's advice, but only if you're ready to put your video aside and be part of the team, so to speak.

CHRIS

We're part of a team now?

NIKKI

Didn't we say that last time? We hope at least one of us wins?

JAMES

I said that. And Syd.

MYRA

Chris, this doesn't have to be an us against them.

JAMES

Or it can be. Anger can produce results.

MYRA

Shi-it! Therapists must be so hard to live with! How in god's name have you two stayed together this long?

NIKKI

He let's me do things like this, albeit under protest.

JAMES

I'm protesting. Wine, Adam?

CHRIS

I'll get it. And snag a beer if that's okay.

ADAM

Help yourself.

CHRIS

Then I'll be back, team.

(CHRIS HEADS OFF.)

ADAM

I'm ready, Nikki.

NIKKI

Okay. Go ahead.

(ADAM HITS A FEW KEYS AND A PICTURE OF JAMES AND NIKKI LOOKING YOUNG AND INSPIRED TOGETHER APPEARS ON THE SCREEN.)

NIKKI

So, I thought we'd start with how long we've known each other, as everyone suggested. This is high school after a state debate.

(ANOTHER PHOTO COMES UP, JAMES AND NIKKI PAINTING EACH OTHER AND PEACE SIGNS AS THEY LAUGH.)

NIKKI

We didn't go to the same college, this is sophomore year. We got together for events, but were forging our independence.

(CHRIS ENTERS AND GIVES WINE TO JAMES.)

JAMES

Bless you.

(WE SEE A PICTURE OF JAMES PLAYING CHESS.)

NIKKI

James at a tournament.

SYD

Wow, James, you're like a text book nerd.

(A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE OF NIKKI SMILING)

NIKKI

Right after this picture was taken, I was raped in a remote part of campus. Badly.

(THE AIR LEAVES THE ROOM AS A PICTURE OF NIKKI WITH A BLANK FACE COMES UP.)

NIKKI

This is after. So, do I put it in? The rape? I'd really like your gut reaction.

(NO ONE RESPONDS FOR ANOTHER BEAT.)

ADAM

I'm so sorry, Nikki.

SYD

*(to James)*

I can see why you're unsure what to do.

JAMES

I know exactly what I want to do.

SYD

It could throw your story off-track. It's about infertility struggles not –

MYRA

A crime.

NIKKI

So, you think it's too sensational? Exploiting an event in our past for the sympathy vote.

SYD

I'm not sure, this is just so personal –

NIKKI

So is infertility.

MYRA

Was it a date rape?

NIKKI

We were studying. He had a knife. Two members of the boy's cross country team with good hearing saved me. After a year off, I transferred to be with James. And we went, what, 5 years, without any, relations.

JAMES

Intercourse.

MYRA

We got that.

NIKKI

And then, we needed so much time to re-find joy again, joy in sexuality. By the time we wanted to create a family, we were in our mid-thirties.

(BEATS OF SILENCE)

NIKKI

There is nothing physical from that incident that makes me infertile. We'll never know if it's psychological, but this part of our lives has been analyzed ad nauseum.

JAMES

And put in the past, until the carrot of a free IVF was dangled in front of our noses.

NIKKI

If you were a judge and heard that story, would you feel like we were playing the rape card?

MYRA

Ouch, please, your story isn't a card.

NIKKI

But what's your gut opinion?

SYD

I get it, you feel like you'd be exploiting this extremely personal part of your life. For money, in a way.

JAMES

Adam, may I have a refill?

(JAMES WIGGLES HIS EMPTY GLASS)

ADAM

Go ahead. Finish the bottle.

(JAMES NODS AND EXITS.)

ADAM

*(to Nikki)*

Wow, I'm seeing you two in a whole different light. It must have been so rough, for both of you.

CHRIS

And you never broke up? Sorry, no sex for five years?

NIKKI

It wasn't a priority.

CHRIS

(CALLS OFF) Hey James, bring me another beer, will ya. I say use it, Nikki.

NIKKI

Really, you think so?

CHRIS

Like you said, it's your story.

SYD

Serious? You of all people I'd think would say keep it out.

CHRIS

Why?

SYD

Because it could put theirs on top, Mr. Competitive.

CHRIS

Man, is this a black thing? Don't be too competitive, don't make waves.

SYD

Of course not, this is about Nikki's video.

MYRA

And James'.

CHRIS

Hiding rape is doing a disservice to your sisters, and brothers.

NIKKI

I haven't been hiding it.

CHRIS

Thinking you're being exploitative makes it sound like there's something shameful talking about rape. All our team players, girls and boys, sign a pledge to protect each and every player on the team. You see something, you say something, you step in! And the coaches on other teams, they know, if anything happens in locker rooms, post match parties, I'll be sure those college recruiters know it. And God help the boy who steps out of line under my watch. Your story is particularly more heinous, still, it's your life, use it.

NIKKI

Wow, I wasn't expecting that, Chris.

MYRA

I married him for more than the hot bod.

(JAMES COMES IN)

JAMES

Sorry, had to throw up in the bathroom. What I miss?

ADAM

Listen, Nikki, James, I appreciate you wanting our opinions --

JAMES

No, just Nikki. I've puked up my opinion.

ADAM

You really threw up?

JAMES

Don't worry, I sprayed that pink stuff you had on the windowsill.

MYRA

It's still that fresh for you?

NIKKI

It shouldn't be.

MYRA

It is if he's throwing up.

JAMES

This damn video has brought it front and center again.

MYRA

So if he doesn't want you to use it, then maybe you shouldn't use it.

NIKKI

And Adam says we should use the what's going to make our video's pop.

ADAM

Hey, I'm just an advisor, I didn't say use it.

NIKKI

But it's a hook, right? It will make us stand out from the other videos.

SYD

Something this big, we let the client decide.

MYRA

But why is this just your decision, Nikki?

NIKKI

I'm not making any decision yet --

MYRA

It needs to be all in or all out.

NIKKI

Even though I'm the one it happened to.

MYRA

You're married, aren't you? You're two halves of a baby, aren't you?

CHRIS

But she's got a point, it was her body, and it's right up there with losing a parent, or having cancer, so if you want to stand out from the crowd of DESPERATE couples, why not use it?

JAMES

Because it's nobody's business, you're the one who doesn't want to get found on the internet.

CHRIS

Maybe putting it out there will help. Break some psychological hold it has on her.

JAMES

What do you mean?

CHRIS

You're the therapist, you know how powerful the brain and body --

JAMES

We're not having fertility issues because of the rape!

NIKKI

James! We'll never know that answer, that's not the point. It's about the video and what the judges will think.

ADAM

It's about what you want to keep private or make public.

SYD

And whatever you decide, do it by Friday.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO SYD AND ADAM CLEANING UP AS CHRIS AND MYRA EXIT. NIKKI AND JAMES MOVE TO ANOTHER PART OF THE STAGE.)

SYD

What do you really think they should do?



ADAM

I'm with Chris. Take advantage of it – so to speak.

SYD

I'm with Myra. It's a team effort. James is so against it, it's causing a rift they don't need right now. It's hard enough being infertile.

ADAM

As we know.

SYD

So, business as usual? I'll start the voice-over –

ADAM

I'll do the edit. It's kind of comforting to watch other people struggling, isn't it.

SYD

Yeah.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO NIKKI AND JAMES. JAMES IS READING. NIKKI IS AT HER LAPTOP. THERE'S A TENSE SILENCE.)

NIKKI

How long are you planning to stay silent?

JAMES

Until you tell me you're not using it.

(NIKKI SLAMS DOWN THE COMPUTER)

NIKKI

I HAVEN'T DECIDED.

JAMES

Myra agrees with me.

NIKKI

And her husband thinks it's fine!

JAMES

She says it's both our decision.

NIKKI

IT'S MINE. IT WAS MY RAPE. MY BODY. MINE!

JAMES

I KNOW, and I will never get over the fact I wasn't there to save you.

NIKKI

But you did, you did! Look at us, we have a life.

JAMES

But there was so much horror around sex, sexuality for so long. That's why I want so badly to make a something from us, our two bodies together that is good, that is precious.

NIKKI

That's what we're trying to do, that's why we've gone broke.

JAMES

But I don't want to do it by using what was so bad.

NIKKI

But Chris is right, it's a disservice to women to hide from it. And why are people always so damn amazed we went 5 years without sex and stayed together. People go that long.

JAMES

Not couples in their 20's. And I didn't go without sex. Don't look at me like that, masturbation counts.

NIKKI

So, only I went five years. You never masturbated in front of me.

JAMES

I did not.

NIKKI

Did you masturbate in front of someone else?

JAMES

Is it really necessary to dig up old tapes?

NIKKI

It's this video. I'm processing. Re-processing.

JAMES

Not in front of anything alive.

NIKKI

Forget I asked. Do you remember when we started again? I started again.

JAMES

Like it was yesterday. Tell me when you've decided.

(JAMES EXITS.)

LIGHTS SHIFT. MYRA COMES ON STAGE IN A RAGE)

MYRA

God damn damn damn damn damn it!

(SHE STOPS. TAKES SOME DEEP BREATHES. HOLDS BACK SOME TEARS. SHE LOOKS UP.)

MYRA

What did I do wrong?

(CHRIS ENTERS.)

CHRIS

You break something?

MYRA

If only. I got my period. Every month. A reminder I'm a failure.

CHRIS

You're not a -

MYRA

You know, my period used to be a blessing.

CHRIS

I find that --

MYRA

Cause you're a guy! Back in LA, you know, I was having fun.

CHRIS

Me, too. And I met you and had more fun.

MYRA

But you could hook up with some Romanian tennis genius and skip off to the next conquest.

CHRIS

Hey, I never did that, she was Croatian.

MYRA

Stay with me! She's the one saying a prayer she gets her period. Every month, I'd be "phew," the birth control worked again. Cause everyone knows a story about someone when it failed. No matter how diligent you are. Not enough spermicide, condom broke, late taking your pill. It was a little once a month moment of relief. Now, it's monthly torture. I don't want to be like Nikki, 43 and still trying to get pregnant!

CHRIS

Come here, let me give those shoulders a rub.

MYRA

That abortion in LA.

CHRIS

Yeah?

MYRA

You think that's why? Why I'm not getting pregnant?

CHRIS

Of course not. Do you believe that?

MYRA

Deep down?

CHRIS

No, keep it right on the surface.

(MYRA TAKES A BEAT.)

MYRA

...I don't believe in a punishing God.

CHRIS

And I don't believe in any God.

MYRA

So you think I'm a fool talking to folks upstairs all the time?

CHRIS

You're talking to the Universe, our kids, whoever you want. I just don't think anyone is listening. But you keep talking, because I have been wrong before.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO SYD IS LEANING OVER ADAM WATCHING THE COMPUTER SCREEN.)

SYD

It's good. You're so very good, Adam.

ADAM

It's still playing, and there's no music yet.

SYD

I know. We have to find the money for your great-grandfather video.

ADAM

Would you just be quiet and watch?

SYD

I can't be quiet. I have to look at this like a professional, or I'll break down in hysterics. Is that how you keep from going into hysterics?

(ADAM HITS PAUSE)

ADAM

This time that we're focusing on? We came so close.

SYD

18 weeks.

ADAM

This video has actually been very good for me.

SYD

I'm glad, I think.

ADAM

It's helping me track our journey. It's after this one, that things started to go so off track.

SYD

Are we really so off track?

ADAM

If you have to ask that, then yes.

SYD

Can we - take a walk later?

ADAM

Yes. And I do break into hysterics in the bathroom. Now can you critique this?

(HE HITS PLAY.

LIGHTS SHIFT BACK TO NIKKI WEARING EAR PLUGS AT HER COMPUTER. MYRA AND CHRIS ARE AT THEIR COMPUTER AS SYD PICKS UP HER PHONE.)

MUSIC: SOLO CELLO)

NIKKI

This checking every frame, it's so detail oriented, how can you stand it?

SYD

I love it.

NIKKI

My butt is asleep, my whole body aches and I keep hearing the same cello music over and over and over.

SYD

That's on my side, Adam is laying down the music for our piece. (TO ADAM) Honey, could you put on your headphones.

(ADAM NODS, PLUGS IN HEADPHONES AND PUTS THEM ON. MUSIC: STOPS)

NIKKI

Was that Yo-Yo Ma? My music is so silly.

SYD

Don't question your choices. "Rock around the Clock" is funny. Then wham, you hit us with the ache of wanting to see James' face in your child.

NIKKI

You liked that?

SYD

I know the feeling.

MYRA

He's right you know.

Who. CHRIS

Adam. MYRA

I'm sure he is. About what. CHRIS

MYRA  
Taking out a few seconds at the top and bottom. You'll see when I'm done. It feels tighter, faster.

CHRIS  
You're not going to tweak this and miss the deadline.

MYRA  
Not a chance.

(ADAM TAKES OFF THE HEADPHONES AND  
CALLS TO SYD.)

ADAM  
I think it's done. She's had you long enough.

NIKKI  
Please tell me if I push a button, it won't all disappear.

SYD  
It won't disappear, the program saves as you go.

NIKKI  
For idiots like me.

MYRA  
I wonder how Nikki is doing?

CHRIS  
It's either almost done or not.

MYRA  
I bet she doesn't put it in.

CHRIS  
Not my business anymore, I said my piece.

SYD

Take one last look with James.

NIKKI

Let's see if he wants to. 50-50 chance. (CALLS OFF TO JAMES) Do you want to see it? For me?

(AFTER A BEAT, JAMES ENTERS AND  
CROSSES OVER TO NIKKI.)

NIKKI (CONT)

Oh goodie, he's coming over. Thanks, Syd! Go make Adam happy.

SYD

Break a leg!

(SYD HANGS UP AND CROSSES TO ADAM.)

MYRA

Done. I'm going to play it one last time then send it.

(MYRA, ADAM AND NIKKI ALL PUSH GO ON  
THEIR KEYBOARDS.

BLACKOUT. COMIC SCRAMBLE OF SOUND.  
LIGHTS UP.)

CHRIS

Alriigghhhhtttttt. It flows better.

(MYRA LEANS UP AND GIVES HIM A KISS.)

NIKKI

May I send it?

JAMES

Yes, you may.

SYD

That's a wrap.

ADAM

Send.

MYRA

Send.



Oh god, how do I send?

NIKKI

(SYD DIALS HER PHONE)

SYD

She's not going to know how to send.

(NIKKI CONNECTS)

NIKKI

How do I send?

SYD

Are you on the clinic's website?

NIKKI

Yes.

SYD

Click on Miracles Happen Contest. There's a big open spot that says "Drag Video Here" -- AFTER you fill out the form.

NIKKI

Okay. I see it. May one of us win!

(MYRA FINISHES SHUTTING DOWN HER COMPUTER.)

MYRA

May one of us win. Let's go walk Bummer. I need some fresh air.

CHRIS

Can I just say this – may we win.

MYRA

Sure. May we win.

(THEY EXIT.)

ADAM

Done. I don't want to look at any of them ever again.

SYD

We did a good deed.

ADAM

Do you mind if I go hit some tennis balls on the backboard. I'm going to play with Chris and I don't want to suck.

SYD

Knock yourself out.

(NIKKI FINISHES TYPING. SHE USES THE MOUSE TO DRAG HER VIDEO OVER.)

NIKKI

Oh god, look James, I dragged it in. It's working. I'm so proud of myself.

JAMES

Me, too.

NIKKI

Are we okay?

(THEY SUDDENLY HAVE A DEEP, LONG HUG. JAMES SWOOPS HER UP INTO HIS ARMS.)

NIKKI

You're not a nerd. You're my white knight.

(SHE LEANS HER HEAD AGAINST HIS SHOULDER AND THEY WALK OFF.)

LONG LIGHTS SHIFT. ADAM AND CHRIS ARE WALKING WITH TENNIS RACKETS.)

CHRIS

Don't worry, we're not playing a match.

ADAM

But don't go light on me. I want to hit the ball. Hard.

CHRIS

I know the feeling.

ADAM

And I've been practicing.

CHRIS

So maybe I'll get a workout. (OFF A LOOK FROM ADAM) Hey, I'm good. It's my job.

ADAM

No, I like it. Self-confidence is contagious. Let's go do something fun that has nothing to do with sex or making babies.

CHRIS

For once, I agree with you. Let's go hit the ball hard.

(THEY WALK OFF.

NIKKI AND MYRA WALK IN. MYRA IS HOLDING  
A LEASH.)

NIKKI

Thanks for taking me. I feel very fuzzy in my heart.

MYRA

I thought you might like it since you're a family therapist.

NIKKI

Bummer was very sweet, that was a lot of hands, I'm sure several fingers went up his nose.

MYRA

Okay, I can't wait any longer. Did you use it?

NIKKI

What?

MYRA

Your story, the you-know, in the video.

NIKKI

Oh. No.

MYRA

Chris was sure you'd use it.

NIKKI

It was because of you. All in or all out. I think I just needed to say it out loud, to the "team." Get permission to use it. I ended up doing something comic rather than tragic.

MYRA

That could still put you on top, only so many tears the judges can handle before they're begging for a few laughs.

NIKKI

Yes, but comedies never win Best Picture. I've been feeling a bit down since I sent it in.

MYRA

They call that post show depression.

NIKKI

Now you're the therapist? I figured it's exhaustion.

(NIKKI LOOKS OUT)

NIKKI

(CALLS OFF) Smile Bummer. You were just loved up by a dozen kindergarteners.

(THEY BOTH LOOK OUT AT THE DOG.

SYD ENTERS ANOTHER PART OF STAGE. SHE'S HOLDING A PREGNANCY STICK.)

SYD

Oh. Adam. ADAM!

(SHE FUMBLES WITH HER PHONE WHILE HOLDING ONTO THE STICK.

SYD

Answer! Answer! Goddamn it.

NIKKI

What makes a person do that? Shoot an innocent dog with a pellet gun.

MYRA

Some people suck.

SYD

Ugh! He's on the tennis court!

(SYD HANGS UP AND ATTEMPTS TO TEXT AND ENDS UP DROPPING THE PHONE. SHE PICKS IT UP, TRIES AGAIN AND DROPS IT.)

NIKKI

Maybe we shouldn't procreate. It makes us unhappy anyway. Why have we bankrupted ourselves to have kids when supposedly parents are the most unhappy people in the country.

MYRA

I don't buy that study. Sounds like they just interviewed a bunch of whining white people. Sorry.

SYD

Shit!

(SHE STASHES THE PREGNANCY TEST IN HER ARM PIT LIKE A THERMOMETER TO FREE UP HER HANDS.)

NIKKI

Have you heard from Syd?

MYRA

Not lately, probably catching up on all the work she didn't do helping us. Come on, Bummer. Car-car.

(THEY EXIT)

SYD

*(texting hard)*

B-F-P! B-F-P! (LOOKING UP) Please God. Please, dear child. Stay.

(SHE EXITS)

(CHRIS AND ADAM REENTER. ADAM IS SWEATY BUT JUBILANT. CHRIS IS LESS SWEATY.)

CHRIS

*(amused)*

Geez, Adam, I won 6-0, 6-0.

ADAM

But we had good rallies. Long ones! I made some fabulous saves.

CHRIS

Definitely. You'll have a great net game if you keep at it.

ADAM

I want to. I have to make the time. Get out from behind the damn screen. Slow down and have some fun. I had fun. Did you have fun? I know you play all the time.

CHRIS

It's different coaching, but I did have fun.

ADAM

Let's vow to do this more often. Syd and I have gone back to taking long hikes, and cooking, she's a fabulous cook. It's helping me, us. I feel like I've been trapped in the show "*Stop the World I Want to Get off!*" for years.

CHRIS

Aren't you afraid though, if you stop for just a minute, it'll all go away? You'll lose everything? All you've worked so hard for. All you've done. Phhhfffttt.

ADAM

All the time. I'm Jewish, remember.

(CHRIS GLANCES AT HIS PHONE.)

CHRIS

Hold on, there's a voicemail from Dr. Ashok.

(ADAM DIGS OUT HIS PHONE.)

ADAM

I've got one, too.

(LIGHTS RISE ON JAMES LOOKING AT HIS PHONE.)

JAMES

Good god. Why's Dr. Ashok calling me?

(THEY ALL PRESS PLAY.)

(LIGHTS RISE ON DR. ASHOK.)

DR. ASHOK

Congratulations! Your video has been selected as one of our ten finalists in the Neti Bharti Making Miracles Happen Contest. All of the finalists are posted on our website and the judges will be making their final selection on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month. Good luck, and thank you for helping bring awareness to the difficult issues surrounding infertility and supporting the mission of our clinic.

(DR. ASHOK EXITS AS ADAM, CHRIS AND JAMES  
SIMULTANTIOUSLY RESPOND TO THE GOOD  
NEWS.)

JAMES/ADAM/CHRIS

Yes!

JAMES

Nikki? Nikki!

(JAMES RUNS OFF. ADAM AND JAMES LOOK AT  
EACH OTHER.)

ADAM

Don't go all competitive on me now.

CHRIS

Hey, we're a team. It's only what? A 10 grand prize? No reason not to remain civil.  
I wonder if the therapists made it?

(ADAM ISN'T LISTENING, HE'S LOOKING AT THE  
TEXT ON HIS PHONE.)

CHRIS

What? Did something happen?

ADAM

It's a text from Syd.

CHRIS

She must be ecstatic. And proud. Myra credits her with a lot of help.

ADAM

She is. I have to go. We'll talk.

(ADAM AND CHRIS DO A MALE HALF  
HUG AND EXIT.)

NIKKI AND JAMES ENTER OPPOSITE EACH  
OTHER.)

NIKKI

I want to use Myra's dog Bummer in my practice.

JAMES

We made the finals!

NIKKI  
The IVF?

JAMES  
Have we ever entered another contest in our lives?

NIKKI  
Oh my God!

JAMES  
You must have rocked them around the clock.

NIKKI  
I can't believe it. But comedies never win.

JAMES  
Sure they do. I feel like Chris. Now, I want to win.

(THEY HUG AS LIGHTS RISE ON ANOTHER PART  
OF THE STAGE. SYD STANDS FROZEN.)

SYD  
I'm afraid to move.

(LIGHTS RISE ON MYRA AS CHRIS ENTERS)

MYRA  
We all made it.

CHRIS  
The therapists, too?

MYRA  
Yup. The team!

NIKKI  
So now we wait.

CHRIS  
Well, we better beat the therapists.

MYRA  
What have you got against them, Nikki was lovely today.



CHRIS  
I know, I'm prejudiced.

MYRA  
She didn't use it by the way. Her story.

CHRIS  
No shit.

MYRA  
She just needed to share. I'll take that dollar.

(ADAM REACHES TO HUG SYD AND SHE STOPS HIM.)

SYD  
Don't! I'm afraid to move. Do anything. Or I might lose it.

(ADAM TAKES HER ARM GENTLY.)

CHRIS  
So, what do we do now?

MYRA  
I can think of something.

SYD  
I don't want to tell anyone. The team.

ADAM  
No. This is just us.

JAMES  
I'm so – jazzed!

SYD  
I need to breathe.

ADAM  
I got you.

NIKKI  
Let's pretend it's been five years since we.... and I'm wearing the Wonder Woman costume.

(ALL THE COUPLES WALK OFF.)

LIGHTS SHIFT TO JAMES ON THE PHONE IN ONE PART OF THE STAGE, HIS PREGNANT THERAPIST ON ANOTHER.)

THERAPIST

So what are your chances?

JAMES

1 in 10. So don't bring it up again.

THERAPIST

Is Nikki this obsessed about winning?

JAMES

She's just thrilled they liked the video. Some deeply buried artistic ambition is rising up, like a bunch of other things.

THERAPIST

Good things?

JAMES

You could say that. I really thought we were done. Now, I'm back to imagining her pregnant, singing songs to her belly. I'm a surefire case of uterus envy.

THERAPIST

You want to be a Dad. That's all.

JAMES

I need to go talk to someone who understands this feeling.

THERAPIST

Uterus envy?

JAMES

Competition! By the way, how are you? Keeping morning sickness at bay?

THERAPIST

...that's not. I ended it. I'm not the type of person who can do it alone.

JAMES

Oh.

THERAPIST

If you'd like to, switch to someone else, I understand –

JAMES

What? No, of course not. Don't be silly. I'll see you next week.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO MYRA AND NIKKI ON THE PHONE.)

NIKKI

I called Syd to thank her but she didn't pick-up.

MYRA

Me, too. She must be very pleased with herself. Three for three.

NIKKI

How's Chris?

MYRA

Surprisingly Zen.

NIKKI

You should see James.

MYRA

Chris is meeting him right now.

(UP ON CHRIS TALKING ON THE PHONE WITH ADAM)

CHRIS

Please, Buddy, I can't be with the professor all by myself.

ADAM

Sorry, Syd and I are in the middle of something big at the moment.

CHRIS

After.

ADAM

He's really not that bad. And he's a therapist. Get a free session out of him.

CHRIS

You're killing me.

ADAM

Really, there's a lot worse things.

(JAMES ENTERS WITH TWO BEERS AND SITS WITH CHRIS WHO HANGS UP.)

JAMES

So, I really want to beat you.

CHRIS

I really want to beat you.

JAMES

Good, got that out of the way. I can tell from your body language you don't want to be here, so thank you. You've got a great job. Adrenaline all the time. Ha! My job is to get people to control it. You get to bring it on!

CHRIS

Right now I'm actually in my "Nationals" frame of mine. We're here at the top. Whatever happens happens. Is that what you want to talk about? Adrenaline?

JAMES

Yes. I want to sit next to someone who is feeling what I'm feeling.

CHRIS

But I'm not, so can I go home now?

JAMES

No. Drink your beer.

(THEY DRINK.

LIGHTS RISE ON ADAM UPSTAGE BY A DOOR. HE KNOCKS.)

ADAM

Syd. Syd, we're in this together. Don't lock me out.

(AFTER A BEAT, HE LEANS HIS HEAD AGAINST THE DOOR.)

CHRIS

Okay, I have a question.

JAMES

The doctor is in.

CHRIS

Are you superstitious?

JAMES

Everyone is to some extent. What's giving you the heebie-jeebies?

CHRIS

I hate lying. But there's one thing I've never told Myra.

JAMES

And you think that might be keeping you from getting pregnant.

CHRIS

You start grasping at straws, you know.

JAMES

So, what's the lie?

CHRIS

Our dog Bummer. He's not the original Bummer. Bummer number one died in the car coming home. I went to get him since Myra's sister was having a baby. He'd been checked out by the vet, all the pellets were removed, he was good to go. Then on the drive, he had a seizure and I guess a stroke. It was horrible. Shit, piss, foaming at the mouth, and not stopping. I'd pulled over, was holding his head, calling the rescue center, they're telling me to drive him back, but I couldn't just leave him writhing in the back, then they said to call a local vet to come and put him down, and my phone ran out of battery, and the poor guy was in agony.

JAMES

So you did it yourself.

CHRIS

He was hardly breathing, and gasping when he did. I just used my jacket. I got the car cleaned. The rescue place had another Golden whose owner had just died. Myra already had it so in her head, showing kids that a dog could be shot that many times, be rescued, and live to help others. She'd even started advertising. I just couldn't tell her. She'd have agonized for years over how he died. We would've had to get rid of the car! She takes it so to heart. And he really does give kids hope. It's a worthy idea, even if it's not that exact dog.

JAMES

Want my verdict?

CHRIS

Lay it on me.

JAMES

You love your wife, and it's not keeping you from getting pregnant.

CHRIS

How about you? You got something you want to tell me?

(ADAM KNOCKS HARDER ON THE DOOR)

ADAM

Syd? Syd, please. Should I call a doctor?

(HE SIGHS, LEANS AGAINST THE DOOR AGAIN)

JAMES

So, back in grad school, I was reading about LSD for depression, and thought I'd see if the studies were on target. This was during the five years. I'd bought her a Wonder Woman poster to hang above her side of the bed. She liked the show, and it was part of her therapy. Well, during my LSD adventure, Wonder Woman came out of the poster and we had relations.

CHRIS

Far out.

JAMES

And then, I gave Nikki the costume to wear. She wore it when we started up again. I didn't tell her about the LSD part.

CHRIS

Wow. Professor. I think we've hit the point of too much information.

JAMES

Yes. Better go home now. I hope you lose.

CHRIS

You, too.

(THEY SHAKE HANDS AND EXIT WITH THEIR STOOLS.)

ADAM IS STILL AGAINST THE DOOR.)

ADAM

It's okay if we don't have kids, Syd. It's okay. We're enough.

(PHONE RINGS. NIKKI ENTERS DOWNSTAGE, MYRA IS OPPOSITE.)

NIKKI

*(answering)*

Three days, 8 hours and 22 minutes 'til we know!

MYRA

You're obsessed. And it's 27 minutes. Syd's still going to voicemail.

NIKKI

They must have some gig. Or don't ever want to see us again.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO SYD. SHE IS MADLY DOING  
SIT-UPS. ADAM ENTERS.)

ADAM

Syd, you've got to stop.

SYD

It's me. I'm not strong enough. I've got to be stronger.

ADAM

This is not going to help. You're still bleeding.

SYD

I need to be stronger!

(ADAM LOOKS AT HER HELPLESSLY. SYD  
FINALLY STOPS.)

SYD

I'm going to call the team.

ADAM

To tell them what happened?

SYD

No! I'm not telling anybody.

ADAM

We should tell Dr. Ashok.

SYD

Why? I don't want to prejudice him against us.

ADAM

Huh?

SYD

The contest. Not to vote for us because he'll think I'll just lose it.

ADAM

Who gives a shit about the contest.

SYD

I do.

ADAM

You're going to put yourself in a hospital.

SYD

It'd be in his subconscious, don't waste the prize on someone who can't hold a pregnancy.

(ADAM SIGHS.)

ADAM

So why call the team?

SYD

To invite them over on the 25<sup>th</sup>. I want to cook.

(NIKKI, JAMES, CHRIS AND MYRA ENTER,  
TALKING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTNERS.)

NIKKI

(to James)

Syd wants to have us over on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

CHRIS

(to Myra)

So we can collectively hold our breath?

NIKKI

(to James)

Do we want to be together?

MYRA

(to Chris)

What if one of the others wins?



JAMES  
(to Nikki)

I don't think I could smile politely.

CHRIS

We started this together.

NIKKI

Let's finish it.

(ADAM PULLS ON A ROLLING TABLE WITH A  
FEW LARGE FOOD BOWLS.)

ADAM

Dig in.

(THE COUPLES GATHER AROUND TOGETHER.)

MYRA

Did anyone watch the other finalists?

JAMES

It was like an unending therapy session with clients I deeply care about.

CHRIS

I steeled my heart and powered through, too. How did they stand up to ours, professionally speaking, Adam.

ADAM

I didn't watch them.

NIKKI

I just watched each of yours. That's all I really care about.

MYRA

Same here. What about you, Syd?

SYD

I did errands all week.

MYRA

Have you been working out? You look - buff.

SYD

I've been feeling weak. So, yes. Working out.

MYRA

That's good, you'll be in tip-top shape if you get another IVF.

NIKKI

Just don't forget to eat while you do it.

(A COMMON MUSICAL SNIPPET RINGS.  
EVERYONE JUMPS. PHONES COME  
OUT.)

MYRA

It's me. The store. I'll be right back.

(SHE EXITS TAKING THE CALL.)

JAMES

He called the finalists, so we can assume he'll call the winner.

CHRIS

And post it.

NIKKI

Meanwhile, we play charades?

ADAM

No, thanks.

NIKKI

We could talk about why we want to be parents.

ADAM

Please, we already made those videos.

NIKKI

Wow, are we all tense or what.

CHRIS

Well, I'll eat if nobody else will.

(HE MAKES A PLATE.)

ADAM

Syd, can I make you a plate?

SYD

I'm just not hungry.

NIKKI  
You okay?

SYD  
Fine.

(MYRA REENTERS.)

MYRA  
Sick ferret. My intern is taking care of it.

JAMES  
There's interns in pet stores?

MYRA  
Sure, she's paid in dog food for her family's Yorkie Rescue.

NIKKI  
Yorkie's need rescuing? Those adorable things.

MYRA  
Everybody needs to be rescued from a bad situation.

JAMES  
Well put.

(PHONE RINGS WITH A JOLLY TONE.)

NIKKI  
Not any of my sounds.

MYRA  
Mine, either.

ADAM  
*(looks at phone)*  
It's me. I've been getting plagued lately by unsolicited callers.

NIKKI  
Almost every call on our landline is a solicitation.

JAMES  
It is amazing how far we've come though. I remember when my parents first got an answering machine. We made a quaint family message and listened to it over and over. Now we're tied to these gadgets.

(THEY LOOK AT THEMSELVES, ALL HOLDING PHONES.)

CHRIS

We don't have to be. We can leave it home. Only check once a day.

NIKKI

Just not today.

(ANOTHER JOLLY, FAMILIAR PHONE RING.)

JAMES

According to the rule of three, this should be the call.

(THEY ALL CHECK.)

CHRIS

Whose is it?

SYD

Me. (INTO PHONE) Hi Mom, no. Fine. Not a good time, I'll call you tonight.

NIKKI

Is there a rule of four?

CHRIS

What time is it? Wasn't there a specific time it was going to be posted?

ADAM

Yeah. Three.

(THEY LOOK AT THEIR PHONES. )

JAMES

Three o' five.

(THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND LET THE FACT SINK IN.)

MYRA

*(to Adam)*

Should we check your computer?

SYD

Why don't we wait a few more minutes.

CHRIS  
Why? Pull it up, Adam.

(ADAM USES HIS MOUSE AND CLICKS A FEW TIMES.)

NIKKI AND JAMES HOLD HANDS. CHRIS PUTS HIS ARMS AROUND MYRA FROM BEHIND. SYD CROSSES HER ARMS OVER HER STOMACH.)

ADAM  
Sergeant Major Sofia Ramirez and Lieutenant Alphonse Ramirez.

(EVERYONE DEFLATES.)

JAMES  
...God damn it! Pardon me.

MYRA  
No fucking problem.

JAMES  
I remember that one. They both fought in Afghanistan. He lost his leg below the knee to a car bomb. A miscarriage and two IVFs.

CHRIS  
Hard to beat that. And you know me. I hate to lose.

(SYD BEGINS TO QUIETLY CRY. NIKKI AND MYRA GO AND COMFORT HER.)

AFTER SEVERAL BEATS OF QUIET...)

JAMES  
Once more unto the breach, dear friends.

ADAM  
Not me. I can't bear it. All these little deaths. I want to start using birth control again. I'm serious, Syd. I'm done.

(SYD LOOKS AT HIM DEVASTATED BUT NODS.)

LIGHTS FADE. EVERYONE EXITS EXCEPT FOR SYD WHO REMAINS ALONE UPSTAGE.

A PHOTO OF "BUMMER THE DOG" BEING HUGGED BY A/SOME SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS COMES ON THE SCREEN.

MYRA AND NIKKI ENTER DOWNSTAGE AND ADDRESS THE AUDIENCE. MYRA IS HOLDING AN INDEX CARD.)

MYRA

Hello, everyone. This is Bummer. Auction Item #33. He was once used for shooting practice. Now look at him. He still has faith in human beings and gives us faith and hope in return. The winning bidder gets a session with him in conjunction with family therapist Nikki Bookbinder.

NIKKI

Bid high, he's a real love! Thank you for caring!

(THEY LAUGH AND EXIT. PICTURE GOES OUT.

SYD MOVES DOWNSTAGE TO AN "ELEVATOR." A WOMAN WITH A BABY STRAPPED TIGHTLY TO HER ENTERS AND FACES FRONT. SYD NOTES THE BABY. SHE SEEMS DRAWN TO IT. THE MOTHER DOESN'T NOTICE AS SHE REACHES OUT HER HAND TOWARD THE BUNDLE. LIGHTS SHIFT TO NIKKI AND JAMES. SHE IS OPENING A LETTER AS HE CROSSES THROUGH OPENING OTHER MAIL.)

NIKKI

More Grandma Himmelmaker stuff. From the lawyers again.

JAMES

I hope it's a secret bank account, we deserve one cleaning up after 23 cats. My sinuses may never recover.

(NIKKI LOOKS UP FROM THE PAGE, ASTONISHED.)

NIKKI

It's an egg.

JAMES

What? Don't tell me she kept chickens, too.

NIKKI

Not that kind of egg.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO MYRA AND CHRIS AS MYRA  
PACES ON THE PHONE.)

MYRA

I don't want to talk about this. (HANGS UP) She offered her eggs again.

CHRIS

I don't want them. There's enough of her DNA around.

MYRA

Hey, she's my sister!

CHRIS

(THROWS UP HANDS) I can't win.

MYRA

Every day practically it's either take my eggs or there's black kids out there needing homes. Are we being selfish? Is that why we aren't getting pregnant?

CHRIS

Is this your sister talking?

MYRA

I'm starting to feel guilty. Why go through all this when there are kids who need parents.

CHRIS

Do you want to go talk to an agency?

MYRA

My gut says no! (PUTS HAND ON GUT) Right here. Where it hurts all the time because I want them so much. And I know there are souls up there who want us as parents. But they aren't listening! Why aren't they listening?

(MYRA DOESN'T LOOK UP BUT CHRIS LOOKS  
DOES.)

CHRIS

Hey, there's a full moon. Let's get naked and do our own little voodoo.

MYRA

Dancing AND touching?

CHRIS

With no cup to drop. And I want to tell you something about Bummer.

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO DR. ASHOK ADDRESSING AN UNSEEN GROUP OF PEOPLE.)

DR. ASHOK

I would like to just say how important this particular program is to me, and the members of my staff. There is almost a mystery to it all. How the right donor seems to show up just as a couple rises to the top of the list needing a match.

(NIKKI AND JAMES APPEAR SITTING IN CHAIRS. NIKKI RAISES HER HAND.)

NIKKI

Did you say mystery, Dr. Ashok?

DR. ASHOK

Yes, for you, Nikki, I will accede to the mystery. We are only just learning how nine months of a mother's blood can alter the building blocks, switch on or off genes of a fetus growing with a donated egg.

NIKKI

*(leaning into James)*

I hope I don't turn on the flatulence gene.

JAMES

*(whispers back)*

We'd know your blood worked.

DR. ASHOK

Once you are matched with your anonymous donor, you will receive her six page write-up, including all her physical attributes, family medical history and her personality report which includes her interests and why she has chosen to be an egg donor --

(LIGHTS SHIFT TO JAMES HOLDING A SIX-PAGE REPORT WHILE SPEAKING TO MYRA, CHRIS, SYD AND ADAM. NIKKI STANDS NEXT TO HIM.)

JAMES

-- which she says is both economic -- she's an English M.A. candidate -- and an act of kindness since she doesn't want to have children.



NIKKI

Although Dr. Ashok says a lot of donors write that. I didn't want kids when I was 22 either.

ADAM

I take it she looks like Nikki?

JAMES

The whole thing reads like Nikki twenty years ago.

NIKKI

Minus the traumatic sophomore year.

SYD

And if you do this, you'll share her eggs with another couple?

JAMES

Since she's so young, in one cycle they can get up to 24 eggs.

MYRA

Lordy, I made eight at my best shot.

CHRIS

But that means your kid could have siblings out in the world.

MYRA

That's nothing new. I just read about some reunion, 48 half-siblings from one nice sperm donor's two line write-up.

NIKKI

Two lines? Our girl requires six pages. Sexist much?

MYRA

Not at all, the guy doesn't really matter. ONLY KIDDING!

ADAM

Well, just remind him or her to have a blood test before getting married.

SYD

You could still see James' face in your child. How much time do you have to decide?

JAMES

Three days.

MYRA

But I thought you guys were broke. The egg donor program is like twice as much as an IVF.

(JAMES AND NIKKI EXCHANGE A LOOK)

NIKKI

My grandmother passed.

CHRIS

Ah-ha, how much you get?

MYRA

I think the correct response is "so sorry."

NIKKI

That's okay.

JAMES

We thought we got 23 cats and a worthless rental.

NIKKI

But she also left me a Faberge egg she never mentioned to anyone. It's worth almost exactly what the donor program costs.

CHRIS

(LAUGHING) No shit. An egg, for an egg.

MYRA

The universe has spoken. You have to do it.

SYD

What are the chances of success? I mean, even donor eggs might not take.

NIKKI

50 percent.

SYD

I'm sorry, did you say 50?

JAMES

That number comes from Dr. Ashok.

NIKKI

50 percent, up from 10 percent.

CHRIS

(STILL LAUGHING) I love it, an egg for an egg.

MYRA

Let us know what you decide.

(SYD AND ADAM EXCHANGE GLANCES. SHE TAKES HIS HAND.)

ADAM

We have an announcement, too.

SYD

We filled out forms to be foster parents.

(MYRA JUMPS UP AND GIVES SYD AN ENORMOUS HUG)

MYRA

Syd! That's amazing.

NIKKI

It really is!

JAMES

And something we can actually help you with, if you want, I work with the State in some cases, to help you navigate if you need it.

ADAM

Sure, thanks. Really.

CHRIS

So, this is something you're cool with, Adam.

ADAM

Yes. Really. I'm relieved actually. And terrified.

JAMES

I never heard either of you mention it, was this something you were secretly thinking about?

ADAM

I was. Secretly.

SYD

I wasn't. My total focus was on not being able to hold a pregnancy. Above all else. Then, right after we found out we lost the contest, I was in an elevator. And I met this baby. All bundled up in a baby bjorn. I just had this incredible urge to reach out my hand to this tiny person. And her hand shot out like a force of nature and grabbed my finger. She squeezed so hard, and I felt this current zap my heart. She was telling me, that I'm needed. There are others like her who need me. The mother, well, the foster mother, then spoke to me, said there's this new wave of babies in foster care because of cheap heroin. That little girl turning my finger purple had been born addicted. The foster mother was already applying for adoption. I came home and Adam and I had a very good talk...

ADAM

...over a fantastic meal, with capers.

(MYRA AND CHRIS EXCHANGE FAST GLANCES  
AND SYD CATCHES THEM.)

SYD

What? Are you two doing it, too?

MYRA

No no –

CHRIS

We talked about it –

MYRA

But no – that's not our path, yet, anyway – but you're right, there's a kid or kids out there that need you, Syd. I saw my nieces just yesterday and I was thinking that – how much we're needed, and how fast they grow. I went to their elementary school color show. They're singing all the classics. "This land is your land." "Rainbow Connection." "America." The parents are all kinds, aloof, chatty, upper, lower, middle. But as soon as the children walked out in their straight, little lines, every adult in the audience turned into an idiot. Waving, calling their child's name, a hundred cellphones in the air. And the kids all waved back, frantically searching for their parents, to get that moment of eye contact. Of recognition. There's mine. They're watching me. When you bring it down to the essence. All the striving. All the worry. All the accomplishments. All the dreams. Whether you're a parent or not, it really is all about the kids.

JAMES

For better or worse.

SYD

In sickness and in health.

MYRA

'til death do us part. And we meet again. (LOOKS DOWN AT HER STOMACH) Right, honey?

(MYRA STOPS HERSELF. SHE LOOKS UP AT HER FRIENDS, THEIR MOUTHS ALL AGAPE, BORDERING ON ELATION AS THEY PUT IT TOGETHER. MYRA LOOKS TO CHRIS WHO SMILES AND SHRUGS, THEN BACK AT THE OTHERS.)

MYRA

Oops.

(BLACK OUT. END OF PLAY.)