

THE DOCTOR'S WIFE
BY
MARSHA COOK
BASED ON STORY
BY
JUDY SNIDER & MARY MARUDAS

FADE IN:

MICHIGAN

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

It's a clear brisk Michigan evening. The house we are looking at is set back in the woods. It is a moderate house with a two car garage and a short driveway. It's fall and the leaves are covering the gravel.

The backyard looks very much like the other houses on the block where children live. There's a gravel path leading to the swing set, but at this home there are no children living there.

The wind is quite brisk and the leaves are crackling as they fall to the ground. The back door light is broken making it very difficult to see much of anything.

The only thing you can hear now are footsteps and the voice of the wind. It's a cold night not the kind of night you would choose to swing back and forth on a swing set.

EXT. BACKYARD - NIGHT

There's a man sitting on the swing, but his face is never visible.

MALE (VO)

What a pity she has to die. Pretty and smart. But eventually we all die. Just some go a lot quicker than others, and some for no reason at all. Annie my dear your days are numbered. It wasn't your fault but someone has to pay. And you my dear are going to be just a faint memory. And it's going to be soon. Sorry ...

The swing is going higher and higher and the music is getting louder and louder.

The wind is blowing but the whistling never stops...

INT. SAME HOUSE - SAME NIGHT

The house is quite attractive and very charming. There's a stone fireplace in the living room- dining room area and the furniture is comfortable and very low key.

ANNIE, mid thirties, slightly taller than her husband. She's very attractive, but her over-all memorable characteristic is her charming wit and her ability to keep her friends and family entertained by her laughter.

Paul, is a skilled Neurosurgeon who at times is too serious. He is amused by his wife's humor and is somewhat in awe of his wife's dedication as a nurse. He's a very patient man who tends to work long hours leaving very little time for anything else.

They both work at the same hospital.

As different as they are they seem to mesh together very successfully.

INT. ANNIE AND PAUL'S HOME - NIGHT

They are about to have a romantic dinner at home. They are joined by their cat, LEO, who is their pride and joy. Leo, being quite clever feels things before anyone else. He seems quite uneasy on this night.

The lighting is dim and the room is filled with fragrant crystal flower vases and candles. It looks as if romance is just moments away for the two of them.

Annie is enjoying a thin slice of chocolate, her favorite, and Paul is having a glass of wine. Paul walks behind her and kisses her neck. Annie closes her eyes and takes a breath enjoying the moment.

ANNIE
(softly giggles as she turns
her head)
Do I know you?

PAUL
You might remember me. I'm the guy that
has loved you for the last six years.

Annie quickly swallows the chocolate she has been
savoring in her mouth before kissing Paul.

ANNIE
Now I remember you. You do look familiar.
Yes, you are that guy and I'm the woman
who has loved you for the last six years.

PAUL
That's good to know.

ANNIE
I would hope so.

Their kiss is interrupted by the doorbell.

Annie quickly pulls some cash out of her pocket and
rushes over to the door to pay the delivery guy.

ANNIE
Coming. Hold on a moment.

After paying the delivery guy she can't help but breath
in the wonderful aroma of pizza.

ANNIE
Oh how I love that smell. Why is it that
I never get sick of a good pizza? It
smells delicious.

PAUL
Because pizza reminds you of how we met.
If it wasn't for my days of delivering
pizza we probably wouldn't be here
tonight.

ANNIE

No truer words have ever been spoken. So, that's why we're still together. We both love pizza. It always makes me happy and in the mood...

PAUL

It's romantic to me. It's about me meeting you and falling in love with you at first sight. Although, I don't think you felt the same way.

ANNIE

Well, I was on a date.

PAUL

You sure were. With my best friend. It was nice of Dan to give you up so I could date you. I have been forever grateful that he split up with you for me.

ANNIE

It wasn't exactly like that. I broke up with him that night.

PAUL

All these years later I had no idea you broke up with him. I thought you really liked each other. Why?

ANNIE

Because I wanted to go out with you.

PAUL

How did you know I would ask you out?

ANNIE

Call it a woman's intuition. If you remember correctly, I asked you out. We've come a long way from that nervous inexperienced young nurse that I was and the innocent shy medical student you were.

PAUL

Well, whatever it was I've been a happy guy since then.

Why does it feel like we just met and then sometimes it feels as if we have been married forever?

ANNIE

It's called life. One day you're here and the next day your not.

PAUL

Isn't that a little too cut and dry.

ANNIE

Maybe so, but I think that's life.

PAUL

For me it's not that simple. There's so much more. I can't even think about not being with you.

ANNIE

Now, that my dear husband is very romantic.

Annie takes a piece of pizza and bites into it as does Paul.

Suddenly the wind kicks up and you can hear the windows rattle.

Leo becomes uneasy and scoots over to the sliding glass door. He stiffens a bit but then walks away.

Annie glances outside but she doesn't see anything.

Paul senses she is a little nervous and he pours her a glass of wine.

Leo is still uneasy and purrs a little louder than usual.

PAUL

(smiles)

Don't say another word. I promise to fix the light in the yard.

ANNIE

There you go. You really know how to make a girl happy.

A couple of weeks later.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME- DAY

Annie is doing her e- mail when a instant message appears. Its from her friend LISA, she's a psychic.

E - mail

Did you watch the DVD I sent you? And don't just shut off the computer thinking I'll go away. Please open

Annie quickly signs off. Her best friend, the psychic, will definitely know she's on but not answering.

The phone rings.

Phone call Lisa/Annie

ANNIE

Okay, you got my attention.

LISA

Are you okay?

ANNIE

Best ever. Don't spoil my mood. I love you but sometimes I just need to let life happen. You know how I like to be surprised. I don't want to know the future .I Can't understand why anybody would. Isn't it more fun to just let things happen?

LISA

Not if you have someone like me looking out for you. Sometimes you have to watch out for yourself.

ANNIE

I promise to look around. I'll even get a can of mace.

LISA

Just be careful, and don't be so witty.

ANNIE

Cross my heart. Love you. Bye.

LISA

Before you go, how are your stitches healing?

ANNIE

How do you know that?

LISA

Never mind I just know how. I know you have a hard time believing what I do is real, but it is. Just trust me on this. Please.

ANNIE

Okay you win. I promise to watch everything around me everywhere I go.

LISA

You're crossing your legs aren't you?

ANNIE

You never give up.

LISA

Love you. Bye.

INT. HOSPITAL PEDIATRIC CARDIAC FLOOR - DAY

Annie is writing her patient notes for the day on the computer at the nurses station when LINDA, Annie's good friend, who is petite and blonde also a nurse, taps her on the shoulder.

Annie doesn't even realize it's her until she turns around and jumps in fright.

LINDA

Don't tell me I scared you.

ANNIE

I didn't see you. You could have said hi.

LINDA

(sarcastic)

I get it Lisa called today. Am I right?
What did the curious but wonderful
psychic have to say.

ANNIE

How did you know that?

LINDA

You jumped. You're always a little
freaked out after a phone call from her.

ANNIE

I couldn't believe it. She knew about the
stitches I got when someone tripped me at
the Michigan Game.

LINDA

Really. Are you sure you never mentioned
it to her.

ANNIE

Believe me I rarely tell her anything
that happens out of the norm. She
eventually finds out. How she does it I
don't want to know.

LINDA

I love that kind of stuff. I like to hear
things before they're going to happen.

ANNIE

I don't want to know anything. Let the
chips fall as they may.

Linda laughs.

ANNIE

It's time for the once a year DVD. I didn't get to it yet. I'll do it soon. Since I lost the baby the only thing I care to know in advance is what I'm going to cook for dinner.

Annie's beeper goes off.

ANNIE

Got to go. Matt was just admitted and he's asking for me. I told Maggie to let me know as soon as they had a room for him.

LINDA

Didn't you promise me you weren't going to get so involved. You said you turned over a new leaf.

ANNIE

Too late this time. It's Matt.

Linda wasn't shocked by her response. Annie didn't linger around and was well on her way down the corridor when she saw her husband coming toward her.

PAUL

What's the hurry?

ANNIE

Matt was just admitted.

PAUL

Didn't you make a promise to me?

ANNIE

I promised no getting attached to new patients. Matt isn't new, he's my friend. For God sakes I've known him since he's a little boy.

Paul moves over to pave the way for Annie's departure. He glances down the corridor and waves to Linda. Paul shrugs his shoulders. Nothing he can do. Linda's response is the same.

INT. MATT'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

MATT is a very bright 10 yr old. He reads medical journals and checks his facts on the internet. His heart is bad and complicated by his diabetes.

ANNIE

Just in case you were wondering I can stay with you for dinner. I already told Maggie that I'll be having dinner with you.

MATT

(smiling)

And what did the warden say?

Annie, kidding around, places her hands over his mouth.

ANNIE

Is that a nice thing to say? Better not let her hear you or your room might be the last room to get their food. Although thinking of how much you dislike their choices it might be worth it. Who doesn't like turkey with a boiled potato and cold soup?

They laugh.

MATT

You could sneak me in a pizza.

ANNIE

How about we do that after surgery? We can celebrate with a party.

MATT

That's sounds great.

MAGGIE ENTERS:

MAGGIE DANZIGER, is a well decorated seasoned nurse with an imperfect personality. She's secure in her position but her social skills need work.

She's an administrative nurse with an edge. She runs her floor like a ship and there's never a doubt who's steering.

MAGGIE

So Matt you seem to be a lot happier than you were when you came in. Could that be Annie's here to save the day.

ANNIE

You got that right. I'm here.

Matt and Annie share a smile.

MAGGIE

Annie, don't stay here all night. You need your rest. No more nights without sleep. That's when mistakes happen and we don't encourage mistakes. Am I right?

ANNIE

(to herself)

Yes, you are Sarge.

On her way out Maggie turns around and says.

MAGGIE

Cheese pizza is fine for me. Just make sure it's deep dish.

Annie winks at Matt.

ANNIE

Now that's a surprise. Hope she's paying.

EXT. CAR - LATE THAT SAME NIGHT

Annie stops at a drive thru - Starbucks.

MAN TAKING ORDER

Annie what are you doing here so late?

ANNIE

Jack, this isn't your shift?

JACK

It is now.

ANNIE

So, you got promoted?

JACK

(yawning)

That's what they told me. No raise yet
just more hours.

ANNIE

I know about that. That's the story of my
life. All work and no play.

Jack hands the drink over to Annie.

JACK

There you go - double chocolate mocha
cappuccino with double whipped cream.

Annie reaches over to pay and hands Jack an extra five.
She's gone before he can thank her.

JACK

(smiles)

Nice lady.

There's a car directly behind her but Annie doesn't
notice. When she pulls away a man is driving up to the
window but we don't see his face or hands because he is
wearing a hat and gloves.

JACK

Welcome to Starbucks. What can I get you
sir?

We don't see his face.

MAN

Whatever Annie had.

JACK

So you know Annie?

MAN

Sure do. Just making sure she gets home
safe and sound.

Jack

Good to see there's still nice people in
the world.

The man drives off and doesn't take his drink. Jack,
still holding the drink closes the drive thru window.

JACK

Takes all kinds.

INT. CAFETERIA - EARLY MORNING

Paul and Annie are having breakfast. Annie is relatively
quiet per her usual cheerful temperament. She yawns a few
times.

PAUL

I'm afraid to ask what time you came home
last night.

ANNIE

Let's just put it this way I had enough
time to make it to Starbucks before they
close.

Paul is always amused by her answers.

PAUL

And you do know they are open 24 hours.

ANNIE

Case dismissed counselor.

She sips her black coffee certain that she won't have
missed those hours of sleep she lost if she drinks enough
coffee.

Paul's pager goes off.

ANNIE

Guess I'm saved by the bell.

PAUL

Got to go. Henry Mugler's been admitted again. This time he's going home with a diagnosis. I promised him.

Paul gives his wife a fast kiss and he's on his way.

ANNIE

How about lunch?

PAUL

Can't. I'm doing a biopsy today. See you later.

Annie is joined by ELAINE and ADAM who are newly married. ELAINE, a renowned psychiatrist, close to 50, slim, very attractive brunette whose third husband is Adam who happens to be quite a bit younger than her. Adam is a male nurse on the neurology floor. He is very handsome, over 6ft tall, not more than thirty five, very funny and obviously attracted to older women.

ADAM

Can we join you?

ANNIE

As if you even have to ask. I have a few minutes before Maggie calls out the dogs for me. She watches me like a hawk. I've been here longer than her but she insists I need a shadow.

ADAM

She watches everyone like that.

ANNIE

She doesn't watch you. If you weren't already taken she might make a play for you.

ADAM

I doubt that. Anyway, there's only one woman for me and she's sitting right next to me.

Elaine is touched by her young husband's kind words and very proud of herself for snagging a young guy.

Elaine

Maggie doesn't have time for anything other than work. You know she usually doesn't tell anyone about herself but I happen to know she donates her time to a soup kitchen in the city.

ANNIE

No way. You need to be pleasant to do that.

ELAINE

I've actually seen her smile.

ANNIE

Good for you.

INT. HOSPITAL - NEUROLOGY FLOOR - DAY

Paul and an entourage of INTERNS, 3 MALE INTERNS and TWO FEMALE, who look too young to be doctors, follow Paul down the corridor and into his patients room.

INT. PATIENTS ROOM - SAME DAY

HENRY MUGLER, late 50's, rather large bald man, gruff speaking who looks a lot like a wrestler.

HENRY

Nice of you to show up, doc. I'm sick of not knowing my fate. I'm not leaving this hospital until you find out what's going on. I feel like shit and if you pardon my french I look like shit.

PAUL

The tests aren't all in yet, but I promise you just as soon as I get the tests back you'll be the first to know.

Paul could feel the challenging awkwardness of this visit so he motions to the interns to give them some breathing room

Paul sits on the edge of Henry's bed.

HENRY

Doc before you go, please hurry up on this I need to know.

Paul sits on the edge of the bed.

PAUL

Look, I know this is difficult but you've been sick for some time.

HENRY

It's a tumor isn't it?

PAUL

I'm sorry Henry but it looks like that's pretty much what's going on here.

HENRY

Then let's proceed. Operate and get this sucker out.

PAUL

It's not that simple.

HENRY

Okay. What comes next?

PAUL

Let me read through all the reports and then I can give you a better answer. I don't like rushing with a diagnosis. I do agree you. You will not be leaving this hospital without a diagnosis and a plan.

INT. HOSPITAL NURSES STATION- AFTERNOON

It's the changing of the guards...nurses in and nurses out. As usual there is a lot of commotion. Day nurses are rushing to finish off their reports and the new shift of nurses trying to get things straight. In a perfect world there would be no room for mistakes, but even the best of nurses stops paying attention especially when they are over worked and very tired.

Annie sits back in her chair and takes a deep breath, very glad to be done with all the paper work.

Suddenly her beeper goes off.

ANNIE

Shit... not today. I was almost out of here.

Annie is so tired she can hardly see straight. Double shifts can do that. She looks down the hall. Linda is standing outside the doorway of her patient's room.

Annie runs down the corridor.

ANNIE

What happened?

The moment Annie looks into Linda's eyes she realizes what happened.

LINDA

She didn't make it.

ANNIE

She was going to be discharged tomorrow.

LINDA

I'm so sorry. I liked her too. Why don't we get out of here and go for a cup of coffee.

ANNIE

I want to say goodbye. I'll be with you in a few minutes.

LINDA

I'll go with you.

INT. STAIRWELL- SAME DAY - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Annie comes out of her patient's room quite upset. She races down the hallway and pushes open the stairwell door. Linda follows.

Annie sits on a step and cries.

ANNIE

I wish I could understand any of this. Why the hell does a beautiful twelve year have to go so soon. Her life was barely beginning.

LINDA

If you're looking for an answer there isn't one.

ANNIE

She was so weak but she never gave up.

LINDA

I know. She was a special little girl.

Linda abruptly changes the subject.

LINDA

What about Matt? How's he doing?

ANNIE

I know what you're doing? You're trying to divert my attention to other things. I don't think it's going to work but you can try.

ANNIE

I went with him for a pre surgical work-up.

LINDA

And his mother? Where was she?

ANNIE

She had an urgent appointment and couldn't stay.

LINDA

You're going to keep getting hurt if you don't make some changes. This is hospital and you are here to help patients. You can't get close to everyone of your patients because some are going to die.

ANNIE

Don't you think I know that?

LINDA?

Of course, but you need to think clearly. Emotions have to separate or take my word for it you won't last.

ANNIE

Okay, let's change the subject. Did you forget about dinner tonight?

LINDA

I almost did, but Dan didn't. He's the social chairman in our marriage. He called me this morning to remind me. I told him I remembered, but I didn't.

ANNIE

That's why Dan and I get along so well. Your husband is a lot like me. Even though he's a psychiatrist he's a free spirit on his own time. I wish Paul was a little more spontaneous.

LINDA

Smart guy that husband of yours. Great surgeon. Surgeons need a plan. Who wants a spontaneous surgeon?

ANNIE

You've got a point. But I love the guy.

LINDA

That my dear, is obvious. And it's kind of cute.

ANNIE

Tonight we have a plan but he's been so busy lately. I hope he gets home in time. He probably shouldn't have signed up to chair the fund raiser for the new Neurology Wing.

LINDA

Lucky he's got you. You are as organized and mistake proof as they get.

Annie gives her friend a great big bear hug.

ANNIE

What would I do without you? You always keep me on the straight and narrow. You know how I can get on a tangent.

LINDA

(sarcastic)

Oh really, hadn't noticed.

They laugh.

INT. ANNIE AND PAUL'S HOME - NIGHT

Paul was the only member of the fund raiser committee not there yet. Elaine, Adam and Linda and her husband a new recruit on the committee DAN who is a dedicated Psychiatrist and Paul's best friend. He is 40 something and the life of anyone's party, attractive with a with engaging smile and a warm demeanor.

They are having dessert and coffee and a conversation about movies and TV shows when Paul finally arrives.

First thing Paul does is give Annie a kiss and whispers.

PAUL

Thanks. I owe you.

DAN

(kidding)

Well, we voted you off the committee and Leo, your loving stay at home cat, is now heading the fund raiser.

Leo peers into Dan's eyes as if he really understands him.

PAUL

Sorry guys. I have been working on a diagnosis and treatment plan for my patient. Henry Mugler is back. Just don't know about that guy.

ELAINE

Headaches again?

PAUL

DAN

Do you want me to take a look at him?

PAUL

Elaine has already seen him. I have a feeling we're going to see some real symptoms manifest this time.

ADAM

I'll keep an eye on him.

PAUL

That would be great. I always feel better when you're there. We've never had a nurse like you. We need more of you.

ADAM

It was Iraq. There's no training like a war.

PAUL

I'm sure that's true. Henry Mugler is all yours.

ADAM

Not a problem. I really admire how much your patients mean to you.

PAUL

(sounds regretful)

I try but sometimes it's just impossible.

ADAM

Well, you seem to do just fine.

Paul moves into the kitchen while talking.

Int.KITCHEN - NIGHT - SAME

Paul grabs a piece of cold pizza and re-enters the room.

ADAM

The best thing about Iraq was meeting Elaine.

ADAM

She gave those soldiers 100 percent. I'm a lucky guy to be married to such a wonderful women.

ELAINE

Hey, enough about me.

Linda gives her friend Elaine a thumbs up.

LINDA

Go girl...

Adam smiles, not in the least bit embarrassed by Linda's reaction.

Suddenly the power goes off. Right away Annie runs for the flashlight, bumping her leg on the table.

The house is quiet. All you can hear is the rain falling harder ...than softer ...harder than softer.

The doorbell rings. Leo's eyes glare as he stands frozen.

Annie drops the flashlight and picks up Leo.

ANNIE

What's the matter baby.

Again the door bell rings and whoever is ringing the doorbell seems to be getting impatient.

Paul rushes over to the door, looks out the peek hole and laughs.

ADAM

You guys are spooky... what gives?

Annie rushes over to the door with Leo still in her arms.

All you see is a woman shaking off from the rain. She's wearing a plastic rain jacket and she kicks off her shoes because they appear wet.

Just then the lights go on.

ANNIE

Lisa, you scared me.

LISA

(whispers)

You scared ...bullshit. You didn't read my e-mail did you?

ANNIE

Was it important?

Lisa gives Annie a look. In the meantime Paul gives her kiss and takes her wet jacket.

PAUL

Be right back.

By this time everyone at the table is wondering what's going on.

Annie walks her friend over to the table.

ANNIE

Meet Lisa...my college roommate and confidant.

Elaine and Adam wave hello as well as Linda and Dan who have known Lisa for years.

Lisa, always friendly, kisses Linda and Dan.

LISA

Sorry guys, it looks like I interrupted something important.

Annie in her own sweet way tries to move Lisa into the kitchen, without anyone realizing what she was doing.

ELAINE

So this is Lisa? Lisa the psychic.

LISA

That would be me.

DAN

Any predictions for me?

LISA

Not tonight...other than you might get wet if you don't take an umbrella.

Everyone laughs.

LISA

Enough about that. Let's move on. So, is there any left over pizza for one hungry traveler?

ELAINE

You knew that we had pizza. I'm impressed.

LISA

Nothing psychic about that. There's an open box on the counter that I'm staring at.

Dan just sits back and smiles, while Adam pulls out a chair for Lisa.

ADAM

Sit down over here. I love this stuff. Keep talking.

ANNIE

Shouldn't we talk about money. Remember raising funds. Isn't that why I spent hours in the kitchen cooking dinner? It's hard to pick up the phone and dial out!

Annie keeps pushing Lisa toward the kitchen.

PAUL

Sit down join us.

Lisa was just about to sit down when Annie gives her a little push.

LISA
Well, on second thought. I need to
freshen up a bit.

INT. KITCHEN- SAME NIGHT

Lisa follows Annie's lead.

Leo jumps on the counter and looks into Lisa's eyes. It
almost as if Leo is trying to tell her something.

LISA
Hey, Leo. What's going on?

ANNIE
(whispers lovingly)
What are doing here in the middle of a
storm. It's the middle if the week.
What's going? Not that I don't love
seeing you but...

LISA
You didn't answer me. Did you read my e-
mail?

ANNIE
No, but you already know I didn't? That's
why you're here.

LISA
I'm just vacationing.

ANNIE
Great you're vacationing in Michigan.
It's not for the weather.

LISA
I am here because you my friend are in
danger. And let me tell you something.
The minute I touched your doorbell I knew
I was at the right place at the right
time. You need me.

ANNIE
Everything is fine.

Lisa reaches down and pats her friend's leg.

LISA
Seven stitches?

ANNIE
Seven stitches. I fell at the game three weeks ago. Michigan had a big win.

LISA
You mean someone tripped you.

Annie didn't answer.

LISA
You and the baby are in danger.

Leo lets out a big meow!

ANNIE
Baby, what baby?

Lisa touches Annie's stomach.

LISA
This baby. You're late aren't you? More than a month. Am I right?

Lisa knows she's right when Annie completely ignores her and goes back into the dining room holding a coffee pot.

INT.DINING ROOM - SAME NIGHT

ANNIE
Coffee anyone?

INT.HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Annie is in Matt's room keeping him company while he eats breakfast.

ANNIE
I'm so glad you've worked up an appetite this morning.

MATT
I am sort of hungry today.

ANNIE

Great. You need your strength. I hear your sugar has been within normal range.

MATT

I haven't been cheating.

ANNIE

Well that's good news.

MATT

(smiles)

I thought so. I promised my mother I wouldn't cheat. She worries a lot.

ANNIE

That's what mother's do.

Annie sits beside Matt.

ANNIE

(squeezes his hand)

You're going to be fine. By next week you'll be as good as new. You'll have had your surgery. You'll have rehab to get your strength back and then you're going to be doing things you've never been able to do before. You're in one of the greatest hospitals in the country.

MATT

I'm just feeling a little sorry for myself today.

ANNIE

We all have those days. But not for long. I'll see you a little later. I better do some work. That is what they pay me for.

Annie quickly heads for the door. She waves good bye and she's out the door and doesn't look back.

INT. CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

Annie takes several deep breaths but when that doesn't work she runs to the bathroom. She's not feeling very well.

INT. BATHROOM - SAME DAY- MINUTES LATER

Annie is splashing cold water on her face trying to ward off the nausea. She turns around mysteriously feeling someone else is there. No one is there, at least that she can see.

There is someone in one of the bathroom stalls. He's standing on the toilet and keeping very still.

She's still not feeling better so she continues to splash water on her face and take deep short breaths.

ANNIE

(to herself)

Could Lisa be right? There's nothing going to happen...she's wrong. It's my imagination and her vision is untrue.

She's so intent on her thoughts she jumps when the phone rings. She stares at the phone, but finally does answer.

She's listening.

ANNIE

Please repeat that. I need to hear that one more time. I can't believe it. Thank you thank you!

A few tears of joy trickle down her face.

Forgetting everything that was bothering her previously, she runs down the hall and into the nurses lounge.

INT. NURSES LOUNGE - SAME DAY

Linda is on her cell sipping a juice drink. She looks into Annie's eyes certain something good has happened.

Linda quickly ends her conversation.

LINDA

Got to go. There's a very happy person standing before me.

Annie walks over to the mirror wondering if her face changed.

ANNIE

You'll never guess.

LISA

I bet I could. You've got that I'm going to have a baby look on your face.

ANNIE

Don't tell me you're clairvoyant too. I couldn't take two spiritual friends.

LINDA

This isn't magical it's five years on the OB floor.

Linda rubs Annie's stomach.

LINDA

This little one is going to be one lucky kid. You're going to be a great mommy.

ANNIE

You're damn right. I'm going to be great and nothing is going to happen. I'm having this child.

She looks up.

ANNIE

You hear that God. Please let me have my wish. There is nothing in this world that I want more than this.

Annie and Linda embrace and start jumping around.

LINDA

Does Paul know?

ANNIE

Not yet. I'm on my way to find him.

Maggie interrupts.

MAGGIE

Is anyone working today? Could you both get your asses out there.

Annie walks right up to Maggie and looks her in the eye.

ANNIE

We are on our way Miss Danziger.

MAGGIE

(looks over at Linda)
What's gotten into her? She even more cheerful than her usual Mary Sunshine attitude.

LINDA

What makes you think something has happened? (mumbles to herself) Nurse Rachett.

MAGGIE

(stern voice)
Did you say something nasty?

LINDA

Moi?

Linda's out of there in a flash.

INT. CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

Annie is speed walking down the hallway headed toward the elevator with an great big smile on her face, when Adam appears.

ADAM

Hey, you look like you've just won the lottery.

ANNIE

I do kind of feel like that. Can you keep a secret?

ADAM

Me? You bet. My lips are sealed.

ANNIE

Going to have a baby.

Adam stops dead in his tracks.

ADAM

Congratulations, Mazel tov.

ANNIE

You're getting the lingo.

ADAM

Elaine's a great teacher.

ANNIE

She's always teaching me words. She's a lot better teacher than Paul. Fun being Jewish..that whole family thing. Can't beat it!

ADAM

I'm so happy for you guys. Elaine filled me in on you bad luck. Paul has never said a word about it. He certainly can keep a good secret.

ANNIE

That's because he doesn't know yet. I'm on my way to tell him. Is he in his office?

ADAM

Might be.

ANNIE

Will you be here when I get out?

ADAM

Don't think so. I'll be on your floor in a few minutes.

ANNIE

Really. Why is that?

ADAM

They're short staffed. Apparently Maggie Danziger asked for me.

ANNIE

Told you. You were probably on her good list.

ADAM

Didn't know she had one.

ANNIE

Watch out my friend. She might place a spell on you.

INT. NEUROLOGY FLOOR - SAME DAY

Unexpectedly, her pager rings.

ANNIE

Oh, damn. Not now.

Paul, looking like he hasn't had the best day, steps out of Henry's room. His face lights up as he sees Annie coming closer.

Paul glances down at his watch.

PAUL

Are you here for lunch? It's a little early.

Once again her pager goes off.

ANNIE

I need to talk to you.

PAUL

Hon, can we talk later. It's been a mad house today.

Paul suddenly realized Annie was there for a reason.

PAUL

What gives? I'm sorry. You obviously came here to tell me something.

ANNIE

We can talk later.

PAUL

Come with me. I can give my lovely wife a few minutes, especially when I can tell something is brewing.

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE - SAME DAY -

Annie smiles.

PAUL

What's going on. Did something happen?

ANNIE

(can't help but smile)
Someone I know is going to be Daddy.

PAUL

Who? Not Elaine and Adam? No, can't be.

ANNIE

Are you kidding? I love Elaine but don't think that's going to happen. I just happen to be looking right into a new father's eyes.

PAUL

Me? You're kidding.

Annie takes Paul's hand and places it on her stomach.

PAUL

You're not kidding.

Annie shakes her head .

ANNIE

Not kidding daddy!

Paul is both happy and nervous at the same time.

PAUL

Sit down. Can I get you anything?
Water...food...candy ...a chocolate bar?

Annie waves her hand no, but finds Paul's nervousness cute.

ANNIE

Not hungry. Just nauseous.

Again her pager goes off.

ANNIE

Sorry. Got to go.

Annie kisses Paul good-bye.

PAUL

Give me a minute. There's someone I want
you to meet.

ANNIE

Okay, but just a minute.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

They are just about to enter Henry Mugler's room when
Linda approaches her .

LINDA

Maggie needs to see you.

ANNIE

Give me a minute.

Linda is not herself, she's very business like.

ANNIE

What's wrong?

LINDA

It's okay. Go in. I'll wait here.

Linda has a very serious look on her face and Annie
doesn't know why.

ANNIE

Paul, maybe I should go.

LINDA

It's okay I'll wait right here for you.

INT. HENRY MUGLER'S HOSPITAL ROOM - SAME DAY

Henry Mugler is propped up by a few pillows in a chair. He looks uncomfortable and unfriendly.

PAUL

Henry Mugler meet Annie, my wife.

HENRY

Nice looking bitch you got.

Annie freaks a little, not knowing what to do.

Paul points to his head mouthing the words brain tumor.

ANNIE

Nice to meet you Mr.Mugler.

HENRY

Call me Henry.

ANNIE

Henry.

Luckily, Annie was saved by the bell when once again her Pager goes off.

ANNIE

I have no idea what's going on. I better go.

INT. MAGGIE'S OFFICE - SAME DAY

Maggie is seated at her desk when Linda and Annie enter.

At first there is complete quiet.

Once Annie is seated She realizes this is not good.

ANNIE

What's going on? This looks serious.

MAGGIE

It is. It's very serious. Did you administer Matt's insulin today?

ANNIE

Yes, why?

MAGGIE

Because Matt is in a coma right now.

ANNIE

What are you talking about? He was fine this morning.

MAGGIE

Did you not just answer three pages.

ANNIE

Yes, but I can explain.

MAGGIE

I don't think it matters right now. The records show it was you so why in the hell would you expect me to think differently.

ANNIE

Because I'm a good nurse and I never and I mean never would do anything to hurt Matt or for that matter anyone.

Maggie sighs.

MAGGIE

This is a very serious situation. I am very disappointed in you. As I have told you in the past you can't possibly work as many shifts as you do without something like this happening.

ANNIE

I always have taken on extra shifts. I love my work but to think that I would compromise a patient is ridiculous.

Annie begins to feel as if Linda thinks she might have actually done this.

ANNIE

This isn't happening. Do something.
Please. Help me here. Find out if he was
given something last night by mistake.
Mistakes always happen.

MAGGIE

Exactly. They do happen. And if you're
innocent this will just be a bad memory.

ANNIE

If? There is no if.

Just as Maggie was going to say something Annie runs out of the office.

LINDA

You didn't have to be that tough on her.
She's going to have baby.

MAGGIE

Didn't know. But let me tell you this
doesn't look good for her. Because of
this Matt's surgery is called off and who
knows when he will wake up from his coma.
I think right now we all need to pray.

LINDA

Matt will wake up and he will be fine.

MAGGIE

But for now Annie is off the floor.

LINDA

Really?

MAGGIE

Yes, and you can tell her that. Now!

INT.HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

Adam notices the disturbance and sees Annie racing toward the staircase. He's running after her.

INT HOSPITAL STAIRCASE - SAME DAY

Adam finally catches her.

ADAM

Annie, what the hell is going on. Why are you so upset?

ANNIE

Adam please go away. I need to be by myself.

EXT. HOSPITAL - SAME DAY - MINUTES LATER

Annie is on her way to her car when she hears Lisa calling her name out. Quickly Lisa runs toward her.

LISA

Are you okay?

Annie begins to cry.

ANNIE

I guess you were right.

Lisa hugs her friend.

LISA

What can I do to help you?

ANNIE

I suppose you know what happened to me.

LISA

I do, but Matt, I didn't know about him. Paul called me from surgery. He couldn't leave and Linda told him what happened. He's worried about you.

ANNIE

I'm worried about me.

Annie hands Lisa her keys.

ANNIE

Please drive. I can't right now.

Just as they approach the car Lisa notices something on the window. It's a flyer. It's a picture of an aborted baby. Just as Annie was about to pull the flyer off Lisa grabs it.

LISA

I got it. Why don't you get inside.

Annie, who usually doesn't take orders well gets inside. She's so upset about Matt nothing else seems to be of any importance.

Lisa takes a quick peek at the flyer, rips it up into little pieces and gets inside the car.

INT. CAR - SAME DAY

LISA

You okay?

ANNIE

Do you think I could have made such a huge mistake. You can tell me the truth. I'm always so damn careful. I always re-check anything I administer. Always.

Again she cries.

LISA

Listen to me. When they check the notes and question everyone you will be put back on the floor. That's in my crystal ball.

ANNIE

But Matt is in a coma and they won't even let me see him. I don't want to be taken off the floor.

LISA

Maybe it's for the best right now.

ANNIE

How can not doing what I love be for the best. I love my job and damn it how in the world did this happen.

LISA

Just take it easy and you'll see things will work out. I'm not leaving until I feel you are going to be safe.

ANNIE

Maybe I should watch your DVD.

LISA

It's not necessary. I'm here now.

INT. ANNIE'S HOME- BEDROOM - NIGHT

Paul tries to be very quiet as he gets undressed as not to wake Annie. Leo is nestled next to Annie, as if the cat knows exactly what his role should be.

ANNIE

It's okay I'm up.

Paul sits down on the bed and reaches for Annie's hand.

PAUL

You're a wonderful nurse. Something else must have happened. I know you. You would never had made a mistake like that.

ANNIE

This is serious isn't it?

Paul lays down beside her.

PAUL

Get some rest. You're going to be a mommy and mommies need their rest.

ANNIE

I'm really glad Lisa's here with me.

Just as Annie was about to fall asleep the phone rings. Annie was startled especially when she glances at the clock before picking up the phone. It was 3 AM.

Annie

Who is this?

MAN'S VOICE
You don't have long my dear.

ANNIE
(trembling)
Who is this?

Lisa opens the door without knocking.

MAN'S VOICE
Go, back to bed. Too bad about your job.
That's life ... or should I say death.

ANNIE
Please tell me who this is?

The caller hangs up.

Lisa rushes over to Annie and tries to comfort her while Paul calls the police.

Leo quickly jumps off the bed and scoots down the staircase.

INT. KITCHEN- NIGHT

Leo quickly moves back and forth as if something is bothering him. First Leo scratches the door knowing someone is outside.

EXT. BACKYARD- SAME NIGHT

Whoever was there is gone, but the swing still sways from use.

A police car is in the driveway. Two OFFICERS, a female around thirty and a male officer close to fifty and rather large, get out of the car and walk toward the door. Suddenly from out of nowhere a brick is thrown directly at one of the officers, just missing her.

The other officer quickly takes out his gun and runs toward the back of the house while calling for assistance on his cell.

Whoever was there was gone before either officer had chance to get even a glimpse.

INT. KITCHEN - EARLY AM

Sitting at the kitchen table are the two officers, a very shaken Annie, a very upset Paul and a very interested third party, Lisa, who is asking too many questions and is becoming annoying to the officers.

MALE OFFICER

Listen I don't want to be rude to such a beautiful lady but do you mind if we just talk to Annie and her husband.

Lisa reluctantly leaves the room and Leo follows her. Annie is quite surprised at Leo's affection for Lisa.

INT. HOSPITAL CAFETERIA - MORNING

Paul is having coffee with Dan.

DAN

So, how's Annie doing today?

PAUL

Not great. She finally agreed to a few days at her mother's.

DAN

That's good. She needs to take a breather. I heard what happened. It's horrible. Is Matt still in a coma?

PAUL

Unfortunately yes. And there's nothing we can do except wait.

DAN

(smiles)

The good news is I heard you're going to be a daddy.

PAUL

That is good news...but

DAN
You're afraid if Annie gets too upset
she'll lose the baby.

Paul sadly nods his head.

PAUL
This means so much to both of us.

DAN
It's going to be okay. You'll see.

Elaine and Adam are both holding trays of food as Elaine notices Paul. Paul waves them over.

DAN
Join us.

ELAINE
Are you sure you about that? We don't
want to intrude.

DAN
Friends don't intrude, they help.

ADAM
How's Annie?

PAUL
Not great. Right now she's on her way to
her parents. I thought she could use some
time away.

ADAM
Sounds like a great idea. She was so
upset yesterday. I wish I could have
helped her but she ran out so fast I
realized she didn't want to talk to
anyone.

Elaine strokes Adam's hair.

EALINE
You're the best. Thanks for trying. Paul
what can we do?

PAUL

Right now let's all hope Matt wakes up and can tell us something. I know it wasn't Annie. Someone must have made a mistake.

ADAM

Maybe one of the other nurses gave Matt someone else's insulin. Maybe they read the wrong room number or maybe the name was wrong. These things happen all the time.

Paul agrees it could be possible.

ADAM

I'll do some checking.

PAUL

Thanks.

DAN

Do you want me to talk to her?

PAUL

Give her a few days. Maybe you could keep an eye on her when she gets home, which I hope will be soon.

DAN

I can take a ride if you like. She might be better off and more receptive to talking to me there than here.

PAUL

That would be great. I would feel a lot better if you could help her sort this out. She was devastated when she left.

DAN

What about the board? Can we do anything?

PAUL

No. It's not going to happen. Let's just hope Matt wakes up.

ADAM

And when he does he won't have any long term effects.

They all nod in agreement.

SUBURB - MICHIGAN

INT. ANNIE'S MOM'S HOME - MORNING

Annie and Lisa are at the kitchen table having coffee with FRANCES TURNER, Annie's mom, and her sister MERIDITH. Frances has a warm smile and a very good heart. She was a English teacher and since her husband's death she works at the library. Meridith is Annie's younger sister. She's a successful mystery writer with a very vivid imagination and likes to talk shop.

Lisa gets up and looks out the window at the beautifully landscaped yard.

LISA

Frances, this house is so beautiful. I can see why you didn't want to sell when John died.

ANNIE

I love it here too.

Frances smiles reminding herself of some of the happy memories.

FRANCES

So did you finally sleep?

ANNIE

Like a baby. There's something very comforting about sleeping in your old room reminding yourself how simple life was back then.

LISA

(jokes)

When I visit my parents I never get that feeling.

My mother's always trying to figure my life out because I never tell her anything. My father always jokes around with me and he's afraid I'll spook him out. He doesn't like to know anything other than what's happening at the moment.

MERIDITH

Well, my memories are very different than Annie's. It was never simple for me.

FRANCES

Different children. Different memories.

FRANCES

You tell me what you think I want to hear.

MERDITH

You just want to know about my love life. I promise to tell you when I get married.

FRANCES

Great. That will be something to look forward to.

Annie smiles.

ANNIE

I forgot how much I miss the two of you going on and on about nothing.

MERDITH

I'm always good for a laugh.

Their conversation is interrupted by the doorbell.

INT. KITCHEN - SAME DAY

Annie was both surprised and happy to see Dan. Annie runs over to Dan and gives him a big hug.

ANNIE

I think I'm really happy to see you.

DAN

I think I'm happy you're happy to see me because otherwise I drove two hours just to say hello and goodbye.

Frances, as the perfect hostess, sets a place for Dan and pours him some tea, never asking if he wanted any, just pours.

Dan is immediately comfortable.

DAN

I see where Annie gets her culinary skills from.

Francine smiles with pride reminding herself of the skills she has tried to share with her daughters.

ANNIE

Dan I know Paul sent you here because he's worried. Actually, I'm fine. I've had time to think. I'm a good nurse and I'm not going to let anyone do this to me. I check and re check everything I do.

DAN

I'm here for you. I know you're a great nurse. Just for the record, Linda is in your corner. She has always thought you did a great job and that you were a wonderful addition to the hospital.

ANNIE

Thanks. I needed that.

DAN

I'm here because I want to help you if I can.

FRANCES

This sounds serious.

DAN

I'm sure everything will be fine. The police are checking out the facts.

FRANCES

(upset)

The police. You didn't mention the police were involved.

DAN

I'm sorry. I didn't realize your mom didn't know. Frances, I'm sorry.

FRANCES

It's okay. I would have found out soon enough. My girls like to shelter me.

ANNIE

I'm sorry mom. I'm just trying to process everything. I should have told you.

Dan looks toward Lisa trying to figure out why she hasn't said much.

Lisa eyes respond with uneasiness realizing Dan is watching her.

ANNIE

But. I'm gaining strength. That's why I'm here. I always feel better coming home. No one is taking me down...no one!

MEREDITH

Now that's my sister...go girl!

ANNIE

You got that right. This baby is going to be fine...I won't let anything happen. I waited a long time to be pregnant again and nothing is going to stop this baby from entering this world.

LISA

Now that's the Annie I know and love.

ANNIE

I feel safe here but I know it's time to go home. Paul gets lonely if I'm gone for an evening, let alone a few days.

Their conversation is interrupted by the phone.

Phone conversation - Paul/ Annie

PAUL

Please come home. I miss you. Leo misses you.

ANNIE

I miss you too. I'll be home later.

PAUL

Really. That's great.

ANNIE

I'll call you when we're on the road.

PAUL

I love you.

ANNIE

Have there been any calls? Threatening ones?

PAUL

Nope, maybe it's over.

ANNIE

Maybe. I hope so.

Lisa motions for Paul to meet her in the living room .

INT . LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dan follows Lisa's lead.

LISA

Are you okay with all of this?

DAN

I presume you're not or we wouldn't be having this conversation right now.

LISA

I feel uneasy and I can't place what's going to happen next. I'm not clear in what I feel.

DAN

Then stay close to Annie.

Lisa

It's not about Annie. It's about you.

DAN

Me. Why me?

LISA

You're here for a reason. You might not even realize why you're here. You think it's because you're a good friend, but that's not it. Something or someone brought you here.

DAN

I'm a psychiatrist who happens to believe there are certain things that happen for a reason, but what you're saying isn't possible. I'm just here as a friend.

LISA

It's okay not to believe me but just let me tell you something, when I feel something this strong I have to release my feelings. Something bad is about to happen.

DAN

Okay, you released and let's just leave it at that.

Dan walks back into the kitchen with a puzzled look.

INT. KITCHEN - SAME DAY

FRANCES

Honey, are you sure you're ready? You can stay here as long as you like.

Annie hugs her mom and gives her big kiss.

ANNIE

You're the best and I love you for that.
I think it's time to go home and face
whatever lies ahead. It's going to be
fine. It just has to be.

Frances walks toward the sliding door and look out at the garden.

FRANCES

I hope so.

SAME DAY

EXT. FRANCES HOME - LATE DAY

The girls, Lisa and Annie are busy loading the car with their bags and some snacks that Frances has prepared.

Just before they're ready to leave Meridith shows up struggling with her several suitcases.

ANNIE

And where are you going?

MEREDITH

With you of course.

ANNIE

I'm fine.

MEREDITH

You know me. I like answers.

ANNIE

Everything that happens isn't always
something you can write about.

MEREDITH

The hell it isn't. Actually, I just want
to make sure everything is okay. Then I
will be on my way.

ANNIE

Don't you think you have quite a bit of
luggage for a short trip.

MEREDITH

You never know what you might need in a pinch.

ANNIE

Mom asked you to come back with me Didn't she?

MEREDITH

No way. It's my idea.

Frances doesn't say a word which in itself says it all.

MERIDITH

Where's Dan.

ANNIE

Lisa scared him off.

Meridith laughs.

MERIDITH

He doesn't seem to be the kind of man that scares easily.

ANNIE

No, actually he's not. He had an emergency.

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Paul is waiting at a table when Annie arrives. He quickly walks toward his wife and gives her a great hello kiss.

PAUL

Where's Lisa?

Annie

She thought we should have some alone time. Meredith came with us.

Annie kisses her husband back.

ANNIE

I thought it might be a good idea to have some alone time. So, as long as Lisa had Meredith to be with I said good idea. So here I am or should I say here we are.

Annie pats her stomach.

Paul takes hold of Annie's hand in his very own special loving way.

PAUL

You'll see honey, they will find out the truth. You're a great nurse and everyone knows it.

ANNIE

Thank you for believing in me. I love you for that. I'm just hope Matt wakes up. Do you think they will let me see him?

PAUL

You know you can't do that.

ANNIE

I just need to see his face.

PAUL

Not a good idea but I'm pretty sure you won't listen to me, not when it concerns a patient.

ANNIE

Maybe I can figure something else out.

The waiter, ANDREW approaches.

PAUL

Andrew, how have you been?

ANDREW

Dr. Porter and his lovely lady. Long time no see. It's great to see you both. You look well.

ANNIE

We've just been so busy we haven't been out for awhile.

ANDREW

Anything from the bar?

ANNIE

Nothing for me. Baby on board.

PAUL

Water with lemon please.

Andrew smiles.

ANDREW

Congrats on the baby. Be right back with your water.

INT. HOSPITAL NURSING STATION - SAME NIGHT

Linda has the late night shift. She is checking out her patients rooms and when she gets into Matt's room she notices some changes in his cardio movement.

She watches the monitors for a few minutes and then smiles.

LINDA

(to herself)

Annie baby, looks like our boy is coming back to the world.

Linda walks out of Matt's room and just as she was about to make a call she sees Adam.

LINDA

Are you on this floor tonight?

ADAM

Just got here. I wasn't scheduled but they called me in. A schedule mix -up. I heard since Annie isn't around to pick up the slack it's been kind of tough.

LINDA
You got that right. We need her back.

LINDA
Can you do me a favor.

ADAM
Sure. What do you need?

LINDA
This is between us. Call Annie and tell her that it looks as if Matt is about to come back, But don't tell anyone I told you to call her.

ADAM
You got it. My lips are sealed.

Linda smiles.

LINDA
Go make the call.

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Annie and Paul are finished with dinner and waiting for their car when Paul gets a call. Annie gets in and Paul takes the call.

PAUL
I need to stop at the hospital before we go home.

ANNIE
That's okay. I'll stay in the car.

The ride to the hospital is short but Annie senses there might be a problem because Paul hasn't even looked her way since he got in the car. Just as they pull up to the ER Paul takes her hand.

ANNIE
What happened?

PAUL
There's been a bad accident.

ANNIE

What kind of accident?

PAUL

It's Lisa.

ANNIE

How could this be. She dropped me off and they just were going home. What about Meridith? Oh my God.

PAUL

As it turns out Lisa dropped Meridith off at our house and Lisa was on her way to pick up a pizza. There was an accident.

Annie face is now pale. She crying and her teeth are chattering, something she does when she is very upset.

ANNIE

What kind of accident?

PAUL

It's a bit sketchy. The car rolled over.

ANNIE

What? She's the worlds slowest driver. It couldn't have been because she was speeding. Was she alone?

PAUL

That's what they said?

ANNIE

Who called?

PAUL

Didn't recognize the voice. Let's wait to hear the facts.

ANNIE

Do you think someone did this on purpose? You know Lisa came here to help me but whoever is out to get me made a mistake. Maybe they thought I was in the car.

Paul tries to calm his wife down.

PAUL

Honey, listen lets not jump the gun.

ANNIE

I should have known this wasn't over.

INT. HOSPITAL ER - SAME NIGHT

Annie runs into the Emergency room. She was so distraught she didn't even realize she was shouting.

ANNIE

Please tell me where Lisa is?

Annie didn't acknowledging the nurse at the central desk. She ran toward a crash cart outside one of the cubicles thinking it was for Lisa. She pulled the curtain back and is was a very OLD MAN, getting his blood pressure checked by a NURSE.

ANNIE

Please tell me where Lisa is.

Adam hears Annie screaming and tries to comfort her.

ANNIE

Oh. I'm so glad you're here.

ANNIE

Were you here when they brought Lisa in?

Adam nods yes.

ADAM

Elaine is on call tonight and I volunteered to come in because they were short three nurses.

ANNIE

What happened to Lisa? Let me see her.
Please let me see her. How bad is she?

INT. WAITING ROOM LOUNGE - SAME NIGHT

ADAM

They're with her now. Please sit down
I'll see what I can find out. But it
doesn't look very good.

Annie is so distressed she can barely make it to the
couch.

Adam waits until Annie is a little more comfortable and
the others come in to join her before getting up to
leave.

Annie in desperation grabs Adam's arm.

ANNIE

Even if she's not awake please tell her
she's my best friend in the whole world
and I promise to always listen to
everything she says no matter what.

Linda runs into the lounge as soon as she hears Annie is
there.

ADAM

I need to leave now but I promise I'll be
back soon.

ANNIE

Paul go with Adam. Please. I'll be okay.

Just as Paul is about to leave Elaine enters the waiting
room.

ELAINE

Annie, I'm so sorry. She really didn't
have much of a chance, but we gave her
our best shot. Who should we contact?

ANNIE

(crying)

I'll take care of it...but you need to
tell me what happened. I don't even know
how to tell her parents.

Hello your daughter came to help me and
now she's dead! She came to warn me and
now she's dead and I'm not.

Elaine tries to take hold of Annie's hand to calm her.
Let me give something to calm you.

Annie points to her stomach.

ELAINE

Sorry, that was stupid of me. Let me call
Adam he can help you. He's so good at
this.

ANNIE

He was just here.

ELAINE

I didn't realize. I've just been so busy
tonight I don't know who is here and who
is not.

Annie nods knowing how things can get away from you when
you work ER.

ELAINE

There are two officers here that want to
talk to you. I told them to just give me
a couple of minutes.

ANNIE

Did anyone see anything?

ELAINE

I don't know. There doesn't appear to be
any. The car swerved and then apparently
she lost control of the car.

Meridith, distraught, runs in and sits beside her sister.

MERIDITH

Oh, Annie I'm so sorry. This is unreal.

ANNIE

You didn't tell mom did you?

MERIDITH

No. Of course not.

ANNIE

She's gone. I can't believe this is happening. Lisa is gone.

The same two officers that were at Annie's home were there.

ANNIE

Oh no, this is about me isn't it?

Meridith motions for the cops to stay right where they are.

MERIDITH

Can we talk out in the corridor?

Both cops nod yes.

INT. CORRIDOR - SAME NIGHT

FEMALE OFFICER

My name is Angela. I know this is hard for all of you, but officer Randolph and I are here to help. Are you a member of the family?

MERIDITH

Yes, Annie is my sister.

Angela is very focused, a small pad of paper is in her hand.

ANGELA

I need to talk to your sister for just a few minutes.

MERIDITH

Look, I have a favor to ask you. Can my sister be questioned later today? She's very upset and she's pregnant to boot. Please lets gives her few hours.

RANDOLPH

We need some answers.

MERIDITH

I know quite a bit about what you have to do now, but just a few hours can't really hurt that much can it?

ANGELA

And that would be because...

Angela stops for a moment. What is your full name miss?

MERIDITH

Meredith Turner.

ANGELA

You're not the writer Meredith Turner? If you are, I love your style of writing. I hate those shoot em up cops books. You don't always have us shooting everyone in sight.

MERIDITH

Yes, that's me. I know I'm not an officer of the law but female writers tend to see things in a different light.

ANGELA

I've noticed.

MERIDITH

(speaks softer)

I'm Annie's sister and I think right now she's on overload. Let me get her home and then you can question her later. She just needs some rest.

ANGELA

Okay, I suppose we can do this later.

Meridith walks toward the nursing station and Adam is there.

MEREDITH

And what are you doing here?

ADAM
I'm a nurse here.

MEREDITH
Why the hell haven't you called? My God
you work here! I thought you were a
doctor.

ADAM
I'm a nurse.

Adam motions for Meredith to follow him. She follows him
up the stairwell to another floor.

INT. STAIRWELL- DAY - SAME

MEREDITH
Adam stop for a minute.

ADAM
Just follow me.

INT. 3RD FLOOR HOSPITAL - DAY - SAME NIGHT

Adam enters one of the empty rooms. Meredith follows.

Quickly Adam locks the door and in less than a second
Adam and Meredith are entangled in a hot passionate
embrace.

Their time together is passionate and quick, but very
steamy.

MEREDITH
Believe it or not I have missed you.

ADAM
Didn't you say you would call me when you
were ready. I've called you every day for
the last three months. You never answer.

MEREDITH
I didn't think I wanted to have a long
distance relationship. I've had those
before. They end badly.

I've had three relationships in the last five years and all three of the guys were married. Don't tell me you're married too.

ADAM

Obviously you've been looking for me. Am I married?

MEREDITH

Aren't you a cocky son of a bitch. My sister lives here. Her best friend was just killed in a car accident.

ADAM

Your sister. You never mentioned you had a sister.

MEREDITH

Actually, all we did was sleep together. That doesn't qualify you to know anything about my personal life. Annie Porter is my sister and that's personal.

There's a long pause ...

MEREDITH

What is it?

Adam's pager goes off.

ADAM

Got to go. I thought it was a little bit more than just sleeping together.

Adam kisses Meredith and he's on his way.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Dan and Linda are trying to console Annie, but Annie seems to be a million miles away.

DAN

Let me help you?

LINDA

I know you want to help but right now I think Annie should go home and go to sleep at least for a couple of hours.

Annie shakes her head no.

ANNIE

I can't sleep now. I have to make some calls and some arrangements.

LINDA

Let me help you.

ANNIE

I'd like that. Maybe we should wait for Meridith. Where did she disappear to?

INT. ANNIE'S LIVING ROOM HOME- SAME EARLY AM.

Annie and Meridith are in the living room having tea when the doorbell rings. Leo has not left Annie's side and he cautiously watches every move. His Eyes are piercing and unfriendly.

ANNIE

Whoever it is please just tell them I'm not home. I don't want to talk to anyone.

In walks her mother.

FRANCES

Even me?

Annie immediately gets up and falls into her mother arms. Frances comforts her daughter.

ANNIE

No, not you. Mom, you didn't have to come.

FRANCES

Oh yes I did.

Annie glances at her sister.

MERIDITH

I know what I said but I don't usually pay attention to what you or mom says. I do what I want.

FRANCES

No shock to me. You've been doing whatever you please since you were three.

Paul is home early so he joins the women in the living room. The curtains have been drawn all afternoon but Paul walks over to the window and opens the drapes.

PAUL

Lets get some light in here.

Quickly he shuts the drapes when he looks out at the yard and sees all the once beautiful rose bushes destroyed and thrown into the middle of the yard with a note attached.

ANNIE

Paul tell me what's going on?

PAUL

Just changed my mind.

Quickly Annie gets up and walks to the back door, opens it to look outside. From the look on her face what she sees is quite upsetting.

INT. KITCHEN- SAME DAY

Annie, quite upset sits at the kitchen table.

ANNIE

(crying)

What the hell is going on here. I feel like this is a nightmare and I want someone to wake me.

Paul looks down at his watch. He motions for Meridith to meet him in the hallway.

PAUL

Matt's up and he's asking for Annie.

MERIDITH
Have you told her yet?

PAUL
No, not yet. She needs some rest.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME DAY

Annie is fixing her hair and trying to freshen up by applying lipstick when her cell phone rings.

Phone call

ANNIE
Hello.

There doesn't seem to be anyone on the line . Suddenly a voice shouts out...

VOICE
You're going to die Bitch! Death comes in three's...think about it. Matt didn't die but Lisa did. Come and see Matt.

The phone drops out of Annie's hand and Paul shouts...

PAUL
Meridith, call the police. Now!

Frances runs into the bedroom.

FRANCES
What happened?

PAUL
Another phone call.

ANNIE
Is Matt up?

PAUL
Yes he is.

ANNIE
And nobody told me. Why?

PAUL

You just needed some rest.

ANNIE

I want to go to the hospital right now.

PAUL

Soon. I'm trying to get permission. You certainly don't need to make any waves right now.

ANNIE

Damn it.

LATER

INT .KITCHEN - SAME DAY

Annie, Meridith and Frances are having some lunch. Annie is just moving the food around in her plate.

MERIDITH

You know Lisa came to visit me a few weeks ago.

ANNIE

And you never said anything?

FRANCES

Why not?

MERIDITH

You know me I'm a realist. I never thought any of this meant anything. Annie you've always been the sweet unassuming one and God knows why someone would hurt you no less torment you. I just thought...

FRANCES

That this might blow over and we wouldn't have a detective watching Annie's every move.

ANNIE

Maybe if daddy were still alive.

FRANCES

And what would he do that we couldn't do.

ANNIE

Protect us.

FRANCES

That's bullshit...

Both her daughters were shocked at what their mother just said.

FRANCES

Girls grow up. I'm your mother not a nun.

Annie gives her sister a look.

ANNIE

Let's not keep secrets. I thought we've passed all those teen things we did and didn't tell each other when we were younger.

MERIDITH

There is one more thing. I met a guy a few years back in Iraq. Remember when I told you I went to Paris to finish my book.

FRANCES

Yes, of course.

MERIDITH

I went to Iraq. I had a friend who was covering a story and didn't want to go alone so I went. I met this guy.

Annie listens trying to forget her own problems.

MERIDITH

I fell in love with him the minute I saw him. We had quite a relationship going on.

I was involved with my books at the time and the career I always wanted but never thought I would have was developing into a great one. I didn't want to give anything up. I left without saying goodbye.

ANNIE

Why are you telling us now?

MERIDITH

I saw him last night at the hospital. Do you know a nurse named Adam.

ANNIE

Of course, we're really good friends.

MERIDITH

Last night right in the middle of the crisis and all the bad news I'm having sex in a private hospital room.

FRANCES

Stop ! More than I need to know. I'll be in the living room.

ANNIE

He's married to Elaine. She's one of my best friends.

Meredith pours herself a cup of coffee and dunks her bagel in the coffee cup.

MEREDITH

Not a good story for now. You're going to be burying your friend in a couple of days and I'm talking about sex. Those subjects shouldn't be talked about in the same breath. I'm really sorry.

ANNIE

Do you love him?

MEREDITH

(takes a breath)

Yes, I do. If I didn't know it before, I do now.

Their conversation is interrupted by Angela and two male OFFICERS,

ANGELA

We're going with you to the hospital.

ANNIE

I've been wondering why we haven't left yet. I didn't realize I was having a police escort.

ANGELA

We're here for your protection.

ANNIE

I know you're trying to do your job. Did you see my garden?

ANGELA

I did. This is a very sick person we're dealing with.

ANNIE

And you know that because?

MERIDITH

They've been profiling him.

ANGELA

So much for writers not understanding procedures. You seem to know the system.

MERIDITH

I do.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Annie is right outside Matt's room when Maggie races up toward her .

MAGGIE

You Mrs. Annie Porter are not allowed in this room or for that matter any other patients room in this hospital until you meet with the board. You know better.

Angela approaches Maggie with her badge number.

MAGGIE

Officer what can I do for you?

ANGELA

You can get out of Ms. Porter's way. We have word that Matthew wants to speak to her. He refuses to talk to anyone else.

MAGGIE

Oh. I see.

ANGELA

I don't think you want to hold up an on-going investigation do you?

MAGGIE

No, but...

ANGELA

Sorry. We need to go in now.

There is someone lurking out in the corridor just watching.

INT.MATT'S HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Annie feels a little awkward as she enters. Everything turns around when she sees Matt's sweet but tired face anxiously waiting for her.

MATT

I'm so glad to see you.

ANNIE

Me too Honey.

She reaches for Matt's hand but Angela whispers in her ear.

ANGELA

No patient contact.

ANNIE

Who gave those orders?

ANGELA
(whispers)
Matt's mother.

ANNIE
Okay, I'll stay right here.

MATT
You don't have to whisper detective.
Annie is my friend.

Angela backs off.

ANNIE
I'm so sorry this happened to you. Do you
have any idea of who could have done this
to you?

MATT
I know they think it was you.

ANNIE
Do you think it was me?

MATT
No way. I know you wouldn't hurt me. That
man was wrong.

ANNIE
What man?

MATT
Can't say.

Angela moves closer in.

ANGELA
Matt please tell who that is.

MATT
Don't remember. I do remember seeing that
man before but I can't remember where.

Annie knows he's lying but she protects him.

ANNIE

Detective I think we need to let Matt get some rest. We can come back later.

Angela walks out as Annie whispers to Matt.

ANNIE

If you think of anything else ask to talk to Linda. You can trust her.

MATT

Are you afraid?

ANNIE

Not any more. I'm so happy your up and going to be fine. They re-scheduled the operation. You are back on track.

MATT

My mom was wrong. You would never hurt me.

ANNIE

She was just trying to protect you. That's what mothers do. Now it's your turn to help. Tell me who you saw.

MATT

I really didn't see anyone.

Annie

Look, I know you know who it is and if you don't tell me someone else could get hurt or even die.

MATT

That's what he said. He said if I cared about you I wouldn't say anything. Well, I care about you and I don't want anything to happen to you.

Matt looks very scared.

ANNIE

How about if you whisper it to me and I promise I will keep it a secret for as long as I can. I won't get hurt. You don't have to worry.

Matt thinks for a moment and then motions for Annie to come closer.

Matt whispers who it is to Annie.

INT. OUTSIDE MATT'S HOSPITAL ROOM -DAY

Angela writes some notes down as she waits for Annie.

Just as soon as Annie steps out of Matt's room she sees Maggie motioning for her to meet her in her office.

ANNIE

It seems like the devil is calling me to her office. Can I go.

ANGELA

I'm with you.

Angela follows Annie's lead.

INT. Maggie's OFFICE - SAME DAY

Maggie is sitting at her desk reviewing some papers when Annie and Angela enter her office.

MAGGIE

Sit.

ANGELA HAS A SEAT.

MAGGIE

I meant Annie. Detective this is a private conversation. Do you mind?

ANGELA

Nothing Mrs. Porter does is private these days. Got that?

Maggie tries not to show her frustration with this whole miserable deal but can't seem to help herself.

MAGGIE

I don't like bullshit so I'll come right to the point. You know I have never liked you...but you are a good nurse, with a clean record I might add.

ANNIE

I guess that's a compliment of some sort.

MAGGIE

Of some sort. I've talked to the board and for the time being you can resume some of your activities.

ANNIE

Good. I'm ready to go.

Annie stands up.

MAGGIE

Not just yet. Sit down and let me finish.

MAGGIE

I also like Matt and I don't think he would lie about what he saw. I talked to the board and they are going to work with me. You just can't give injections until we find our guy.

Annie smiles and takes a deep gratifying breath.

MAGGIE

Don't get too cocky. I just need you on the floor.

ANNIE

Really. Does that mean now.

MAGGIE

No, not just yet. I need to get this whole Matt mess cleaned up. It was on my watch so I need to clean it up.

Angela was still writing notes and trying to assess this situation.

ANGELA

Maggie why don't you fill me in on some of the other staff. I think Annie should leave now.

Annie gets up and was just about to open the door when Angela takes hold of her shoulder.

ANGELA

I've got two full time guys watching your house.

ANNIE

You're kidding.

ANGELA

Does it look like I'm kidding?

ANNIE

No. I don't think so.

ANGELA

Listen honey, maybe you don't realize what has happened here. This has become a potential murder case. Just like you have rules so do we. Isn't that what you pay us for?

MAGGIE

I am trying my best to keep this quiet because the last thing this hospital needs is a scandal.

ANGELA

Good. Then let me do my job and you do yours.

INT. MR MUGLERS HOSPITAL ROOM- SAME DAY

Paul has just entered his patient's room.

HENRY

Well Doc is my time up?

PAUL

No, but we do have a diagnosis.

HENRY

Great. That would be why you get the big bucks.

PAUL

I have a few options for you.

HENRY

Make it simple I don't believe in complicated.

HENRY

Let's change the subject for a minute or two.

Paul agrees trying to accommodate his patient.

HENRY

What about all the gossip about your wife, is it true?

PAUL

No, it's not. After that being said, I am here to help you. So for the time being my wife is someone we should not be discussing. Let's talk about you.

HENRY

Okay, but the word around is that pregnant wife of yours need to be careful. Someone doesn't like her.

Paul was getting agitated but he realizes his patient has a brain tumor that causes him to not process words before he talks.

HENRY

She's a cute little bitch.

Paul's pager rings and he heads for the door.

PAUL

Be back to check you later.

HENRY

Hey, aren't we going to talk about me.

PAUL

Later.

INT. HOSPITAL CAFETERIA- DAY

Annie is seated all the way in the back of the cafeteria. She keeps checking her phone for messages.

LINDA

Why don't you put the phone away I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation why Paul isn't answering.

ANNIE

Reasonable. There is nothing reasonable about this whole thing. In fact my life doesn't make any sense at all.

Meredith enters the cafeteria and immediately notices three cops eying her sister and Linda.

She rushes toward the table.

MEREDITH

Man this is like a scene from a movie.

ANNIE

What is? Me eating a piece of pie.

MEREDITH

NO, the cops surrounding you.

ANNIE

What? Where? I don't see anybody.

MEREDITH

(whispers)

Okay, the overweight guy in the red and black shirt. You can tell by the way he's eating that he's doing detail.

LINDA

How in the hell can you tell that?

MEREDITH

Well, look at the size of him. What's he eating.

LINDA

He's not.

MERDITH

Right. He's sipping tea.

LINDA

Got it.

Linda turns around and begins to stare at every table.

MERIDITH

The other two are at opposite ends of the cafeteria. Look at the guy in the white shirt he's working on his laptop.

LINDA

Look around. Half the place is on a lap top or cell phone.

ANNIE

Everything is up for grabs. Now Paul isn't anywhere to be found.

MERIDITH

He took mom home. He's probably on his way back by now. She wanted to walk, you know mom.

ANNIE

You're kidding. I've been so worried. I don't know why I have this feeling in the pit of my stomach. I'll go wait in Paul's office. First I have to ditch these guys. Cover for me, will you?

MERIDITH

Better not.

ANNIE

I can't believe you of all people would not understand.

Linda motions for Annie to go.

LINDA

If they follow you I'll figure something out. I'll say you'll be right back. I'll explain to them that you had to go to the little girls room.

MEREDITH

I haven't heard anyone say that in a long time. Little girls room?

LINDA

I'm in Peds. My patients understand me.

Linda attempts to complete the plan by starting a small disturbance. She spills her coffee all over the floor and the table.

ANNIE

(whispers)

I owe you.

LINDA

You bet you do.

Annie motions for Meredith to join her.

MERIDITH

How do you feel about Adam and what I told you.

ANNIE

I just can't imagine you interested in him.

MERIDITH

Too normal for me?

ANNIE
I don't know what normal is anymore.
Look at my so called normal life.

INT. CORRIDOR - LATE DAY

Annie was just about to go inside when she sees Adam.

ANNIE
Are you done with your shift?

Adam
Almost.

ANNIE
Good. Meet me in Paul's office.

ADAM
What's this about?

ANNIE
(whispers)
Meredith.

Annie seems to have caught Adam off - guard.

ADAM
You got it. Is Paul there?

ANNIE
Not yet. He just called me and told me to
meet him in his office in 15 minutes.

Annie turns around looking for Meredith, but she's no
where to be found.

INT. CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

Meridith waits until Annie is out of her view before she
approaches Adam.

Meridith whistles and when Adam looks around she grabs
him and pulls him off the floor and into a stairwell.

Adam is in a hurry and doesn't want to stop, but Meredith is usually quite persuasive. She usually gets what she wants.

Meridith

Listen. I know this is awkward but I'm sorry for leaving you the way I did. I never meant to hurt you.

ADAM

I got over it. At least I thought I was over it until I saw you here. There was someone before Elaine. Actually, she was quite wonderful. We really were in love.

MERIDITH

Was? What happened?

ADAM

She died. It's a long story. That's all you need to know. I've got to go. I don't want to talk about it and besides I have a wife who loves me.

MERIDITH

You don't love her. I can see that.

ADAM

That doesn't matter any more. I'm way past that.

Suddenly, Adam gets a strange look on his face and glares into her eyes.

ADAM

I have to go. And further more please don't analyze me. You don't get to do that. This isn't what I'm about. What we had was fun and for now just leave me alone.

MEREDITH

I'll go with you.

ADAM

I don't think so.

MERIDITH

Then let's talk about it later.

ADAM

That's not going to be possible. You need to stay away from me. What happened before is an affair gone bad. I'm sure you've had lots of those.

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE- SAME DAY

Annie doesn't feel very comfortable and actually becomes quite fidgety while she's waiting. Her thoughts are interrupted by Angela.

ANGELA

Can we talk?

ANNIE

Sure. I don't think I've been able to help you too much.

ANGELA

I need to put all the pieces together and my dear as of now nothing seems to fit. I think you know something. Do you?

ANNIE

No, what makes you think that?

ANGELA

The minute you left Matt's room you've been acting different. You need to tell me if you know something. This could be very ugly.

Annie nods.

ANNIE

I hope not.

ANGELA

That's why I'm here. You can't go off by yourself. Do you understand?

No more ditching my guys and no more
brave acts by you. Let us do our job and
tell your husband he needs do keep us
posted So,tell me where he is? My guys
will take you home.

Henry Mugler wheels himself in.

HENRY
(loud angry voice)
Where the hell is my doctor? I want him
now! I need to know my fate.

Annie makes herself smile.

ANNIE

Why don't you go back to your room and I
promise Dr. Porter will come see you as
soon as he can.

HENRY
He was in my room and then abruptly left
me. There I was alone with my thoughts. I
want my doctor now!

Henry eyes are focusing on Annie and he's becoming very
angry.

ANNIE
Oh my GOD! It's you.

HENRY
Shut up bitch.

Angela slowly walks toward the other side of the room.

ANGELA
How about if we sit down and talk about
this.

HENRY
Who the hell are you? I don't like to be
told what to do. I'm pretty much
indestructible, that's what happens when
you spend your whole life on the police
force. I've seen it all.

ANGELA

If you were a cop you know the rules and the code I follow.

HENRY

I have no rules. I'm sick now and I'm retired. I want my doctor and I want him now.

Angela has a feeling he doesn't have as much steam in him as he thinks. He's not harmful, he's just mad.

ANGELA

Why don't you go back to your room and we will see to it that the doctor will come see you as soon as he can. We don't want any trouble, this is a hospital.

HENRY

You think you're cute trying to manipulate me. Find Paul now!

Annie sees the letter opener on her husband's desk realizing that she can do something.

ANNIE

Was it you that killed my best friend thinking it was me?

Henry hasn't got a clue as to what she means.

HENRY

I didn't kill anyone. I want my doctor. That's the only reason I'm here now.

Angela slowly moves toward the door. She unlocks it and waves her men in.

ANGELA

Guys please escort Mr. Mugler back to his room. Don't, and I mean don't, let him out of your sight. Got it?

HENRY

They get it bitch.

As soon as Henry leaves to go back to his room Annie knows it's time to tell Matt's secret.

ANNIE

You know Henry Mugler has a brain tumor which is why he is so outspoken and brash.

ANGELA

I know that. He didn't recognize me, but I knew who he was immediately. He was really a great cop. He was my father's partner years and years ago. He saved my dad's life.

ANNIE

Really. Look what life has in store for some of us. One minute you're fine and helping others. The the next minute your coming in for a stress test or chemotherapy. Life is filled with challenges.

ANGELA

I know. My dad died several years ago but I used to listen to all my father's stories and it's great to be able to play them back in my head from time to time.

Annie had started to like Angela, but more than that she began to trust her.

ANNIE

Listen, I have a problem. I know a secret that needs to be told but you have to promise me you won't disappoint me by giving it up without my permission.

ANGELA

Annie, honey no need to feel as if you busted someone. I already know that Matt thinks it was Adam.

ANNIE

And that would be because...

ANGELA

Matt shouted out his name the other evening. You didn't tell me anything I didn't already know. There is one more thing you need to know.

ANNIE

And that is?

ANGELA

Dan works with us. That's really why he came to see you at your mothers.

Annie was shocked.

ANNIE

Anything else?

ANGELA

Not at the moment. If I feel you need to know something I'll fill you in. I didn't know you were so adventurous.

ANNIE

I'm not, but my sister is.

ANGELA

Before you make any assumptions your sister is not with us. Although we could use her. Her being involved with Adam at one time was something we didn't know going into this.

Annie is so overwhelmed she is speechless.

ANGELA

You said your husband was suppose to be here in fifteen minutes, where is he?

ANNIE

I don't know I made that up. He usually is in his office at this time of the day but his schedule and our life is very unbalanced right now.

I really am concerned. You seem to know
where everyone is, where is my husband?

Angela excuses herself and walks into the corridor to
make a call.

CELL CALL - ANGELA -

ANGELA

Paul Porter is nowhere to be found. Find
him ...now!

Annie is upset and decides to find her husband and the
moment Angela's back is turned she sneaks away.

Annie has no idea someone is watching her. Her mind is
on finding her husband. She picks up the pace trying not
to be discovered.

Once again she tries to call him.

ANNIE

Paul answer please. I need you to answer.
Pick up! Damn it!

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The lights are now dimming.

INT. STAIRWELL -NIGHT

Certain she is by herself she runs down the stairwell
only to find out that all the doors are locked except for
the ground floor.

She continues to run out the door into a tunnel where the
lab reports are taken and put into the doctor's IN boxes.

INT. TUNNEL - SAME NIGHT

There's a light in the lab. She is familiar with the
floor plan of the hospital so she runs toward the lab,
never hearing anything behind her.

A man is running after her. He is barefoot. Not a sound is heard except her fast paced walk. Her fear of being followed makes her not turn around causing her to loose momentum.

Finally she runs through a door and continues down the hall. This is familiar grounds for her so she keeps running until she gets into the lab.

She takes a breath and walks further in toward the lockers where the lab coats are hung. Just as she approaches the last partitioned area she hears someone kicking. She looks down the aisle. There is Paul, gagged and tied up.

ANNIE

OH my God. PAUL!

Just as she is about to untie Paul a shadow appears.

ADAM

I wouldn't do that if I was you.

ANNIE

Adam. Why in the world would you do this to us?

ADAM

I lost the woman I loved because of you.
She was my life.

Adam pushes Annie to the floor.

ANNIE

Adam, you're my friend. What is going on?
I don't understand any of this. You are happily married to Elaine. What woman are you talking about?

Paul is coughing and gasping for air.

ANNIE

Please Adam, just take off the tape so Paul can breath.

ADAM

I guess I can do that. He might as well say his last words.

ANNIE

I'm begging you to stop this nonsense. We can get you help.

ADAM

This isn't nonsense.

ANNIE

Then tell me why? I need to know.

Adam finally pulls the tape off Paul's mouth.

ADAM

Just sit there and don't try to move.

Paul tries to catch his breath as the tape comes off.

ADAM

I was engaged to the most wonderful girl in the world. She was admitted to the hospital because she was having seizures. Paul was her doctor. She believed in you. She was so afraid.

PAUL

What is her name?

Adam takes out a knife and holds it close to Paul's throat.

ADAM

Her name doesn't matter anymore. She's dead. She died that night.

Paul listens and doesn't speak.

ADAM

Well, it was all Annie's fault. Annie you bitch.

Annie sits very still realizing Adam could stab either of them without warning.

ADAM

You were having a miscarriage that night and Paul gave his call to some other half wit doctor who didn't show up for hours. Seems as if he was at a party. If your colleague would have been there just a little bit earlier, my Rachel wouldn't have died.

Annie's eyes tear up.

ANNIE

I'm sorry Adam I had no idea.

ADAM

Shut up Annie. You're so damn sweet. Everyone loves you. You never make mistakes. But now everyone thinks you did. It was worth it. The records show you were the one that administered Matt's insulin. He should have been dead with all that insulin at one time. Obviously it wasn't his time.

Annie

Please Adam. Let's work this out. I can help you. It doesn't have to be this way.

Paul tries to untie his arms, but Adam sees what he is trying to do and takes the knife and skims Paul's throat just enough to start the bleed.

ANNIE

(shouts)

Adam stop this right now. You need help.

ADAM

I am going to kill you and your baby. Then Paul can be as lonely as I am. He needs to know how bad it feels to lose the woman you love.

ANNIE

You have Elaine. She loves you.

ADAM

You're kidding right? She's old enough to be my mother. This was all part of a plan. I've had this plan in mind for two years. Now that it's in place you really don't expect me to stop now.

ANNIE

And my sister?

ADAM

I didn't know she was your sister. She complicated my plan. I actually did love her, but that was before.

Adam begins to sweat profusely. He was becoming unraveled with each moment that passes.

ADAM

Then there was Lisa. She was right on. She knows her stuff but she had to go. I was about to be found out by some two bit psychic. I had worked too hard to get to this hospital and have the life I planned.

Annie

You can stop the plan right now before anyone else gets hurt.

ADAM

This plan is not going to be stopped. Elaine was just a vehicle. I knew I could do this. After I met her I knew she would be the right one to get me where I needed to be.

Suddenly Lisa walks in and Adam's face turns as white as a sheet.

LISA

I knew you couldn't. Don't underestimate anyone...ever! There were a few of us that knew you would break.

ANNIE

Oh my God Lisa you're here you didn't die.

Adam stops dead in his tracks.

ADAM

This couldn't be. I'm not going to be stopped by anyone especially you.

He takes his knife and just as he was about to stab Annie she kicks him so hard he keels over.

ANNIE

Well my dear Adam, I'm afraid you also underestimated me.

Annie proceeds to untie Paul allowing him to be set free.

And just as soon as Adam attempts to get up Angela stands before him placing her gun right between his eyes.

ANGELA

Stand up now or you won't ever see the light of day. I'll shoot you with no regret.

LISA

You tried to kill me and it was close. You almost did it. The car rolled over and you didn't do anything but stand there and watch. Your going to prison for a very long time. Maybe forever.

Several OFFICERS enter and they take Adam away.

Annie is so happy to see Lisa she runs over to her and puts her arms around her tightly.

ANNIE

How did this all happen? I'm so glad you're alive.

LISA

I'm tougher than you think. And don't ask the next question. My parents knew about this. I had to tell them.

ANNIE

I'm thankful for that. I never want to make a phone call like that again.

Meridith enters.

ANNIE

Don't tell me you work with the police too.

MEREDITH

Not yet. But I'm thinking of it. Just don't tell mom.

One year later -

ANNIE AND PAUL'S HOME

The house is decorated with birthday decorations from front door to the backyard. The house is crowded with family and friends. (Meredith, Lisa, Elaine, Frances, Linda , Dan, Maggie, Henry Mugler, Angela, and even Maggie is smiling.

Paul is holding his daughter LANA, who is now 1 yr. Old. Her blond curly ringlets and smiling face make the adorable baby that Annie had hoped for.

Annie walks into the dining room holding a beautiful Pink rose birthday cake -

As soon as Annie places the cake down everyone starts to sing Happy Birthday to Lana.

Annie is standing right beside Paul and Lana and Matt is right next to Annie who has now placed her arm on his shoulder, hugging him.

Annie whispers to Matt-

ANNIE

I always knew you were going to live the
life you deserve. You made it. And so did
we!

THE END