

Hospital sounds. Woman crying.

YOUNG AMELIA

Momma?

ELLEN

Sorry sweetie. Mommy is just a little upset.

YOUNG AMELIA

Is Nick going to be okay?

ELLEN

Of course he will, Amelia. Don't worry.

YOUNG AMELIA

But you're worried.

ELLEN

It's my job. Not yours. Come here sweetie.

Intro

AMELIA

Jon?

JON

Hey...

AMELIA

You shouldn't be here.

JON

I have a bone to pick with Kim.

AMELIA

I mostly meant why are you cutting through here?

JON

Oh.

AMELIA

Are you having an emergency?

JON

No...

AMELIA

And you don't have a shift, do you?

JON

No.

AMELIA

That's right. So remind me again why you're cutting through my ER.

JON

What is going on?

AMELIA

I just told you.

JON

This isn't about me walking through. This is about us breaking up.

AMELIA

We were never together in the first place. I took care of you while you were hurt.

JON

And I said I'm sorry for how things happened, but we moved too quickly, and-

AMELIA

I though you were like me. And it turns out I was *way* off.

JON

What's that supposed to mean?

AMELIA

Nothing.

JON

It's not like I did it on purpose... I just-

AMELIA

It wasn't just your decision, you know. I learned way more about you than I wanted, too. And I don't like it.

JON

I'm sorry you feel that way. I really hope we can get past this so we can work together again soon.

AMELIA

Work together? You think you're going to get your job back? Good luck.

JON

Not yet. I think I have some leverage that might convince Kim to un-suspend me, though.

AMELIA

There ya go. Manipulate people while you can.

JON

Amelia, I didn't-

AMELIA

Stay out of my ER unless you have an actual emergency. Actually if YOU have another emergency, you can still stay out.

JON

Wow...

Elevator doors open

LILY

Going up?

JON

Yep...

LILY

What floor?

JON

Third. Thank you.

Elevator sounds. Jon and Lily are standing in silence. The elevator lurches to a halt and stops.

JON (cont'd)

Uhh...

LILY

Oh god. What happened?

JON

I don't know... The elevator is stopped.

Pushing buttons

JON (cont'd)
It's not working.

LILY
Oh my... I don't like small spaces.

JON
I'm sure it'll get started again
soon.

Silence

JON (cont'd)
Let me try the door.

LILY
Okay...
Jon grunting, trying to pull the doors open.

JON
No dice.

LILY
I'm not feeling so well...

JON
You look pale. You should sit.

LILY
You think so?

JON
Definitely. Here. Let me help.

LILY
Thank you.

JON
Is it claustrophobia, or are you
ill?

LILY
Did the chemo bag give it away?

JON
Sorry.

LILY
My name is Lily.

JON
Jon.

LILY
Nice to meet you.

JON
Were you headed up to the cancer ward?

LILY
Yep... Heh. Home sweet home.

JON
I hope whatever this is gets fixed soon.

LILY
It's alright. I'm kind of comfy down here.

JON
Your skin still looks pale.

LILY
I'll be alright.

JON
Do you mind if I check your blood pressure?

LILY
Uhh...

JON
Oh. Duh. I'm a doctor here. Or... I was a doctor here.

LILY
But you're in normal clothes.

JON
Yeah... I was... Suspended a few weeks ago.

LILY
Should I be worried?

JON
No, no, not at all. I got suspended for... Well... It's complicated, but it's got nothing to do with me being a bad doctor.

LILY

You're the type of person who keeps all of their burdens to themselves, huh?

JON

That's a little out of nowhere.

LILY

I'm the same way, though. Always put on a brave face so people never see you sweat.

JON

Ha. Not quite. I don't hide my emotions very well. That's what got me into this mess in the first place.

LILY

Talking back to the boss man, huh?

JON

Boss ladies.

LILY

Ladies?

JON

I told you it's complicated. Can I check your vitals now?

LILY

Not so fast. You need to tell me something personal about you first.

JON

Seriously? You could be spiking a fever.

LILY

Yes, seriously. I'm not letting a stranger touch me. I make all my doctors do it.

JON

Okay. Fine. I hate coffee. I only drink tea.

LILY

That's it?

JON

What? Yeah... That doesn't count?

LILY

Not at all! Unless hating coffee defines up as a person.

JON

Can I say it does and move on?

LILY

If someone who hated coffee enough to let it define them as a person, I think you'd see that coming a mile away.

JON

You're an odd person.

LILY

Now that IS how I define myself.

JON

Can I please check your vitals now?

LILY

Oh. I must have missed the part where you told me a truth. Something people don't know about you.

JON

My ex died, and it changed me as a person.

LILY

Heavy.

JON

May I?

LILY

Mhm. (Pause) How did she die?

JON

Your vitals look good.

LILY

I guess if it was something traumatic, you wouldn't want to talk about it, huh? Fine. My turn: Before I came here, I was planning on dropping out of high school and

(MORE)

LILY (cont'd)
going to beauty school - like in
Grease.

JON
Do you really do this with
everyone?

LILY
Absolutely. If you can't open up to
someone who's dying, who can you
talk to?

JON
You're wise beyond your years.

LILY
It's your turn.

JON
We don't need to keep going back
and forth. I'm sure the elevator
will start again soon. And besides
- we should conserve our air.

LILY
Ugh. I'm feeling faint.

JON
What's wrong?!

LILY
I think I need...

JON
Lily? Lily stay with me.

LILY
I need... You to tell me another
secret.

JON
Seriously? For fuck's sake.

LILY
Whoa! Minor here.

JON
That wasn't funny.

LILY
Sorry.

Silence

JON

My ex fiance was a guy, by the way.
You said she, earlier.

LILY

Oh! You're gay?

JON

Bisexual, but most of my serious
relationships were men.

LILY

That's cool. Why didn't you correct
me when I said it?

JON

What do you mean?

LILY

Well. I had a cat at home who as
cute as a button. I'd tie a little
bow in his hair, put on a pink
collar and walk him around on a dog
leash. People would always think he
was a she, but any time they'd ever
say "aww, what's her name?" I'd
correct them instantly by saying
"his name was Mittens."

JON

So?

LILY

So why didn't you correct me and
say your ex was a he?

JON

I've gotten used to it.

LILY

But it must bug you.

JON

It's fine.

LILY

Come on. Dying here, remember?

JON

When I moved here, I got a sense
that this place was a little
homophobic. Recently, I've felt
that again.

LILY

So you didn't want to say anything to make people dislike you?

JON

Heh. It's not really that. It's more about being treated differently.

LILY

Since when is that a bad thing? People treat me differently all the time!

JON

It's a different kind of differently.

LILY

I think it's good to be different.

JON

It's your turn.

LILY

That's the spirit! Hmm... Let's see. Oh! I've got a good one. I actually didn't mind losing my hair.

JON

Really?

LILY

Yeah. I like the wigs. My hair was dumb.

JON

I bet you've told other people that before.

LILY

I bet you've told other people about your ex.

JON

Well, not around here, haha.

LILY

And I haven't told you about the wigs before.

JON
Fair enough.

LILY
It's your turn.

JON
I was really mean to some people recently. And I wish I could go back and undo it.

LILY
Another boy?

JON
Ha. A boy, a girl, and a lady.

LILY
One of your bosses?

JON
Yeah, haha. One of. The other can go fuck herself.

LILY
And which one of them were you going to see? The good witch, or the bad witch?

JON
You must really like old movies, huh?

LILY
Not much else to do when you're confined to a bed. But answer the question.

JON
A few days ago, I wouldn't have called either of them the good witch, but I'm starting to think I was too harsh on one.

LILY
You're bad at this.

JON
Sorry. Definitely going to see the bad witch.

LILY
Hope you brought some water.

JON
Are you feeling thirsty?

LILY
I was kidding... To melt her.

JON
Ah.

LILY
You should relax.

JON
You're still not looking too good.
And your chemo bag is almost empty.
How are you feeling?

LILY
Fine.

JON
Just fine?

LILY
Well, I've been better.

JON
What stage did you say you were?

LILY
I didn't.

JON
Don't say it's too personal.

LILY
No. It's not that...
Lily starts coughing.

JON
You okay?

LILY
I'll be okay... You don't actually
have any water, do you?

JON
I don't. Hopefully this elevator
starts moving soon.
Lily coughs again

JON (cont'd)
Say, isn't it your turn?

LILY
I... Wasn't supposed to leave the
cancer ward.

JON
I had a feeling...

LILY
How?

JON
Well it's not often they let cancer
patients actively getting chemo
walk around the hospital. But
besides, that's an antimetabolite
chemotherapy bag. Used to treat
Leukemia and some of worst types of
cancer.

LILY
Heh... Small intestine. Stage 3.

JON
I'm so sorry.

LILY
They told me my recovery chance was
low, but I can see it all over my
mom's face. I'm not making it back
from this.

JON
You're too good at reading people.

LILY
Can I tell you something?

JON
It is your turn, right?

LILY
I'm really scared to die.

Silent

LILY (cont'd)
I'm sorry.

JON
Did I tell you what kind of doctor
I was?

LILY
No, you didn't.

JON
I'm a forensic pathologist. I
examine dead people to figure out
what killed them.

LILY
God. It's like foreshadowing...

JON
That's not what I meant. I meant
that you don't need to be afraid of
death. It's not that bad.

LILY
Easy for you to say.

JON
Trust me.

LILY
Because you see dead people?

JON
Enough with the movie references.

LILY
I wasn't referencing a movie. I'm
being serious. How do you know?

JON
Hmmm... Because I do see dead
people.

LILY
I don't get why that should make me
feel any better.

JON
Lily, I'm being serious. It's my
turn, right?

LILY
I guess.

JON
So that's my secret. Something that
I've literally never told ANYONE
before: I can see ghosts.

LILY
Are you kidding?

JON
I'm 100% serious.

LILY
Like you're a clairvoyant?

JON
No. Well. I don't know. But I can see the ghosts of people that have died. I can speak to them, and that's how I do my job.

LILY
I'm not young enough to believe something ridiculous like that.
Lily coughs.

JON
It's true. When someone dies, they reappear somewhere nearby as a ghost. But the ghost looks exactly like a normal person - they're not see through or scary looking. The only thing that's different is that they float a few centimeters off the ground.

LILY
You're not messing with me?

JON
Not at all. Sometimes, I even have trouble telling when someone is alive or a ghost, especially if I didn't know they were dead. I was actually being followed by a ghost a few days ago... I was mean to him before and after he died...

LILY
After? So wait, they can actually hear you too?

JON
Yeah, they can. I try to talk to them when they appear, and explain what's going on. And then I usually see if they know what happened to... Well, to try to solve the crime of who or what killed them.

LILY

This is... A lot to take in.

JON

I'm sure it is. I've never told anyone my secret before. It kind of feels like it's spewing out of me.

LILY

This is so. Freaking. Cool!

JON

Haha, really?

LILY

Yes! Ghosts and stuff are real?

JON

I don't know about "and stuff" but ghosts definitely are.

LILY

Why are you telling me all this?

JON

You said to tell you a secret. But, I also told you to help.

LILY

To help?

JON

When... Er... If you die -

LILY

When.

JON

Well... Everybody dies eventually. So when we all die. We become ghosts. There's no darkness after. No pain. Nothing to fear.

LILY

But you're stuck as a ghost. You're still dead.

JON

You are dead... But you're not stuck. There's *something* after.

LILY

What is it?

JON

I'm not sure. I don't have any way of knowing. But from what I've heard about being a ghost, you're still you. You think normally, you just don't feel any pain or illness. It sounds nice.

LILY

But no one can hear you, or see you. Well, except for you.

JON

That's true.

Lily starts coughing.

JON (cont'd)

Are you okay?

LILY

I don't feel well.

JON

You're not dying today. Not with me here.

LILY

Well, if I did... You'd probably be the best choice. (pause) Jon, what does dying feel like?

JON

I think it depends. For some people, it's quick and painless. They get shot or decapitated and the next thing they know, they're a ghost. And as a ghost, you don't really feel anything.

LILY

And for some people, it's miserable and agonizing.

JON

You're not going to die today.

LILY

But I will die sometime.

JON

If it's here in this hospital, they won't let you be in pain.

LILY

And then I won't feel anything as a ghost...

JON

Correct.

LILY

At least I can haunt my family and friends.

JON

Haha. Yeah.

LILY

Wait. You're lying. Why?

JON

You really are good at that.

LILY

I can't haunt my family?

JON

It's not like ghosts in TV shows. You won't be able to interact with the world. And you can only stay as a ghost for a little while...

LILY

Why?

JON

Staying as a ghost takes a toll on you.

LILY

I thought you said it didn't hurt.

JON

It's a mental toll, not a physical one.

LILY

So I'll go crazy?

JON

It'll take a while. And it's different for everyone, but

(MORE)

JON (cont'd)
eventually being unable to feel or
touch or even talk to anyone else
will make you miserable.

LILY
But I can come talk to you.

JON
I'm not great company, I'm afraid.

LILY
So then what?

JON
Then you'll want to move on.

LILY
Is this supposed to help me feel
better?

JON
I think so.

LILY
Why? Now I just know what's coming.

JON
And that doesn't make it less
scary? Fear of the unknown is a big
part of fear itself.

LILY
You're being too sciencey. There's
still the unknown. Now there's just
another stage in between.

JON
That's... A good point.

LILY
So then what do you think happens
when you... What did you call it?

JON
Move on.

LILY
Yeah. What happens?

JON
I have no idea.

LILY
But what do you think happens?

JON
I don't know... How am I supposed
to know that?

LILY
You aren't. I just want to know
what you think it could be...

JON
Hmmm. I guess I like to believe
that your energy, or your spirit,
dissipates into the world and is
returned to where it's supposed to
be.

LILY
Do you believe in Heaven?

JON
I have no-

LILY
Hmmm...

JON
No. I don't.

LILY
I do.

JON
Then there you go. When you move
on, maybe you'll go to Heaven.

LILY
Which is hopefully not like being a
ghost...

JON
Hopefully, it's like everything you
think it will be.
Elevator turns back on.

LILY
Oh thank god.

JON
Don't sound so relieved, haha.

LILY

I'm just ready to get back in bed.

JON

By the way, before the doors open. If you tell anyone what we talked about, I'll blame it on your fever like no tomorrow.

LILY

It'll be our secret.
Elevator doors open.

NURSE

Oh thank goodness! There you are!

LILY

Hi nurse Camdem.

JON

You okay?

LILY

I'm fine.

JON

She had a bit of a fever and some coughing, but overall, her vitals were good.

NURSE

Do you work here?

LILY

Thanks, Jon. Where are you going? I thought you were going to the third floor.

JON

I think I'll take the stairs... (To self) I can't believe you told her that... It's not like it really even helped. And now I'm just going around telling people this stuff, after I've done... So much to keep it a secret? God damnit.

Door opens. Jon goes to the door and someone else opens it.

PHD

Oh - Jonathan. I was just on my way out.

JON
We had an appointment.

PHD
We did. For about twenty minutes ago. You missed it.

JON
Well, I need to talk to you anyway.

PHD
So did I. But we can save it for tomorrow.

JON
You rescheduled?

PHD
No. Just pop up before your shift tomorrow.

JON
I'm confused.

PHD
Why?

JON
I wanted to talk to you about some... Sensitive information. And about getting my job back.

PHD
Yes. I know. I'm sorry about the circumstances, but I am glad you decided to see the error of your ways and send some tapes to me.

JON
Ummm...

PHD
It'll take some time for me to get through these, but we can talk soon. I expect you to send me the rest shortly, yes?

JON
Ummm... Yes.

PHD
Great. Schedule an appointment for later this week with Anne.