

***Fodder***  
**Day 10**

by  
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1.

*Anne and Bruce on a bench*

ANNE

This isn't a love story.

BRUCE

Ok.

ANNE

I want to be sure you know.

BRUCE

Understand.

ANNE

I have needs.

BRUCE

Specific needs?

ANNE

I'm not making a proposition.

BRUCE

Ok.

ANNE

I don't want you to misread what I'm going to say.

BRUCE

Understand.

ANNE

I want to have a baby.

*(Beat)*

With you.

*Beat.*

BRUCE

How could I possibly misread that?

**2.**

*Anne and a doctor (woman).*

ANNE

It said yes. The second one said yes.

DOCTOR

This one said no.

ANNE

The first one said yes.

DOCTOR

This one is the one that counts. And it says no.

ANNE

I swear it said yes.

DOCTOR

I'm not saying it didn't. All I know is that this test is negative.

**3.**

*Anne and Bruce.*

ANNE

I wanted them to do the test. A test, whatever test they do, without asking questions.

BRUCE

They always ask questions. Don't they?

ANNE

Did you get your test?

BRUCE

We don't have to do it that way. There are systems in place for an exchange to happen. Keep emotion out of it.

ANNE

If I'm doing it, I'm doing it right. Natural.

BRUCE

And there's no one else?

ANNE

No one that would say yes.

BRUCE

I haven't said yes.

ANNE

You haven't told me no yet.

BRUCE

I haven't said yes.

ANNE

Please.

BRUCE

I don't think I can.

ANNE

I'm almost 30.

BRUCE

I'm 31.

ANNE

I was supposed to be someone else by now. I was supposed to be "Mommy" to a little girl and a little boy by now. I was supposed to be a wife to a kind man by now. I was supposed to own a house, to have a career and not a job by now. My one bedroom apartment, shit job at a retail store, and single life notwithstanding, I could still be Mommy.

BRUCE

You want to do it this way? Me. You. A baby. This is the way you want it.

ANNE

I want it. If it could be done differently I would already be a mother.

**4.**

*Anne and Bruce. They are waiting for a pregnancy test.*

BRUCE

Is it Buddhists or Hindus that believe in reincarnation?

ANNE

Hindus.

BRUCE

Do you think they see failure as we see failure?

ANNE

In terms of being punished for it?

BRUCE

No. You said you thought about all those things that were undone, people you think you should've been. Do they believe that it's ok to leave those things undone? Maybe those old goals become fodder for the next life, the next existence. Where you can do better. Have what you can't have now.

*Anne looks at the test. Bruce looks at her.*

5.

*Anne and the doctor.*

*The doctor looks at a chart. She nods.*

6.

*Anne and Bruce.*

ANNE

He's nice. Really nice. You'd really like him. I probably should tell him, right? He'll start to wonder as I get fat. Or fatter. The fact that he's interested in me looking like this is a testament to his commitment. What do you think? I owe it to him to tell him?

*Bruce exits without a word.*

7.

*Anne alone. She texts. She waits. She texts. She waits, she texts. She waits, she waits. She waits.*

*She calls. No answer. She waits. She waits.*

*Lights fade.*