

DYING FOR SEX

Ep. 101

"Good Value Diet Soda"

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Based on the podcast "Dying For Sex"

by

Wondery

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ACT ONE

1 INT. ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK) 1

Bright light. Breathing. Flashes of sweaty skin. Fingers gripping a man's hair. Life.

*MOLLY (V.O.)
What was his name? Was it...
Bradley? No.*

2 INT. DR. ANNE'S OFFICE - PRESENT DAY BROOKLYN (D1) 2

MOLLY (40) sits on a couch, lost in her memory...

FLASHBACK: A man's head
in between a pair of legs.

*MOLLY (V.O.)
Paul? TJ? No, nobody's name is TJ.*

FLASHBACK: Lips on a thigh. A hand pressing down. Laughter.

*MOLLY (V.O.)
We were in our twenties, and it was
like he couldn't stop going down on
me. Maybe he was hungry -- stop.
Stop thinking about that. Stop it.
Be here with Steve.*

BACK TO PRESENT: Molly is sitting next to STEVE (early 40s, the kind of man you fall in love with on the subway). He talks to DR. ANNE (40s/50s), who hums appreciatively when he speaks and seems to be writing a lot of notes about Molly.

*MOLLY (V.O.)
What did he just say?*

STEVE
... I guess I'm a feminist? I'm the
only male journalist at the
magazine that the female editors
want to work with. I mean... It's
fucked. Journalists can be
monsters. Overworked. Underpaid.
The burden of knowing too much--

MOLLY
I'm sorry. I think we got off topic--
-?

STEVE

It connects, I'm trying to make a--
(closes his eyes, irked)
I get confused-- when I get
interrupted-- Anyways, so yeah, I
just think there's a little bit of
a double standard here. Molly and I
haven't had an "active" sex life in
years--

DR. ANNE

Since Molly's breast cancer
diagnosis.

STEVE

Yeah, I mean-- We weren't having
much sex when you had cancer so--

MOLLY (V.O.)

*Because you said my bald head made
you think about your dad. But you
don't have to take care of me now.
I'm healthy. I just want you to
want me. Please. Please.*

STEVE

And it's like, now she wants to
again and I'm the bad guy because I
can't flip a switch and suddenly be
Mr. Sex?

Molly laughs. Steve looks at her.

STEVE (CONT'D)

What? "Mr. Sex"? Mr. Sex probably
doesn't refer to himself as "Mr.
Sex" if he's actually Mr. Sex.

They laugh together for a moment. There's still love there.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Anyways... I know my wife. She's
had a really complicated history
with sex, and I don't think... I
don't think this is actually what
you want. I think there's some
confusion here as to what you want.

DR. ANNE

Molly. Do you feel confused about
what you want? You want to have sex
with Steve?

MOLLY
To have sex, yes.

MOLLY (V.O.)
Shit.

MOLLY
With Steve.

STEVE
But this isn't an *authentic* desire.
It's the medication--

MOLLY
Tamoxifen--

STEVE
Yeah, the drug that prevents the
cancer from returning. A side
effect is decreased libido but
Molly's body's like an anomaly and
it *increased* hers--

MOLLY
That's not a side effect.

STEVE
Okay, but it is. Dr. Pankowitz said
it's the meds--

DR. ANNE
Dr. Pankowitz is your doctor,
Steve?

| | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| | STEVE | MOLLY |
| Molly's. | | Mine. |

Molly's phone starts to RING. She glances at the phone, and
tenses up. She rises up to take it.

STEVE (CONT'D)
I put my phone in the technology
tray, like we're supposed to. You
can just turn it off.

MOLLY
Sorry it's the hospital. I just--
It's that hip thing I had checked.
It's-- I'm gonna take this.

STEVE
Put him on speaker. Molly, put him
on speaker.

Molly ignores him and picks up her phone.

MOLLY (INTO PHONE)
Hello?

STEVE
Can you put him on speaker?

DR. PANKOWITZ (ON PHONE)
Molly. Is this a good time?

MOLLY (ON PHONE)
Uh, yes.

DR. PANKOWITZ (ON PHONE)
I have the results of the biopsy on
your hip and, unfortunately...

3 EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - DAY (D1) 3

Bright sunlight. City sounds. Molly walks quickly to
somewhere. She's in a daze. Things are fuzzy around the
edges. This could be a dream. She crosses a street.

MOLLY (V.O.)
Fuck. Fuck. Fuck. Fuck. Fuck.

4 INT. ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK) 4

Quickening breath. Fingers pushing into skin, pulling hair.

5 INT. BODEGA - MOMENTS LATER - DAY (D1) 5

Ding. The bell on the door rings as Molly opens it. She looks
around. Confused. She goes to the fridge and gets a TWO-LITER
BOTTLE OF DIET SODA. The label reads: "GOOD VALUE DIET SODA".

6 INT. ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK) 6

Moaning. An arched back. A gasp.

7 INT. BODEGA - DAY (D1) 7

Molly stands in front of the fridge.

MOLLY (V.O.)
Fuck.

OPENING TITLES

8

EXT. BODEGA - MOMENTS LATER (D1)

8

Molly, now sitting on the curb, tries to light a CIGARETTE from a brand new pack, but her hands are shaking too much.

Suddenly a BEAT UP CAR drives up and double parks.

A woman, also 40, leans out of the window. This is NIKKI.

NIKKI

Hey baby. You need a ride somewhere?

MOLLY

Hey.

*MOLLY (V.O.)**Is this what it feels like to push someone off a cliff?*

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Were you busy?

NIKKI

Uh, I'm on my way to rehearsal. Are you smoking cigarettes? What is that, menthols? Oh my god. Who are you? Are you my camp boyfriend? What is this?

MOLLY

You know how I had that pain in my hip that wouldn't go away?

NIKKI

Uh huh.

MOLLY

It's cancer. It's back.

NIKKI

But you... It's been two years.

MOLLY

I know.

NIKKI

You did everything that the doctors said-- and you took all of their drugs-- and-- so this is still--

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I know...
It's not fair.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

I don't want to die just when I'm
getting used to my new boobs.

NIKKI

Stop, you're not gonna die--

MOLLY

I am actually. It metastasized to
my bones.

Molly speaks slowly, feeling the words in her mouth.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

It's incurable.

Nikki stares at her in shock. Then she starts to cry. It gets
louder. People start to stare.

NIKKI

Can you just give me one second?
I'm so, so sorry.

MOLLY

No, hey--

NIKKI

I'm sorry I--

MOLLY

Babe. It's okay. It's okay.

NIKKI

No I feel like it's just gonna get
a little bit bigger-- Just let me--

Nikki continues to loudly sob.

MOLLY

Just kidding, I'm fine!

NIKKI

You are??

MOLLY

No.

NIKKI

OH MY GOD WHAT THE FUCK?

MOLLY

I'm sorry. I don't know why I said
that.

NIKKI
WHAT THE FUCK? WHAT THE FUCK?

MOLLY
Alright, I'm not doing a very good job at this. I don't know. I don't know how-- I don't know how to do this.

NIKKI (CONT'D)
What are you doing? What is it?

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I don't know how to tell you that I'm gonna to die!

NIKKI
Yeah, you're bad at this! This is a bad way to tell me! I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Oh god... You look so nice. Like, if you're dying, like, why are you weirdly vibing right now? Like you're glowing from within? Is it like your natural inner radiance--?

MOLLY
-- I don't know --

NIKKI
-- I'm so fucking confused and overstimulated.

Nikki continues to cry as the BODEGA MANAGER walks out.

BODEGA MANAGER
(to Molly)
What is this? Is she drunk?

MOLLY
No. I just told her that I'm dying.

NIKKI
What? No. No, I'm not drunk! I'm a human having human emotions!

BODEGA MANAGER
Why is her crying so loud?

NIKKI
This is how I cry!

MOLLY
She's an actress. Her emotions live very close to the surface.

BODEGA MANAGER
Huh? Leave. Go.

NIKKI

No! I won't do that. My friend is a paying customer! She bought this weird fucking soda--

MOLLY

Yeah I did. Good Value Diet Soda.

BODEGA MANAGER

Well that's nice. But that doesn't give you the right to stand outside my store and scream like a lunatic. She's nice. You're not so nice!

NIKKI

You-- don't-- don't come out here and tell two people in a private conversation-- Don't talk about her! Do not talk about her!

The Bodega Manager and Nikki keep screaming at each other as the SOUND DROPS OUT. Molly just watches them, smiling.

*MOLLY (V.O.)**Look at her. Not afraid. Everything out in the open. I love this woman.*

SOUND RETURNS. Nikki is still yelling at the manager.

NIKKI

I'm having a normal reaction and a deep experience that I don't even want to be having so go inside!

BODEGA MANAGER

Fine! Stay!

NIKKI

Cool.

BODEGA MANAGER

Just shut the fuck up please!

He storms back inside. Nikki sits down next to Molly. Beat.

NIKKI

He said we can stay.

MOLLY

Yeah, no, I heard. You have to try this soda. The aftertaste is unbelievably bad.

Molly hands the bottle to Nikki, who takes a swig.

NIKKI

Oh. It's junk.

MOLLY

I know. I can't stop drinking it.

NIKKI

It's very bad.

(beat)

When did you find out?

MOLLY

Twenty minutes ago.

NIKKI

What?

MOLLY

In the middle of couples therapy.

9

INT. DR. ANNE'S OFFICE (FLASHBACK - TWENTY MINUTES AGO)

9

Molly is on her phone in the corner of the room.

DR. PANKOWITZ (ON PHONE)

Molly. Is this a good time?

MOLLY (ON PHONE)

Uh, yes.

DR. PANKOWITZ (ON PHONE)

Okay. I have the results of the
biopsy on your hip and
unfortunately it is not what we...

FANTASY SEQUENCE: Sound in the room changes. Dr. Anne and
Steve become blurry in the background. CLOSE ON Molly's face.

MOLLY (V.O.)

It didn't feel real. I couldn't
even hear what the doctor was
saying. I didn't feel sad. I just
saw myself as a seven-year-old
dancing.

A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL IN A BALLET COSTUME walks into the room
in a leotard. She gives a thumbs down, sticks out her tongue,
and points and laughs at Molly. She starts to dance.

MOLLY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And this seven-year-old version of
myself was being so mean to me.
She was really a jerk. She knew.
She knew what I'd done with my life
and was mad about it. She knew that
Steve didn't touch me anymore.

(MORE)

MOLLY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And she got so sad because I think she could see that I've spent my whole life being scared of what I feel. And I was so fucking pissed at her at this point. And also she's a terrible dancer.

BACK TO REALITY: Molly turns back around to see Steve and Dr. Anne, who are looking at her with concern.

MOLLY (V.O.)

I got off the phone and I told Steve and he gave me this look of, like, pity...

In a state of shock, Steve stands.

10 EXT. BODEGA - BACK TO PRESENT (D1)

10

Molly looks at Nikki, searching for the right word.

MOLLY

No, it wasn't pity. It was like...

11 INT. DR. ANNE'S OFFICE - (FLASHBACK - 20 MINUTES AGO) (D1) 11

Steve nods reassuringly at Molly.

STEVE

I'll call the hospital. We're gonna get through this.

MOLLY (V.O.)

... Excitement.

12 EXT. BODEGA - PRESENT (D1)

12

Nikki is unable to hide her disgust a moment longer.

NIKKI

Fucking Steve! I want to shove him into a bush.

MOLLY

If I'm sick, then everything is simple between us-- He's the caretaker and the martyr, and I'm his patient and that means he won't touch me--

NIKKI

Oh my god. Can he not see you? If he doesn't want to touch you then, like, he's not well. But I, like-- I support your marriage. Obviously I support your marriage.

MOLLY

So I'm standing there and I'm looking at him and then all of a sudden I get this flash of a memory...

13 INT. ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

13

Bright light. Bodies.

MOLLY (V.O.)

... of this guy who went down on me in my 20s.

14 EXT. BODEGA - BACK TO PRESENT (D1)

14

Nikki reacts.

NIKKI

I did not think you were going to say that.

MOLLY

And his head is in my hands.

15 INT. ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK CONT'D)

15

Flashes of sex. Intense. Enthusiastic.

MOLLY (V.O.)

It was so vivid. I could feel his hair in my fingers.

NIKKI (V.O.)

Yes!

MOLLY (V.O.)

I mean someone walked in on us. I never even finished, but it was the best I've ever felt. And I just kept thinking, I don't want to die without ever feeling that way again.

16 EXT. BODEGA - BACK TO PRESENT (D1)

16

As before.

MOLLY

And then I ran across the street to this bodega.

NIKKI

To this bodega? Like you ran from therapy to here?

MOLLY

Yeah, it's right there.
(pointing, then)
Oh look, that's Dr. Anne.

ANGLE ON a window in a BUILDING across the street. Dr. Anne is waving from a window. She mouths something.

NIKKI

Oh my god! What is she saying? "Are you okay?" Are you okay?

Molly does a big thumbs down. Calls out:

MOLLY

No! I'm very bad!

ANGLE ON Dr. Anne giving a "Wait Right There" gesture.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

Wait. Oh my god, she's getting Steve. Shoot. Hide me.

NIKKI

What?

MOLLY

Hide me.

NIKKI

Oh, hold on--

Nikki pulls a shawl out of her bag and attempts to use it to block Molly from view. It doesn't work.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

I don't think this is going to give you what you want. Oh no. Oh-- Oh--
I mean make another choice.

ANGLE ON Steve exiting Dr. Anne's building.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

And we have Steve. Steve's on the move.

MOLLY

Alright, let's go!

Molly rushes towards Nikki's car, pulling Nikki along.

NIKKI

Where are we going?

STEVE (O.S.)

Don't leave!

ANGLE ON Steve, stopping short at the curb, stymied.

MOLLY

Thank god he doesn't jaywalk.

NIKKI

Go. Go, go, go, go! I got you.

Molly and Nikki frantically pile into the car as Steve yells from across the street.

STEVE

Wait! Molly! Just let me talk to you for a second!

MOLLY

Drive, Nikki. Please drive! He's getting closer. I can feel it!

Nikki slams the car door.

STEVE

Nikki! No!

Nikki fumbles with her CAR KEYS as Molly freaks out.

NIKKI

I don't have a fucking push start thing!

STEVE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Nikki! No!

MOLLY

Oh my god!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

17 INT. NIKKI AND NOAH'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - 17
LATER (D1)

Nikki leads Molly through the door where she's greeted by her boyfriend, NOAH (40s, sweet, dresses like Seinfeld in the nineties), who makes out with her, oblivious to the fact that Molly is there. Nikki quickly pulls away.

NIKKI

Hold on one sec. Don't tongue me
down right now.

They are in a small cramped apartment. Noah spots Molly.

NOAH

Oh, hi. Hi Molly!

MOLLY

Hi.

NOAH

Sorry, didn't see you there. Did
Nikki tell you that she moved in?

MOLLY

(she didn't)
Oh yeah!

NOAH

We're living in sin! Taking the
plunge! Don't tell my grandma, in
Taiwan.

18 INT. NIKKI AND NOAH'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - LATER (D1) 18

Nikki and Molly are curled up in bed next to each other, under piles of cozy blankets. The Good Value Diet Soda, now half empty, is nearby. Molly is cupping Nikki's boobs.

MOLLY

Your boobs are so relaxing. They're
like a cup of hot tea.

NIKKI

I'm sorry...

REVEAL NOAH is also in their bedroom playing a SOUNDLESS practice timpani pad and xylophone practice pad with large headphones. He's totally immersed in the music and can't hear anything being said. He feels their eyes on him.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

He's playing Mahler's Sixth at the Phil tomorrow night.

NOAH

I'M PLAYING MAHLER'S SIXTH TOMORROW.

NIKKI

Don't ever ask him about Mahler because he starts whispering in a really weird way.

NOAH

ARE YOU TELLING HER HOW I'M HORNY FOR MAHLER?

MOLLY

You guys are living together already? When were you going to tell me?

NIKKI

I love him.

MOLLY

You just met him--

NIKKI

It's been like three months! I think?

MOLLY

Is he being nice to you?

This is a sore spot between them. Nikki's temper flares.

NIKKI

Yes, he's being nice to me, and I'm being nice to him. This is why I didn't want to tell you!
(catching herself)
Sorry. Sorry--

MOLLY

Please don't be weird. Just tell me to fuck off.

NIKKI
(not convincing)
Fuck off.
(beat)
It's good. It's different. He
doesn't vampire off my self-esteem
or sell my shoes on the internet.
Noah's the most normal guy I've
ever had amazing sex with.

ANGLE ON Noah playing the CHIMES. Nikki eyes him, turned on.

NIKKI (CONT'D)
Look at that. Look at that.

MOLLY
But you have amazing sex with
everyone. You once had an orgasm on
the subway just from listening to a
podcast.

NIKKI
Yeah.

MOLLY
Was it true crime?

NIKKI
I think it was *The Daily*.

They laugh together.

MOLLY
(a beat, then:)
Steve hasn't touched me in three
years.

NIKKI
What? No! How is that even
possible? I didn't know it was that
long.

MOLLY
I mean my tits were full of cancer.
And then, with the chemo, I had
diarrhea for about a year.

NIKKI
But still. You're you.

Molly's phone rings. She reacts.

MOLLY (V.O.)
*Probably Steve. The worst thing is
he's gonna forgive me for this.
Because I'm his sad, sick,
unfuckable wife, and he's the one
who's gonna save me. Not yet.*

Molly ignores the call.

NIKKI
(treading lightly)
Are you going to tell Gail?

Molly pretends to not hear her.

MOLLY
What's Noah's wifi?

NIKKI
TimpaniTime45. Are you going to
tell Gail?

MOLLY
She's on a trip. Can we make fun of
that password please?

NIKKI
No. Where? Where is your mom on a
trip?

MOLLY
She's... North.

NIKKI
You're lying.

MOLLY
Yes I am. Will you tell me more
about the play?

NIKKI
No. No. Please don't do your thing.
Just talk to me. Why are you hiding
from Steve? Why don't you want to
tell your mom? She loves you. She's
gonna need to know--

MOLLY
(conversation over)
Stop.

It comes out harsher than she meant. Beat.

NIKKI
I'm making you soup.

MOLLY
The good kind? From the packet?

NIKKI
Mmhmm, I know what baby likes.

19 INT. NIKKI AND NOAH'S APARTMENT - HALL - CONTINUOUS (D1) 19
Nikki, sitting in the hall, QUIETLY SOBS so Molly won't hear.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

20 INT. NIKKI AND NOAH'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - LATER (D1) 20

Molly is eating chicken soup as Nikki sits near her, smoking one of Molly's cigarettes. They're mid-conversation.

NIKKI

... But that's why I haven't called so much. It's this big Shakespeare production, and it's like, this is it! This is what I've been dreaming of ever since I was a kid pretending that I wasn't from New Jersey--

MOLLY

It's not a big deal. Please, you don't have to call me every day.

NIKKI

No! It's not fine! It's not. It's not fine.

MOLLY (V.O.)

You've been like this since you were twenty-two, you beautiful flake.

NIKKI

I just... Yeah, I get really caught up in work and--

MOLLY

(sarcastic)

Ooh work? What's that like?

NIKKI

No. Fuck that, you do everything for Steve, you organized his whole stupid book--

MOLLY

It wasn't stupid. It was a Pulitzer finalist.

NIKKI

Well, nobody bought it, because it was so fucking depressing--

MOLLY

Well, it wasn't supposed to be fun!
It was about climate change!

NIKKI

I couldn't shit for a month after I
read it. I was too sad to shit.

A BUZZER sounds. Molly's eyes widen.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Okay. You know what? That's Steve.
He's been texting me.

MOLLY

No. Not yet.

A DOUBLE BUZZER. WINTER (15, angsty) comes out of her room.

WINTER

Dad, get the door!

NIKKI

Hi Winter! Hi!

(to a surprised Molly)

This is Winter, Noah's daughter.
She stays here on Wednesdays, which
is great. And Winter, this is my
friend Molly.

Another BUZZER. Winter storms off, frustrated.

WINTER

Dad!

NIKKI

(whispering to Molly)

Look at my body right now. I'm like
afraid of her. But she's really
sweet. It's that she thinks I'm a
dork. But I'm cool. I am cool.

Molly doesn't know what to say. Winter comes back with Noah
who is headed for the door when Nikki intercepts.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Wait! Hold on! Don't get the door!

NOAH

(confused)

Okay...

NIKKI

It's Steve. We're not doing that.

NOAH

Oh. Oh!

(to Molly, with empathy)

Did he cheat on you?

NIKKI

No. She doesn't want to talk about
it--

MOLLY

My cancer is back, and it's not
curable.

Noah gasps, heartbroken.

DOUBLE BUZZER.

NOAH

(hand on heart)

Oh my god. I'm so sorry. I had no
idea.

MOLLY

It's okay.

*MOLLY (V.O.)**No cancer pity face.*Winter opens the door. Steve is there, exasperated. Molly
averts his gaze and pretends she is invisible.

STEVE

Molly.

WINTER

(to Noah)

I let him in. What's happening?

STEVE

MOLLY (V.O.)

Sorry to barge in like this. Not yet.

WINTER

(to Noah)

Is she dying of cancer?

NOAH

STEVE

Oh god baby I didn't know you Alright, Molly. Let's head
heard that. I think we should out.
probably talk about it.*MOLLY (V.O.)**I forgot how hot he is when he's
mad and wearing a blazer.*

STEVE
(to Molly)
Hello? What's going on?

NIKKI
She's not dying of cancer. It's
just incurable.

WINTER
How is that different than dying?

MOLLY (V.O.)
Stop saying dying!!!

NIKKI
Is there any way you could stop
saying dying?

STEVE
Are you guys smoking in here?

NIKKI
Are YOU smoking in here?

Molly bursts into laughter.

STEVE
Oh, c'mon. Hey, Molly, let's
go. It's time.

WINTER
Who are these people, Dad?
This is why I don't want to
live with you and your random-
ass girlfriend.

NOAH
Nikki is not random-ass!

NIKKI
No, I am random.

MOLLY (V.O.)
(enjoying the chaos)
Yes!

NOAH
(to Winter)
This is happening fast, but I love
her.

Steve sees the Great Value Diet Soda in Molly's arms.

STEVE
Oh, we're drinking soda, too.
Great.

Winter runs out of the room, over this.

WINTER
I have to study for the
PSATs. I can't deal with
cancer! I don't wanna talk
about it!

NOAH
Just slow down. I think we
should talk about this.

Noah follows her out, apologizing. Steve looks at Molly.

STEVE
Having stressful, emotional
interactions. That's-- This is
perfect. This is exactly what we
need. Can we go?

MOLLY (V.O.)
*Oh, you're so disappointed in me,
it's so hot. I'm always doing the
wrong thing, and you hate it.*

STEVE
This is a great environment for you
right now.

NIKKI
(kind of hates him)
Hi Steve.

STEVE
(kind of hates her)
Nikki.

21 INT. MOLLY AND STEVE'S LOFT - LATER (D1)

21

Molly watches Steve chop KALE as she drinks from her soda.

STEVE
I called the hospital. They want
you to meet with a palliative care
social worker after our appointment
with the doctor tomorrow. Just to
help with some of these big
emotions you're having--

Molly moves closer. Steve takes away the soda bottle.

STEVE (CONT'D)
We're done.
(reading the bottle label)
Look at this, you can't even
recycle it. I'm making you juice.

Steve keeps chopping. Molly watches, somewhere between
repulsed and amused.

MOLLY

You remember when you used to fuck
me? Like really fuck me?

Steve ignores her, continues chopping. She hugs him from
behind and caresses his chest, seductively.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

You'd take me to parties with all
your friends and you'd talk about
books I'd never read. And I'd get
insecure and I'd pick a fight and
you'd have to take me home...

STEVE

My priority right now is keeping
you alive as long as possible.

Molly is rubbing Steve's crotch.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Which means no caffeine. No sugar.
No green drink. We're gonna start a
food diary. We're gonna set a
bedtime-- Molly. Molly!

Steve pulls Molly's hands off of him.

STEVE (CONT'D)

Do you not want to live longer?

MOLLY

I want to blow you.

Molly pushes Steve back, kissing him. He kisses her back.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

22 INT. MOLLY AND STEVE'S LOFT - MOMENTS LATER (D1)

22

CLOSE ON Steve's face, about to orgasm.

Steve, now pants-less, stands pushed up against a desk. Molly is between his legs, in her bra, performing oral sex, her hands pushing hard into the side of his legs. Then she reaches up, grabs Steve's hand, and puts it inside her bra on her breast. He has to bend his knees and crouch down to reach her. He starts to squeeze her breast softly and suddenly starts to cry. Molly stops. Steve sinks down fully next to her. Curling up like a baby in her lap.

STEVE
I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

MOLLY
It's okay. It's okay. It's
okay. It's okay.

MOLLY (V.O.)
*What if that's the last time I have
sex? Half a blowjob that made him
cry.*

STEVE
It's just... your boobs...

MOLLY
What?

STEVE
When I touch them, it makes me
think of the mastectomy. And then I
think about losing you.

Beat.

MOLLY
My boobs make you think about
death.

STEVE
Yeah... I just don't understand,
like what is this all about? What
is this need of yours to blow me?
Because it's a little weird
considering what happened to you.
I'm sorry, but just like your
childhood trauma--

MOLLY
You say "trauma" like "traww-ma."

STEVE

What do you mean?

MOLLY

Say it.

STEVE

Trauma.

MOLLY

Traww-ma.

STEVE

Yeah, that's how you say it. Jesus, fuck. I'm just saying-- The first time you got cancer it re-traumatized you and then this recurrence is going to probably add to the trauma.

All Molly can hear is "traww-ma"...

STEVE (CONT'D)

You're just deflecting. You're deflecting and you can't even talk about it.

MOLLY

My mom's boyfriend made me give him a blowjob when I was seven. There. I talked about it.

STEVE

But you haven't processed it--

MOLLY

I don't-- What does that mean? When do you know that you've "processed" your childhood?

STEVE

You know what it means.

Steve stares at her, overwhelmed with emotion. It feels like he's going to say something important, and then:

STEVE (CONT'D)

I have an interview with CNN in 10 minutes. I tried to reschedule it, but they wouldn't let me.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Who are you? Do you know anything about me?

STEVE

Can you get the interview with the family...? With the baby?

MOLLY

Yeah.

Steve pulls on his sweater. Molly watches.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Did I do this? Did I stop you from knowing me? Are you the last person I'll see before I die?

STEVE

Is this sweater... Does it give me a little pooch in the front?

23

INT. HOSPITAL - DR. PANKOWITZ'S EXAM ROOM (D2)

23

DR. PANKOWITZ (50s, no bedside manner, very good at his job) speaks to Steve and Molly, but mostly Steve.

DR. PANKOWITZ

Alright. Well, I just want to say I'm sorry--

Dr. Pankowitz pats Steve's back. Steve nods, sadly. Molly watches the men, so frustrated that it's actually funny.

STEVE

Well, thanks, Dr. P. I appreciate that...

SOUND DROPS OUT. Molly watches Dr. Pankowitz and Steve talk like she's not even there.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Say something. What do you want? What do you want right now? Say something. Say something.

SOUND RETURNS. Steve is suggesting a treatment plan.

STEVE

... would it be possible for Molly to come off the tamoxifen now?

DR. PANKOWITZ

Yeah. We could do that.

STEVE

Side effects have been rough.

DR. PANKOWITZ

What side effects specifically?

MOLLY

Stop it. Stop it. That's not--

Beat. Steve looks at Molly, perplexed.

STEVE

What?

Molly struggles to articulate herself. She's new to this.

MOLLY

It's not yours to... He's my doctor.

STEVE

Okay. I think we're still reeling from the Stage Four of it all.

Molly's resolve grows.

MOLLY

Stop it. Stop it. It's my life. It's my death. It's mine.

STEVE

Okay!

DR. PANKOWITZ

You know, maybe I should just...

He tries to back out of the room.

MOLLY

No! You can stay!

DR. PANKOWITZ

Oh.

STEVE

Okay. Are you trying to hurt me?

MOLLY

No. It's not about you. This is about what I want. This is about how I feel. And I want to feel things. I want to feel things.

STEVE

What does that even mean?

OFF Molly, thinking...

24

INT. HOSPITAL - MULTIPURPOSE ROOM (D2)

24

SONYA THIBODEAUX (20s), a licensed clinical social worker sits across from Molly.

MOLLY

I don't need to have this conversation. I don't need palliative care. I'm not going to die tomorrow.

SONYA

Palliative care is all about how you want to *live* with this. I'm here for psychological support. Pain management. And when you're actively dying, I am here for that too. Hey, I know it's cheesy, but everybody has a bucket list. I tell patients to dream big. Climb a mountain. Eat something spicy. Roller skate.

MOLLY

I have cancer in my bones.

SONYA

Well, it doesn't have to be rollerskating.

MOLLY

(frustrated, explosion)
You think if I learn to fucking roller skate--??

SONYA

What about whales?

MOLLY

Look--

SONYA

Have you ever seen a whale before?

MOLLY

I'm too young, and it sucks. Okay? I haven't done anything with my life... I actually don't know what I like or what I want... I've never even had an orgasm with another person. And now I'm going to die.

Beat. Molly can't believe she just said all of that out loud. Sonya looks at her, nodding.

SONYA

Good. We have something for your
list: "Orgasm with another person."

Molly laughs. Beat. She notices Sonya clutching a leather
necklace.

MOLLY

What is that?

SONYA

Oh. I like to have a little leather
on me.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Ask her.

MOLLY

Are you into leather?

Sonya stares at Molly deciding how to answer. Then:

SONYA

I like to be hog-tied.

MOLLY

Like hands and... feet...

SONYA

Legs together.

MOLLY

What does that feel like?

SONYA

Thank you for not asking if it
hurts. It's very intense. Does that
kind of thing speak to you? You
know, because you could start
exploring... Molly, there's a whole
world out there. If you want it.

Molly reacts, realizing she very much wants it.

25

EXT. HOSPITAL - LATER (D2)

25

Molly waits on the curb in the pick-up area. Nikki pulls up
in her car, double parks, and puts on her hazard lights. She
gets out and walks to Molly.

MOLLY

I think I just left Steve.

Beat.

NIKKI

Okay.

Nikki, taking this all in, sits down next to her.

MOLLY

I told him I don't want to die with him.

NIKKI

Oh. Oh shit. Okay.

MOLLY

I want to die with you.

Beat.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

But it's okay if you can't-- if it's too much to--

Nikki thinks for a moment. A swirl of emotions.

NIKKI

Yeah, let's do it. Die with me.

Molly is flooded with feelings of relief and joy and love.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Thank you.

Molly pulls Nikki to her. They stay like that for a moment.

MOLLY (V.O.)

Thank you.

A car HONKS. Nikki turns to the car and loses it.

NIKKI

Jesus Christ. I felt that in my fucking asshole, okay? This is a hospital! Go somewhere else to honk your horn!

A hospital ORDERLY pushes a MAN IN A WHEELCHAIR to a stop.

MAN IN WHEELCHAIR

Hey, move your car please?

NIKKI

Sir. I'm talking to my friend who
just left her husband, so just give
me one fucking second.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Jesus Christ! I'm being
appropriate! I'm with someone
at the hospital. I'm not
honking, I'm not yelling at
people! I'm the person doing
the thing that people are
doing at the hospital...
other than being sick!

MAN IN WHEELCHAIR

Cry me a fucking river. Move
your car! I need to get home!
You're blocking the fucking
road! Cry me a river. Move
the car! You know what, fuck
it. I'll move it myself.

The Man in a Wheelchair suddenly hobbles up and starts moving
threateningly towards Nikki.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

What? Don't get up! Oh my god!

Nikki grabs Molly, and they start running to her car.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Just stay there, I'm sorry! Go, go,
go, go!

Nikki bangs on the other HONKING CAR.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Fuck you, you started this! You're
a fucking dick!

(to Molly)

Just get in. Get in. Go.

Steve walks out of the hospital and looks at Molly. He's been
crying. He and Molly make eye contact. There's a flash of
regret. Fear. Is this a mistake? Then she gets into Nikki's
car. Closes the door shut.

NIKKI (CONT'D)

Get in! Go!

Molly looks away, sliding into the car.

26

INT. NIKKI'S CAR - CONTINUOUS (D2)

26

Molly settles into her seat, turns to Nikki.

MOLLY

Drive.

END OF EPISODE