HOW TO TELL HER

Ву

Brennan Scott

BrennanLScott@gmail.com

INT. HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

A young GIRL sits on the edge of the BATH TUB. She shakes her leg nervously. She is waiting for something.

This is LOLA (16).

She glances at the WATCH on her wrist. Taking a BREATH she walks over to the SINK.

Resting on the sink is a plastic object. A PREGNANCY TEST.

Slowly picking it up, Lola is horrified at what she sees. The test is POSITIVE.

Quickly, Lola opens a new box of tests and tries again. She waits. Moments later, she looks. The results are the same.

Her eyes begin to tear.

LOLA (to herself) Oh no... Oh, God...

Suddenly, there's a KNOCK on the door. Lola's mother, KARA (35), calls from the other side.

KARA O.S. Lola, honey? Are you in there?

LOLA Yeah. Give me a minute.

KARA O.S. Just letting you know I'm home. Be thinking of what you might want for dinner, okay?

LOLA

Okay...

Kara walks away as Lola SIGHS. Lola puts the tests and their boxes into a PLASTIC BAG.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - LOLA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lola enters the room and shuts the door behind her. She walks over to the CLOSET and opens the door.

Leaning inside, Lola hides the plastic bag away in the corner. Shutting the door back, Lola sits on the bed.

Her face turning red, Lola begins to cry. She buries her face into her hands.

After several moments, Lola wipes the tears away. She walks to the door and exits the room.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Lola turns to corner to find Kara sitting at the TABLE. She is reading a MAGAZINE while drinking TEA.

Lola walks to the table and takes a seat. Kara continues to read as she acknowleges Lola.

KARA How was school today?

Lola remains silent. Kara notices as she looks up to Lola.

KARA (CONT'D) Did you hear me?

Lola nods as Kara notices the sadness on Lola's face.

KARA (CONT'D) Hey, what's the matter? Have you been crying?

LOLA Yeah, a little.

KARA Well, talk to me. What's going on?

LOLA I don't know how to tell you.

KARA I know something's up now, so you mights as well say something. Right?

Lola SIGHS as more tears begin to fall.

KARA (CONT'D) Sweetie, just tell me.

LOLA

I'm pregnant.

Kara is taken back.

KARA What? Are you sure? I mean, how do you know?

LOLA I took a test. That's what I was doing in there.

KARA So you just found out?

Lola nods.

KARA (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ, Lola! You're a teenager. What were you thinking? Who's the father?

LOLA I can't tell you, mom.

KARA

Lola, I'm not going to make trouble for this boy. I just need to know. As your mother, I have the right to know who is having relations with my daughter. Tell me right now!

Lola gives in.

LOLA It's dad's, mom.

KARA Excuse me?

Excuse i

Beat.

LOLA Daddy is the father. I'm sorry...

Kara begins to tear up.

LOLA (CONT'D) Mom, I'm sorry...

Kara stands and SLAPS Lola across the face.

KARA You do not lie like that, young lady! Don't you dare tell a lie like that to me.

Lola stands and faces Kara, tears falling.

LOLA I'm not lying, mama! I'm not! I swear! KARA Don't you say that to me! How could you? Kara grabs Lola's shoulders, shaking her. LOLA It's the truth! Mama, I'm sorry! KARA It can't be true! LOLA Please, mama... I'm sorry. Kara lets go as she sobs. She sees the truth in Lola's eyes. KARA (to herself) Why is this happening? What do I do? Then, the FRONT DOOR opens as Lola's father, SCOTT (36), enters the room. SCOTT Hey guys. I could hear you shouting from outside. What's going on? Scott looks at Lola, who is still sobbing. Lola looks back at Scott nervously. Scott turns to Kara. SCOTT Honey? What's up? Kara walks up to Scott. After a beat, Kara SLAPS Scott across the face as she YELLS. KARA (angrily) How could you? She's your daughter! What is wrong with you?! SCOTT Stop it! What are you talking

about?

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KARA She's pregnant, Scott. Because of you and what you did.

SCOTT I didn't do anything!

KARA You look me in the eye. You look me in the eye and tell me you had nothing to do with it.

Kara looks deep into Scott's eyes as he looks back at her.

SCOTT

I didn't...

Before he can finish, Scott glances at Lola. Lola mouths the words, "I'm sorry."

Scott looks back at Kara.

SCOTT I'm sorry, Kara.

KARA YOU BASTARD! HOW COULD YOU?!

Kara begins hitting and pushing Scott.

SCOTT I don't know what to say.

KARA SHE'S YOUR DAUGHTER! YOU'RE SICK!

Kara turns to Lola.

KARA (CONT'D) Lola, go to your room. Now!

LOLA Mama, I'm...

KARA (interrupts) Just go!

Crying, Lola runs out of the kitchen. Kara turns back to Scott and continues YELLING.

KARA O.S. What were you thinking? Were you even thinking? You're supposed to protect her, Scott! Don't you understand that?

SCOTT O.S. I understand, but I wasn't trying to hurt her.

Lola runs into --

INT. HOUSE - LOLA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lola shuts the door and runs to her bed. The muffled VOICES of her parents can still be heard outside.

KARA O.S. Is there something wrong with you? What was going through your head?

SCOTT O.S. I don't know what to say, Kara. I screwed up, okay?

KARA O.S. You sure as hell did, Scott! Look what's happened!

On the bed, Lola cries as she takes her PILLOW and covers her ears. Slowly, the only thing she can hear is the sound of her own SNIFFLES and SOBS.

Lola closes her eyes.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

INT. HOUSE - LOLA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Hours later, Lola is asleep in the bed. Soon, a soft KNOCKING is heard on the door.

As Lola awakens, Kara peeks her head inside.

KARA Lola, dinner's almost ready. Come to the kitchen when you get woken up. Kara shuts the door. Lola leans up in the bed. Slowly, she stands, walks to the door, and exits the room.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Entering the room, Lola notices Scott sitting at the table. His head is resting in his hands.

Kara carries a POT from the STOVE and sets it on the table.

KARA (to Lola) Come on and sit down. It's time to eat.

Reluctantly, Lola walks to the table and sits. Kara sits as well as she prepares the plates.

KARA (CONT'D) Nobody had any dinner ideas so I hope this works fine for everybody.

The plates are soon prepared as Kara starts to eat. Scott and Lola look between each other and Kara.

Kara notices.

KARA (CONT'D) Go ahead and eat, guys.

SCOTT (to Kara) Kara, don't you think we should talk about this some more?

KARA There's not much left to say on the subject. But, there are a few things that need to happen.

SCOTT Anything. Just tell me what you want me to do. If you want me to go away for a while, I can call Jeremy. I'm sure he'll... KARA (interrupts) Is that what you think I want? To break up this family? I want us to stay a family.

SCOTT That's what I want too, Kara.

KARA You have to turn yourself in, Scott.

SCOTT

What?!

Lola turns to Kara.

LOLA What? No, mama...

KARA

Scott, what you did was wrong. You have to do the right thing. I don't know how long it will last, but you have to prove to me and your daughter that you were wrong. Accept the consequences.

SCOTT

I don't know if I can do that.

KARA

There's no other choice. You want to keep this a secret? Live a lie? I'm not going to do that, Scott. It's the only way to take the right steps in the right direction.

Scott thinks to himself.

LOLA No, mama. Don't make daddy...

SCOTT (interrupts) Fine. I'll do it.

Lola looks at Scott.

LOLA Don't go! SCOTT

Your mom is right. It was wrong what I did to you. I'll do the right thing. I'll get the help I need and pay the price. I need help.

KARA

(to Scott) I know it seems harsh for me to come to this conclusion, but you do understand my reasoning. We need to protect our daughter. Even if it's from you.

Scott nods as he tears up. Kara turns to Lola.

KARA (CONT'D) I'll take you to the doctor soon so we can get you checked out, okay?

LOLA Mama, don't make daddy go! Please!

KARA Honey, I know it's hard for you to understand right now, but it's the best thing for our family right now. One day, you'll understand. Can you trust me on that, Lola?

A beat passes as Lola looks at Scott and back to Kara.

LOLA

Yes. I trust you.

KARA

Good. We'll deal with everything tomorrow. For now, lets just have dinner, okay?

Kara starts eating as Lola and Scott look at each other. After a moment, they too begin to eat.

Kara reaches out and touches Lola's hand as she SMILES at Lola.

FADE TO BLACK:

THE END.