AFTER PEOPLE LIKE YOU

by Jason Pizzarello

For Perusal Purposes Only

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Characters

TIM, wears army dress blues, hides a limp
KERI, wears his pain

ANNA, carries an 8-month pregnancy
DIEGO, carries her weight

They're all in their late 20's/early 30's.

Diego is in a suit. Anna and Keri in nice dresses, appropriate for a Fall wedding.

Time and Place

Not the present. Later.

The R train running from:
Bay ridge, Brooklyn (95th Street) to
Forest Hills, Queens (71st Street)

It's Saturday night at 10:49 pm.
We travel with them in real time.

Notes

Although they are close to each other in the same train car, there are separate conversations going on between pairs. We shift back and forth between them.
Shifts are indicated in the script by //////////////////////.

When a character's line is represented by "...." this is meant to indicate the unspoken line and the silent moments that replace it.

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After People Like You

(The 'R' Train. 10:49 p.m.
The subway doors are open.)

(Anna and Diego get on.
Anna sits, exhausted. Diego sits.
Anna closes her eyes.
Diego stares out.
Anna opens her eyes and looks at Diego.
He doesn't notice.
They stare out.)

Sound: ***bing bong***

(The doors are about to close.)

(Tim and Keri jump into the car.
Laughing, stumbling.
They kiss.
Over Keri's shoulder,
Tim sees Anna and Diego.
They're waiting to be seen.)

Sound: ***bing bong***

(The doors close.)

(Tim turns Keri around to see them.
Now they all see each other and
they do the pleasant surprise noise thing.)

(The train starts to move out of the station.)

ANNA
We didn't know you guys-

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
-Were taking this.

TIM
We are.

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DIEGO
Where are you going-

TIM
The Queens.

ANNA
You guys live in The Queens? We live in The Queens!

DIEGO
Where are you guys-

TIM
Just before The Forest Hills.

DIEGO
Hey.

ANNA
We're in The Forest Hills!

TIM
Alright.

KERI
How about that.

DIEGO
Last stop.

TIM
Yeah.

DIEGO
Didn't want to take a cab.

TIM
Can be expensive.

DIEGO
Only hundreds of dollars.

ANNA
Are you kidding, at least.

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DIEGO
Actually we took a cab out to the Recon Field to pick up some supplies last weekend and it cleared us out.

ANNA
We couldn't believe it.

KERI
Terrible.

TIM
I'd say you should buy your own car but-

DIEGO
Yeah.

KERI
Good luck.

ANNA
My family used to have a car. It just seemed like, I don't know. There'd always be cars to buy.

DIEGO
Those were the days.

TIM
Your family had a car?

ANNA
Well. Yeah. But a lot of people did.

TIM
Not mine.

KERI
We shared one with the neighbors.

TIM
Yeah not everyone-

DIEGO
The *days when the days lasted days.*

ANNA
Yeah. Until the *tomorrow rays.*

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KERI
The *tomorrow rays*?

TIM
The tomorrow rains.

ANNA
What?

TIM
Not the tomorrow *rays*. The tomorrow *rains*.

ANNA
Is it?

KERI
What is-

DIEGO
From school. From like middle school.

KERI
Oh.

DIEGO
And then the *tomorrow rains* came.

TIM
It's called *Dry Future*.

ANNA
That's it! how does it go?

TIM
(To Keri:)
You never recited it, in school?

KERI
No. I guess it wasn't uh-

DIEGO
Days when the days were todays. Right?

ANNA
Days were todays.

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TIM
Days when all the days were todays
Days without morning, days without night
Endless days with no end in sight
The tomorrow rains with tomorrows
Washed away our same day sorrows
Days for one today then yesterdays

DIEGO
That's it.

ANNA
The tomorrow rains. Right.

KERI
.....

ANNA
.....

//////////////////

DIEGO
Didn't see you on the dance floor.

TIM
Yeah. No.

DIEGO
Place was packed.

TIM
Too many people. For that space.

DIEGO
Probably a hazard.

TIM
Not for me. I'd throw a chair through the window without thinking twice.

DIEGO
Yeah...

TIM
.....

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DIEGO
How long you been back?

TIM
Since. March.

DIEGO
March.

TIM
Yeah, about that.

DIEGO
This past March?

TIM
Uh huh.

DIEGO
Oh.

//////////////////////

ANNA
What a wedding.

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
You look great by the way.

KERI
Oh. Thanks. By the way?

ANNA
If I didn't say that already.

KERI
You did.

ANNA
Oh.

KERI
When you walked by our table.

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ANNA
Duh. Sorry.

KERI
That's okay. Thanks. Again. By the way.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

....
....
....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

//////////////////////

TIM
You thought I got back more recently?

DIEGO
So what is that.

TIM
What is it?

DIEGO
How many months is that?

TIM
I was gone a year. Thirteen months.

DIEGO
No since you been back?

TIM
Since March?

DIEGO
Yeah.

TIM
I don't know. When is it now? Like, what, six months.

KERI
You've been back six months.

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TIM
Since March.

DIEGO
Damn. I'm sorry I didn't-

ANNA
Yeah I'm sorry we didn't-

TIM
It's fine. My family wrote me. Keri wrote me. Sometimes.

KERI
Hey I wrote you every day.

TIM
Kidding kidding. She did.

ANNA
That's good, that's nice. I should have. Thought of it. I…
I knew you were over there. We were thinking of you. It's just…
Blame it on the pregnancy brain.

//////////////////////

KERI
What is that? is that a thing?

ANNA
Pregnancy brain?

KERI
Is that like a real thing or is that something-

ANNA
No it's a real thing.

KERI
Medically speaking.

ANNA
I think so.

KERI
But it might not be? It might be just like forgetfulness?

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ANNA
Lots of women get it when they're pregnant so I guess it's a real thing in that sense.

KERI
Huh.

ANNA
Sometimes you forget things and sometimes you just mix up things like the order of, how things should come in a certain order, like a to-do list or something and it's just sort of jumbled if that makes sense.

KERI
It makes enough sense.

ANNA
Enough for what?
Oh!

KERI
What?

(Anna takes Keri's hand and puts it on her belly. Keri does not feel comfortable with this.)

ANNA
Feel that?

KERI
No.

ANNA
Huh. It was-

KERI
Kicking?

ANNA
Shifting.

//////////////////////

DIEGO
I didn't even know you were back. I'm sorry I didn't… Welcome back.

TIM
Yeah. Thanks.

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DIEGO
Is it good to be back?

TIM
Of course.

DIEGO
I mean. Yeah of course. But are you transitioning still from-

TIM
No.

DIEGO
Oh. That's good.

TIM
I am fully transitioned.

DIEGO
That's good. Welcome back, man. I'm sorry.

TIM
That's okay.

//////////////////////

KERI
You look great too by the way.

ANNA
Oh. Yeah, haha.

KERI
No you do.

ANNA
Well. Um. Thanks. I feel like a house.

KERI
You know especially in spite of-

ANNA
This giant belly.

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KERI
Well yeah.

ANNA
I know I look exhausted.

KERI
And in spite of-

ANNA
What?

KERI
Everything. Else.

ANNA
Oh. You mean…

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
Wait what do you mean.

KERI
With everything else. That happened.

ANNA
Ohhhh. Duh. You mean with the-

KERI
Right. Were you guys…

ANNA
Close?

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
Yeah we were. Not as close as others. We're still here, haha.
But yeah.

KERI
No you do. You look good, Anna.

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ANNA
Thanks.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
....

ANNA
No. Thank you.

//////////////////////

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

DIEGO
I'm sorry I never wrote either.
I'm terrible at that stuff.

TIM
Don't worry about it.

DIEGO
No really I am.

TIM
It's fine.

DIEGO
It's not even personal. It's just I'm bad at that stuff.

TIM
Okay.

DIEGO
And with everything.

TIM
Yeah. Everything.

DIEGO
Everything that's going on.

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TIM
Uh huh.

DIEGO
And everything that's happened.

TIM
Sure. Everything is…

DIEGO
I mean, of course, yeah, everything is. But also with-

TIM
Yeah.

DIEGO
(Hushed:)
Them.

(They shift farther away from Anna and Keri.)

TIM
Right.

DIEGO
You know.

TIM
Yeah.

DIEGO
The drama.

TIM
Not to simplify it.

DIEGO
No but you know.

TIM
Sure.

DIEGO
It's been awhile since anyone has…

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TIM
Yup.

DIEGO
I didn't want to make things worse. I try and stay out of it.

TIM
You try.

DIEGO
But you can't.

TIM
Nope.

DIEGO
You're in it. Whether you like it or not. You try not to take sides. You try to stay neutral. You try and be Switzerland. But you're in it. You've already chosen sides. Long ago. And so it doesn't matter. Even if you keep quiet. Try and keep the peace.

TIM
There is no peace.

DIEGO
Exactly.

//////////////////////

ANNA
You're not still working at the shelter, are you?

KERI
Yup. Still there. Nine years.

ANNA
Wow.

KERI
Yeah. It's been. Rewarding.

ANNA
I'm sure.

KERI
It's not easy but. I mean some days-

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ANNA
I bet.

KERI
But someone's gotta do it.

ANNA
Right. I guess.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
Someone's gotta help them.

ANNA
Totally.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

KERI
What?

ANNA
Nothing.

KERI
Why 'I guess'?

ANNA
Huh?

KERI
Why when I said someone's gotta do it you said 'I guess.'

ANNA
No I said totally.

KERI
No before that.

ANNA
I guess I just meant I guess.

KERI
You guess what?

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ANNA
I guess you're right. I guess someone's gotta do it.

KERI
Why do you have to guess?

ANNA
I didn't mean anything.

KERI
Yes you did.

//////////////////////

TIM
So are you ready.

DIEGO
Ready?

TIM
For you know what.

DIEGO
Oh that.

TIM
Yeah that little-

DIEGO
Baby. Well.
Ready is a strong word.

TIM
Sure.

DIEGO
Can't *not* be ready. Can't ever be too ready. Or ready enough. The right amount of ready. Can't be ready, really.

TIM
No. Some things you just have to-

DIEGO
Right. You just-

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TIM
Don't know what's coming. The best laid plans.

DIEGO
Right. Well-

TIM
God laughing and all that. So. Fuck it.

DIEGO
Right.

TIM
You deal with what's in front of you. You react.

//////////////////////

KERI
You've always been this way about the shelter.

ANNA
Well. It's. It's an animal shelter.

KERI
So?

ANNA
So I don't know. Forget it.

KERI
No. What I do is important. You *guess*. It's how I've chosen to live my life. So. Yes, it's an animal shelter. So tell me. Tell me what you meant.

ANNA
I just meant-

KERI
What.

ANNA
That it's an animal shelter.

KERI
What does that mean?

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ANNA
Tim, Keri is getting serious on me about the animal stuff.

TIM
Yeah. She'll do that.

DIEGO
(Turns back to Diego:)
No such thing as peace right?

TIM
Exactly.

//////////////////////

KERI
Fucking animal stuff? Yes, it is an animal shelter.

ANNA
And it's important.

KERI
Thank you.

ANNA
Until it isn't.

KERI
Until it isn't

ANNA
Right.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
When isn't it?

ANNA
When it's not.

KERI
I don't-

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

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ANNA
When there's something more important.
Then it's not important. That's when.

//////////////////////

DIEGO
(Looking out as they pass through the stop:)
Are we not stopping at-

TIM
No.

DIEGO
Oh. I thought.

TIM
Not there anymore.

DIEGO
Oh. Really.
Because of the wave?

TIM
Yeah that and-

DIEGO
Wait. The *wave* wave or-

TIM
Right. Exactly.

DIEGO
What?

TIM
And, or, and d., all of the above.
Who knows, really.
Who can keep track.

DIEGO
I don't know.

TIM
Even if you could, would you want to.

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ANNA
I'm sorry. I shouldn't have said anything.

KERI
No you're not. You've never been sorry.

ANNA
I just think like if there's a woman and a dog injured in the street who do you go to first.

KERI
That's not fair.

ANNA
It's completely fair and any rational person values a human life over a stupid animal.

KERI
Animals are complex beings capable of showing incredible love and loyalty in ways that-

ANNA
Uh huh.

KERI
But of course I'd go to the woman.

ANNA
Really?

KERI
Yes.

ANNA
Really?

KERI
Yes.

ANNA
One hundred percent of the time?

KERI
That's not fair.

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ANNA
See. See?

KERI
It depends. It depends alright.

ANNA
No it doesn't. See this is exactly-

KERI
I feel like this is college all over again. You don't-
How are they injured? Maybe one is worse than the other.

ANNA
They're injured in the same way.

KERI
That's not possible.

ANNA
It's a hypothetical situation.

KERI
Yeah but. People and animals respond to pain, respond to treatment in different ways.

ANNA
Forget it.

KERI
Forget it.
Diego, Anna wants me to forget it.

TIM
Probably a good idea.

DIEGO
Let's all forget it. How about that.

TIM
Fine with me.
How about you, Keri. Keri doesn't like to forget things.

KERI
I'm not forgetting it.

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ANNA
C'mon, it's been forgotten.

DIEGO
What're you trying to not forget?

KERI
Anna was making her bullshit argument about the person and the animal in the street again.

DIEGO
Ah that old chestnut.

TIM
Didn't miss that one at all.

KERI
Animals dying in streets. Dogs with their legs blown off and how I shouldn't save them and-

ANNA
That's not what I.

KERI
Just 'cause Anna hates animals.

ANNA
That's not true at all. I love animals.

DIEGO
We have a cat now.

ANNA
I love our cat.

DIEGO
More than me actually.

ANNA
That's true. See?

KERI
Yeah but-

ANNA
If I had to choose. Really choose. In a hypothetical life or death-

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DIEGO
She'd choose the cat.

ANNA
That's not true.

DIEGO
I'm not upset. I'd choose the cat too.

ANNA
Over me?

DIEGO
Over me.

TIM
Me too.

KERI
You'd choose the cat over me?

TIM
No over Diego.

DIEGO
So we all agree we'd choose the cat over me.

KERI
I wouldn't, Diego.

DIEGO
You haven't met this cat.

ANNA
It's a great cat.

TIM
I don't need to meet it.

KERI
I'd still choose you, Diego.

DIEGO
Well thank you, Keri.

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KERI
You're lucky it's not a dog, then it gets complicated.

(They laugh. Sort of.)

DIEGO
Anyway.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

TIM
Yeah anyway.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
Whatever.

KERI
Forget it.

TIM
....

KERI
....

DIEGO
....

ANNA
....

TIM
....

KERI
....

DIEGO
....

ANNA
....

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//////////////////////

TIM
What supplies did you get?

DIEGO
Supplies?

TIM
At the field. You said you went.

DIEGO
Oh. Yeah. Batteries. Mostly. And paper. And the formula. But you can only get two bottles now.

TIM
Only two?

DIEGO
Two liters a month.

TIM
I need more batteries but I'm not going there.

DIEGO
Not many options.

TIM
There's a friend of mine we go to. At the end of The Long Island.

DIEGO
You can afford that?

TIM
I trade in copper pipe. On the side.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

DIEGO
On the side of what? Haha.

TIM
Yeah, haha.
….

Sound: ***bing bong***

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(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

DIEGO
No that's, uh, that's a good setup.
I need a connection like that.

TIM
.....

//////////////////////

ANNA
I liked that room.

KERI
The reception one?

ANNA
Yeah. I want something like that. When Diego and I-

KERI
When are you guys going to…

ANNA
Soon.
Really soon.

DIEGO
(Joining in:)
Next year.

ANNA
We're planning it now. But you know…

KERI
I'm sure it's hard to find the right venue.

ANNA
To find a place. Absolutely. There aren't many left.
Most of the good ones, you know.

KERI
Washed away.

ANNA
Right. Or buried.

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KERI
Right.

ANNA
And you don't want to find a place that's too-

KERI
Wet?

ANNA
Charred.
Some of these places are so…
The one's left standing are…
The place they had was nice.

KERI
It was but-
But I don't know.
I'm surprised they had it there.

ANNA
It was nice.

KERI
Yeah but I mean.
So close to the spill.

ANNA
(To Tim:)
It's not that close. Is it that close?

TIM
Not that close.

DIEGO
No?

TIM
I mean I wouldn't drink the water.

KERI
See.

TIM
Not yet anyway.

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KERI
No.

TIM
Not for a decade or so.

KERI
Gotta let it-

TIM
Let nature. You know. Do whatever the fuck it does.

DIEGO
Not to get scientific.

TIM
No.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

.....
.....
.....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
There *is* something in the air though.

TIM
There's always something in the air.

ANNA
No, like a feeling. There's something just…
It *is* pretty soon after.

DIEGO
Yeah it is soon. What is it?

TIM
Almost a month.

KERI
Already?

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ANNA
See?
I don't think we would've-

DIEGO
No. Too soon.

ANNA
But it worked for them.

DIEGO
Totally.

KERI
It seemed fine. No one even seemed…
Affected.

ANNA
No, right?

KERI
(To Tim:)
Right?

TIM
It was fine. Seemed. Everyone seemed fine to me. I don't see what the big deal-

ANNA
It's just so-

DIEGO
We wouldn't have.

ANNA
No.

TIM
They're not you.

ANNA
No. They're much-

DIEGO
We're much-

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ANNA
They're much-

KERI
Different.

ANNA
Braver.

KERI
Braver?

ANNA
Yeah for having it there.
(To Diego:) Right?

DIEGO
Totally.

TIM
Brave?

ANNA
Yeah.
(To Diego:) Right?

(Train stops. Doors open.)

DIEGO
Definitely.

KERI
I guess.

TIM
Definitely brave.
(A loud laugh.)

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
....

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DIEGO
....

KERI
....

ANNA
What's so funny?

TIM
Sorry.

KERI
Forget it.

TIM
Forgetting it.

ANNA
I musta missed something.

DIEGO
No.

ANNA
Was something funny?

KERI
Tim's just being-

ANNA
'Cause I think it's brave? You think it's funny that I think it's brave?

DIEGO
It's too bad we don't have any drinks.

KERI
What were we thinking.

ANNA
I don't see why that's funny.

TIM
You think they're brave.

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ANNA
Yes.

TIM
Why, 'cause they had a wedding?

ANNA
Yes.

TIM
Throwing a party is not brave.

ANNA
I'm sure you've seen brave things.

TIM
I have.

ANNA
I'm sure.

DIEGO
(To Tim:)
We don't have to uh talk about your-

KERI
No-

DIEGO
Unless you want to uh.

TIM
(To Anna:)
What's brave about it?

ANNA
To have it there. So soon. After. It's like making a stand I don't know. It's like saying, forget it, forget worrying about every stupid event that happens, like every week it seems now, and forget worrying about the possibility of some disaster at any moment. Forget living your life that way. In a constant state of…That's just not a way to live. In fear of the. Whatever. The rains. The waves, the quakes, the eruptions, freezes and melts, and blasts and droughts, spills and sinkholes, and mudslides, and water terrors, electric shakes, and night rumbles, and stupid tectonic shelf tilts, whatever the hell those are, and the damn moon pulling us in every which direction, making decent people mad, just mad with…chaos…in their heads. I mean who can live like that? We all do, right? We all do. Except Anthony and Mikaela said not today. Today we're going to just live

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our lives like it was yesterday, we're going to throw a big party and invite our friends and our families and celebrate life even if it all ends tomorrow in desperation, death and despair.
So. Yeah, I think it's brave.

TIM
Okay, I get that.

KERI
.....

ANNA
Or…
I don't know-
Maybe they didn't want to lose their deposit.

DIEGO
Definitely the deposit.

KERI
(Laughs.)

DIEGO
(Laughs.)

ANNA
(Laughs.)

TIM
....

(Train stops. Doors open.)

DIEGO
Babe, what was that song. They were playing.

ANNA
That song?

DIEGO
Yeah.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

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ANNA
Oh.

DIEGO
(To Keri and Tim:)
They were playing our favorite song.

KERI
Which one.

DIEGO
Ahh... Which one was it. I can't think of it. But you know which one right?

ANNA
Yeah. Oh. Yeah, it's our favorite.

DIEGO
Why can't I… Dammit.

TIM
How does it go?

DIEGO
(Singing:)
Something in the night. Waiting for you.

ANNA
No!

DIEGO
Yes.
(Singing:)
Something's in the night.

ANNA
No!

DIEGO
It's our favorite.

KERI
Sounds like a good one.

DIEGO
(Singing:)
Strangers in the night…

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ANNA
Yes!

DIEGO
(Singing:)
Strangers in the night

ANNA
Not *something's* in the night. That sounds so creepy.

TIM
Strangers in the night is just as creepy.

DIEGO
(Singing:)
Strangers in the night

KERI
(Singing:)
Strangers in the night, exchanging glances
(To everyone:)
Let's dance.

ANNA
Ooh I wanna dance.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
(To Tim:)
Dance with me.

TIM
No. Why are you-

ANNA
I wanna dance.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

KERI
(To Tim:)
C'mon dance with me.

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DIEGO
I'll dance with you.

KERI
Thank you.

TIM
Go for it.

ANNA
Hey what about me.

(Diego takes Keri's hand and they dance and sing.)

DIEGO
Strangers in the night

KERI
Exchanging glances

ANNA
Hey what about me.

DIEGO
Join us.

ANNA
Help me up.

KERI
(Dancing with Diego, but looking at Tim:)
Something in your eyes, do da do do
Something in your smile, la di da di da

(Keri and Diego attempt a swirl of sorts.)

ANNA
Hey.

KERI AND DIEGO
Strangers in the night, da di da do da

ANNA
(Singing:)
Two lonely strangers

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(Anna manages to get up by herself.)

ANNA
(To Tim:)
C'mon dance with me. You'll dance with me.

(Diego and Keri are ignoring them and dancing.)

TIM
No, I can't. I don't know why she-

ANNA
Sure you can.

TIM
No really-

ANNA
You're gonna turn down an eight-month pregnant woman.

TIM
It's just that-

ANNA
You don't have to lift me or anything.

KERI AND DIEGO
(Louder now:)
Strangers in the night

ANNA
C'mon, soldier.

(Anna practically throws herself in Tim's arms.
Tim does his best to hold her.
Anna starts to dance. She moves with surprising grace.
Tim attempts to keep up.)

ANNA
(Competing with Keri and Diego:)
Something in my heart, told me I must have you...

(Keri and Diego have moved back into their area, still dancing.)

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ANNA
Wond'ring in the night what were the chances

KERI
Ever since that night...

DIEGO
Dooby-doooby-doo

(Tim can't support Anna anymore.)

TIM
Stop.

ANNA
C'mon.

TIM
No stop!

DIEGO
C'mon Tim, we're just having-

TIM
(To Anna:)
Here. Just.

ANNA
What.

(Tim moves Anna to sit down with a thump.)

ANNA
Hey.

DIEGO
Be careful.

KERI
What's wrong.

TIM
Nothing.

(Tim is clearly in pain.)

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(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
You alright?

TIM
I'm fine.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

(Tim moves to another part of the car.)

ANNA
What's wrong.

DIEGO
What's wrong.

KERI
His leg.

TIM
I'm fine. Just-

DIEGO
Is he alright?

KERI
He will be.

ANNA
I'm sorry.

KERI
It's fine.

ANNA
I'm so fat.

DIEGO
No you're not.

ANNA
I shouldn't have-

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DIEGO
He didn't have to-

ANNA
Thrust my fat ass on him.

TIM
I'm fine. I'm fine. I'm fine. Just-

KERI
Just leave him.

ANNA
(Shrugs to Diego.)

DIEGO
(Makes a shrug face.)

KERI
Just leave him.

DIEGO
Did he just-
Or is it from…

KERI
From before.

DIEGO
Oh.

ANNA
Oh.

DIEGO
I thought I noticed.

KERI
Yeah. Just-
Let's just-

ANNA
Okay.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

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....
....
....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

DIEGO
....

KERI
....

ANNA
.....

TIM
(Rubs his leg.)

ANNA
(Rubs her belly.)

DIEGO
.....

KERI
....

TIM
....

ANNA
(Rubs her belly.)

TIM
(Rubs his leg.)

KERI
....

DIEGO
....

ANNA
....

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KERI
.....

TIM
....

DIEGO
....

ANNA
....

KERI
I thought maybe your parents would be there tonight.

ANNA
Oh.

KERI
Weren't they close with-

ANNA
Oh. Yeah. They were close but-

KERI
Is your family still close by? Were they…

ANNA
No they're-

KERI
They're still…

ANNA
Oh. Yeah. They. They were fine when it, uh. They were upstate. So.

KERI
I always liked your mom.

ANNA
Yeah she always liked you too. She would've liked us. Together. Being…

KERI
Tell her I say hi.

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ANNA
Yeah. I.

DIEGO
Anna's mom passed.

KERI
Oh.
God.
I'm sorry.

ANNA
That's okay. Thanks. She. Uh. She went... Quick. Peacefully.

DIEGO
As peacefully as you can go.

KERI
That's good. I guess, if-

ANNA
If you're going to go that's the way to go haha.

KERI
Definitely.

TIM
Sorry to hear that.

ANNA
Thanks.

KERI
My aunt went. Recently. Too.

ANNA
Ah. I'm sorry.

KERI
I. Yeah thanks.
But your mom. I'm so sorry.

ANNA
Thanks.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

For Perusal Purposes Only

.....
.....
.....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

DIEGO
Ah. Well. It's like you said, Anna.

ANNA
Right.

TIM
What was that?

DIEGO
If you're gonna go...

TIM
Huh?

DIEGO
You know.

TIM
What?

DIEGO
Anna was saying. Before.

TIM
I musta missed it

KERI
Yeah she said-

ANNA
We were saying, that's a way to go. A nice way to go.

DIEGO
If.

TIM
If what?

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DIEGO
You know.

TIM
If what?

DIEGO
We were just saying-

TIM
Saying what?
What were you going to say? If you're going to go...

DIEGO
No what Anna was saying.

TIM
No you were saying.

DIEGO
Ha, I don't even know.

KERI
Who cares.

TIM
I do. You were saying if you have to die. If we have to die…

DIEGO
I don't know.

ANNA
It'd be a nice way to go.

TIM
What would be?

ANNA
To go quick. Peacefully.

TIM
Is that what you were saying?

DIEGO
I think so.

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
Oh.

DIEGO
Hahaha.

ANNA
Who knows.

TIM
Or was that just a thing to say?

DIEGO
What?

KERI
Tim.

TIM
What?

DIEGO
Was it-

TIM
A thing to say?

KERI
Let it go.

TIM
Or did you mean it?

DIEGO
Mean it?

TIM
Yeah did you mean it? Is that how you'd prefer to die or were just saying it like it's a thing to say?

KERI
Tim.

TIM
What?

For Perusal Purposes Only

KERI
He just said it.

ANNA
It was just a thing to say.

DIEGO
Yeah, I don't know. I just said it.

TIM
So you didn't mean it.

DIEGO
I guess I meant it.

TIM
Did you?

KERI
Let's talk about something else.

ANNA
Yeah. I don't know even know who is saying what or who means what.

TIM
What?

KERI
Let's talk about something else.

TIM
Why?

KERI
Because, Tim.

TIM
I want to talk about this.

DIEGO
It's fine.

ANNA
No it's annoying.

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KERI
I agree.

TIM
I'm talking to Diego.

DIEGO
It's fine we're just talking.

TIM
See?

DIEGO
I don't know what we're talking about but it's fine.

TIM
I asked you to clarify how you'd prefer to die.

KERI
Tim.

TIM
If that's what we're all meant to do. If that's what we're all gonna do sooner or later.

KERI
Drop it.

TIM
Should I?

KERI
Yes.

TIM
I should?

KERI
Yes.

TIM
(Stares at Keri for an uncomfortably long time.)
....
Okay.

KERI
Okay.

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
.....

DIEGO
.....

ANNA
.....

KERI
.....

TIM
.....

DIEGO
.....

ANNA
.....

KERI
.....

TIM
.....

DIEGO
.....

ANNA
.....

KERI
.....

TIM
.....

DIEGO
.....

ANNA
.....

For Perusal Purposes Only

(Train stops. Doors open.)

.....
.....
.....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

//////////////////////

KERI
Did you see Joey Mancuso?

ANNA
Yeah. My God.
What happened to him?
So fat, right?

KERI
Pete says he was in an accident.

ANNA
He was?

KERI
That's what Pete says.

ANNA
Oh. Well. If that's what Pete says then that's what musta happened haha.

KERI
That's what happened.

ANNA
What happened?
What kind of accident?

KERI
They had to replace part of his brain.

ANNA
Really?

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KERI
Apparently.

ANNA
Is that why he was dancing like that?

KERI
I guess.

ANNA
I can't believe I just. That's terrible.

KERI
He was working one of the rescue boats. After the first wave. Shuttling people down near The Canal Street. Apparently. And he was on his uncle's shitty fishing boat and you know Joey he probably put too many people on and it must've capsized or something.
Or something.

ANNA
Oh.

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
That's awful.

KERI
One day you have everything and the next day you don't.

ANNA
Yeah everything is-

//////////////////////

TIM
You should draft up.

DIEGO
Ha. Me?

TIM
Yeah.

DIEGO
Yeah…I should have.

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TIM
No you should.

DIEGO
Now?

TIM
Yeah. Why not?

DIEGO
'Cause I just. It's not.

TIM
Not what?

DIEGO
Not for me, I guess.

TIM
You're capable. Not everyone is.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

DIEGO
Don't get me wrong-

TIM
Okay.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

DIEGO
I see why you drafted yourself.

TIM
Do you?

DIEGO
Yeah, man. I respect what you've done.

TIM
Thank you.

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DIEGO
It's just not for me.

TIM
That's-

DIEGO
That's my opinion.

TIM
Which you're entitled to.

DIEGO
Thank you.

TIM
But.
At the same time, you're not.

DIEGO
I'd rather not get into-

TIM
Oh no?

DIEGO
I'm free to have whatever opinion I want.
As are you.

TIM
Yes. But.

DIEGO
What-

TIM
That freedom comes at a cost.

DIEGO
Freedom's not free, right dude.

TIM
Right. It's not.

DIEGO
No one made you draft up.

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TIM
Nope. But I did.

DIEGO
And good for you.

TIM
Good for me.
And good for you.

DIEGO
And good for everyone that makes whatever the fuck choices they want.

TIM
.....

DIEGO
.....

TIM
.....

DIEGO
How's your leg?

TIM
It'll be alright.

DIEGO
Good.

TIM
Knock on wood.
(Knocks on his leg.)

ANNA
(See this and looks to Keri.)

TIM
Actually it's a carbon fiber composite.

(Tim lifts his pant leg to reveal a prosthetic.)

TIM
Okay for walking. Shitty on the dance train.

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ANNA
Oh.

TIM
That's alright.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

ANNA
I feel so stupid.

TIM
Don't worry about it.

KERI
You didn't know.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
I had no idea.

KERI
How could you.

DIEGO
I didn't know.

TIM
That's alright.

DIEGO
Damn.

TIM
How would you know unless you were humping my leg or something.

DIEGO
Well now I won't.

TIM
Thank you.

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ANNA
Diego.

DIEGO
What?

ANNA
Don't hump his leg.

DIEGO
I'm not going to. Not now, anyway.

TIM
Just hump the other one. You know, if you can't resist.

DIEGO
I will make sure of it.

ANNA
Diego.

DIEGO
What?

ANNA
This isn't something to-

KERI
Oh it's fine.

TIM
It's fine.

ANNA
I mean-

TIM
It's fine.

ANNA
Is it from-

TIM
Yes.

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ANNA
When?

TIM
You got it.

KERI
He's fine. Really.

ANNA
Okay.

DIEGO
So does that mean you can't-

TIM
Fuck?

DIEGO
No. Serve.

TIM
Oh.

ANNA
That's-

KERI
No.

TIM
I'm done.

DIEGO
Damn.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

TIM
Time to…

KERI
Move on.

Sound: ***bing bong***

For Perusal Purposes Only

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

TIM
Anyway.
(Pointing to Anna's stomach:)
When is that due?

ANNA
When is…

KERI
It's called a baby, Tim.

DIEGO
Not to get scientific.

KERI
No.

TIM
A baby. Fine. I was trying not to say '*it.'*

ANNA
She's due October thirty first.

KERI
Ooooo.

TIM
Spooky.

DIEGO
Yeah. Our little ghoul.

ANNA
I prefer pumpkin.
That's what it feels like anyway. Ugh.

KERI
I bet.

ANNA
Do you have any- Do you think you'll…?

KERI
No I don't.

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ANNA
I bet you will soon.

KERI
Me?

ANNA
Yeah. Of course. No?

KERI
No, I don't think so.

ANNA
No?

KERI
No.

ANNA
Oh you should.

DIEGO
Yeah come on, man.

TIM
No I don't think so.

DIEGO
Yeah, draft up.

TIM
No, no, no.

DIEGO
Yeah, take the plunge.

TIM
Not us. We don't-

DIEGO
C'mon, why not. Our little ghoul will need some company. Some fellow-

ANNA
That's true. Wouldn't that be fun. Wouldn't that be adorable. Playdates.

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KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
Oh, yeah, you're gonna love it.

KERI
Being pregnant?

ANNA
Why not. Of course. I do.

KERI
No I don't think we-

ANNA
What?

KERI
I don't think we, uh.
Want to.

ANNA
What?

KERI
No.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

ANNA
Oh my God. Why not?

KERI
We just-

ANNA
Really?

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

//////////////////////

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DIEGO
No kids?

TIM
Um. Well. No.

DIEGO
Well. I guess. Huh.

TIM
It's just. Not for us.

DIEGO
Not for everyone. I guess. But.

TIM
Nope.

//////////////////////

ANNA
I didn't know that. Did I know that?

KERI
I don't think you knew that.

ANNA
Did you always-

KERI
No. I don't think so. It's just…
With all the-

ANNA
The-

KERI
Shit going on in the world.

ANNA
Uh…

KERI
We just don't want to bring another life into it.

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ANNA
(Looks down at her stomach.)

KERI
I mean…

ANNA
That's okay.

KERI
To each their own.

DIEGO
(Sits down next to Anna.)
You guys totally should though.

ANNA
Yeah you guys totally should.

DIEGO
(Rubs Anna's belly.)

ANNA
You guys'd be great parents.

KERI
I really don't think that's true. I mean we wouldn't be bad parents but we certainly wouldn't be great.

ANNA
That's not true!

DIEGO
You guys'd be great.

KERI
We'd be mediocre.

TIM
At best.

KERI
And what kid wants mediocre parents?

DIEGO
Lots of the kids!

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ANNA
You would not be mediocre.

KERI
I'm too selfish.

TIM
She is.
And I'm a cripple.

KERI
And Tim's a cripple.

ANNA
Besides the world has always been messed up. Or always seemed that way when really that's life. And life goes on.

KERI
I don't think that's true.

ANNA
Of course it is!

KERI
It used to be a better place.

DIEGO
That's just a thing people think about things when they're in them because they lack perspective.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

KERI
I don't lack perspective.

TIM
We don't lack perspective.

DIEGO
Of course you do.

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

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DIEGO
We all do. It's not a judgement. It's just. We can't possibly understand what it's like to live in another time.

TIM
Yeah but we have basic facts. To make judgements about other times. Before people like us.

DIEGO
And so it just seems like other times were better. Grass is greener.

ANNA
But actually this is a great time to be alive.

TIM
.....

KERI
Do you really believe that?

ANNA
Yes.

DIEGO
We do. Most of the time.

TIM
Maybe you're just lucky. To not be on the shittier side of things. The privileged class always thinks it's a great time to be alive.

DIEGO
I wouldn't say we're privileged.

ANNA
Well.

KERI
You are.

TIM
So are we. I guess. Compared to-

DIEGO
So you're privileged but you think that life is shit. Doesn't that just make you…ungrateful?

TIM
No it just means we have perspective.

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DIEGO
I see.

ANNA
Even with certain, uh, privileges, it's still a struggle. You still need to be resourceful.

DIEGO
Definitely.

KERI
Some days you just wake up and-

(Train stops. Doors open.)

ANNA
.....

KERI
I don't see how it can get any worse.

ANNA
.....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. train pulls out.)

KERI
Ever since the surge, it just-
People can be so…
I don't want to say hopeless.

ANNA
Nothing's hopeless.

TIM
She didn't say hopeless.

KERI
Every week's there's some new disaster or tragedy or everything is-

DIEGO
Some of the tragedies are tragedies and some of these disasters are really just acts of God.
You can't blame people for-

For Perusal Purposes Only

ANNA
Everything. Everything is…

KERI
Acts of God?

ANNA
Acts of good.
People are inherently...
We're part of a community.

KERI
Acts of God?
I don't see acts of God.
Or even acts of goodness.
I see a void.
I see…empty churches.
Mobs of the faithless wandering the streets.
I don't see families.
I see women on last resorts
with sick children and no cures.
So many monopolies selling nothing.
The government
stripping us of the most basic services.
Every day I wake up
and it just feels like
our lives…
the ones we used to know
have been sabotaged
and replaced
with a land of rubble.
There's no escaping from it.
Marriages without life and
occupations until death.
Old newborns and new born-agains.
Less minds and more bodies.
I see plenty of heroes
but no saviors.
No answers.
You say
you see communities
I see deserted villages
raising no one
not even self.
Not awareness.
Not anything.

For Perusal Purposes Only

ANNA
.....

KERI
.....

(Train stops. Doors open.)

.....
.....

ANNA
But don't you think-

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
Despite all the…
I don't know.

DIEGO
What.

ANNA
As a woman. Or as the human race. I mean, nature.
Don't you think it's sorta why we're here. To repopulate. Despite all the-

KERI
I think. Well. I think nature will carry on just fine without us multiplying.

TIM
Nature hasn't had a say in what we've been doing in a long long time. We've spun off course from whatever-

ANNA
So what then. What are we expected to do. Just-

TIM
But hypothetically. I guess the original intention, of nature, was for us to repopulate.

ANNA
See.

(Train stops. Doors open.)

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KERI
(To Tim)
Do you believe that?

TIM
Yeah. Ya know-

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

TIM
Strictly looking at it from nature's view.

KERI
How nice that you have the ability to do that.

TIM
It's a gift I have.

DIEGO
It's called perspective.

TIM
But you know. Despite nature's best intentions…
Everyone's not meant to-

ANNA
So you agree that-

TIM
Hypothetically.

DIEGO
Everyone's not meant to because...? Are you talking about economics or health reasons, or-

KERI
Or just shitty people. Shitty people shouldn't get together with other shitty people and repopulate and make little shitty children.

ANNA
But they do.

KERI
I guess the hope is that the children are less shitty.

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DIEGO
Or like, are you saying people are genetically not meant to?

KERI
Nature has no control over us. We're not little baby turtles trying to pull ourselves into the ocean past all the predators and dangers. This isn't survival of the fittest.

TIM
Or maybe it is.
Maybe that's exactly what this is.

KERI
Stop, Tim.

ANNA
Which is why good people like yourselves should have kids.

DIEGO
Yeah, outbreed the shitty people.

TIM
Yeah outbreed the shitty people.
And the poor.

DIEGO
Well-

TIM
And the retards.

ANNA
That's not what-

TIM
And the weak and the disadvantaged.

KERI
Tim.

TIM
Outbreed the immigrants and minorities.
'Cause they're certainly trying to outbreed you.

DIEGO
Okay that's-

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
(To Diego:)
And definitely outbreed the cripples.

ANNA
(Nervous laugh.)

(Train stops. Doors open.)

TIM
If that's what nature wants right, Anna?

ANNA
....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
I didn't mean-

TIM
To what? To push the issue again and again?

ANNA
Well yeah.

TIM
Huh. Well you-

DIEGO
Dude.

TIM
What-

DIEGO
You need to sit down.

TIM
Do I?

DIEGO
Yeah.

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
Do I?

DIEGO
Yes!

KERI
We were pregnant.

ANNA
You were?

KERI
Yeah.

ANNA
Oh my God. When?

TIM
Yeah we were pregnant alright.

KERI
Before we were married actually.

ANNA
Oh you. And you…?

KERI
No we didn't.

ANNA
Oh. Good.

KERI
We wanted it. We wanted to keep the baby.

TIM
For all eleven weeks and three days.

ANNA
Have you ever. Been to a doctor. There are.

KERI
Have I? Yes, Anna, I've been to a doctor. We aren't-

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
(To Keri:)
They recommend a doctor.

ANNA
I'm just asking.

DIEGO
She was just saying. If you haven't.

TIM
Why wouldn't we've been to a doctor?

DIEGO
I don't know. Some people don't.

ANNA
Not everyone-

KERI
Can afford it?
We've been to a doctor.

ANNA
Great. That's great.

KERI
The doctor was the problem.

TIM
Everyone runs to doctors.

DIEGO
Not all doctors are bad.

TIM
But some of them are. And isn't that enough?

ANNA
To avoid them altogether?

KERI
We don't avoid them but-

(Train stops. Doors open.)

For Perusal Purposes Only

TIM
Fuck doctors.

ANNA
Did something…?

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

KERI
What?

ANNA
I mean did something-

DIEGO
What do you mean the doctor was the problem?
You know, we can recommend a good doctor if you, I mean if you had, some sort of. Of course there are bad doctors but-

TIM
Rich people have good doctors everyone else has licensed crooks.

ANNA
Is everything okay?

KERI
Everything is.

ANNA
You could try again.

KERI
Yes, but. No, we don't…

TIM
We don't want children. Anymore. That's our fuckin choice not yours.

DIEGO
.....

ANNA
Why didn't you tell me. I know we weren't talking but still-

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DIEGO
You should have…

TIM
Called you?

DIEGO
Yeah.

TIM
We did. Right after the surge.

DIEGO
The surge.

TIM
Right after.

KERI
During the surge. After it. During.

TIM
When we called you. For help. Remember?

ANNA
....

DIEGO
....

(Train stops. Doors open.)

.....
.....
.....

Sound: ***bing bong***

(Doors close. Train pulls out.)

ANNA
(Looks at Diego.)

DIEGO
(Looks back.)

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ANNA
During the surge.

KERI
Do you remember or have you-

ANNA
I remember.

DIEGO
You called us.

TIM
We called you.

DIEGO
But…

TIM
But you didn't.

DIEGO
We were uh…

ANNA
....

KERI
We didn't have anyone else.

ANNA
You were pregnant.

KERI
We were.

DIEGO
We didn't know.

ANNA
How could we know.

TIM
We called you for help. You were our best friends.

For Perusal Purposes Only

ANNA
....

DIEGO
Well. Yeah.

TIM
And when we were evacuated. When we lost our apartment. And our belongings. When we were stranded on the street and eventually stuffed Keri's shirt with discarded newspapers to keep warm because the shelter was full and then closed and we thought who should we call. Who can we call. Who will come to help us. And Keri said Anna and Diego. They'll come. They're safe where they are. And so we called.
We learned a lot that day.
Keri, she. The next day she still thought you'd come. She kept hoping.
But not me. I knew. There's something I always knew. When you really need someone are they there? No matter what, are they there? And with you, the both of you, I guess I always knew the answer was no.
But Keri, she.
You really broke her heart.
And that broke mine.
But we didn't totally and completely break until we went to the doctor. Eventually found a way to the doctor. And. Well. That—

(The train comes to jerking halt.
Everyone jolts.

Anna holds her belly.
A contraction.)

ANNA
Oh.

DIEGO
Oh?

ANNA
Yeah.

DIEGO
What's-

TIM
....

KERI
....

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DIEGO
Why are we stopped?

TIM
Who knows.

KERI
Perfect. Let's just get stuck here. In this.

ANNA
Oooh.

(They watch Anna.)

DIEGO
You alright?

ANNA
Yeah. Yeah. It's just. Yeah I'm okay.

DIEGO
.....

(Tim exits to the other end of the car.)

ANNA
(Breathes.)

KERI
....

DIEGO
....

KERI
(To Tim.)
What is it?

(Tim comes back.)

TIM
(Shrugs.)

ANNA
(Sighs.)

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(The contraction passes.)

DIEGO
You good?

ANNA
Yeah.

DIEGO
....

ANNA
My mother died.

KERI
Right. You said.

ANNA
No.

KERI
What?

DIEGO
That day.

ANNA
She died that day.

KERI
What day?

ANNA
That day of the surge.

KERI
What? I thought she-

ANNA
She was visiting. Fighting with my dad. He was being. Well nevermind. He was being himself. Who he is. And my mom needed a break from that. From him. So she…
And then the surge. And I don't know she had some.

DIEGO
Preexisting.

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ANNA
Had some preexisting…

DIEGO
Weak immune system.

ANNA
The toxins in the air that day were just enough to-
She was in agony for…
And we got your phone call and we wanted to help but-

KERI
I thought you said she went peacefully.

ANNA
That's what I say, yeah. To myself.

DIEGO
We wanted to help. Dude. We really did.

KERI
I'm sorry I didn't know your mom was-
If I would've know I

ANNA
Wouldn't have given me the silent treatment for five years?

KERI
Well I-

ANNA
Wouldn't have flushed our friendship down the toilet?

KERI
That's not-

TIM
That's not fair.
You could have called us back.
You could've picked up.

DIEGO
Dude her mom was bleeding out of her eyes.

ANNA
Diego. I really don't-

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DIEGO
Sorry. It's just. You guys have been.
You call us privileged. And maybe we are but who are you on your horses and loving the smell of your own shit. Just 'cause you drafted up and you save animals and you couldn't even save yourselves. You don't know what we've been through. You have no fuckin idea. Just 'cause some stupid dorm room and memories of being. Maybe false memories…
You want us to feel guilty. That's something you need. Okay. I get it.
I wish there was something. I wish it didn't happen like it did.
We were good friends. But really I don't…

TIM
Don't what?

DIEGO
Don't know if you would have come for us. Either.

TIM
.....

KERI
We would have come for you.

ANNA
If you could. And we would have come for you. But we couldn't.

TIM
You don't think we would have come for you?

DIEGO
I don't know. We were good friends.

TIM
Right.

DIEGO
But really.

TIM
.....

DIEGO
What does that mean?

KERI
....

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ANNA
(Breathing.)

DIEGO
....

TIM
....

KERI
.....

(Diego walks to the other end of the car.)

ANNA
(Breathing.)

KERI
Your breathing is.

ANNA
Yup.

(Diego comes back.)

ANNA
(Looks to Diego.)

DIEGO
(Shrugs.)

TIM
Probably just—

(A huge explosion off.
Their car is rocked.

Keri and Anna are thrown from their seats.
They grasp for the poles, anything for stability.
Tim and Diego are thrown to the ground.
Tim crashes into a pole hard. A snapping sound. He doesn't move.

Broken windows.
Steam and smoke and hissing.

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Everything is dark except for:
a cracked, flickering light.

Confused yelling from off.

Diego makes his way to his knees. Coughing.

Anna is breathing heavily and moaning.
Keri takes her hand.)

KERI
It's okay.

DIEGO
What. Happened.

ANNA
Ah. I. Ah. I.

DIEGO
Anna. What.

TIM
(Moans.)

KERI
Tim.

(Keri tries to find Tim.)

DIEGO
Anna. Are you?

ANNA
(Breathing.)

DIEGO
Are you-

ANNA
(Breathing.)

DIEGO
Are you okay. Are you hurt?
Why are you. Are you-

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ANNA
I'm okay. But the…
Diego.

(Diego makes his way over to Anna.)

TIM
(Moans.)

KERI
Are you.

(Tim pulls himself up against a seat.)

DIEGO
Tim. Are you-

KERI
What was-
What happened…

TIM
(Moans.)

KERI
Are you-

TIM
I'm. Fine. I.
Are you-

KERI
I'm fine.

(Diego has helped Anna up.)

DIEGO
What is it? What's-

ANNA
It's-
The baby is-

DIEGO
....

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TIM
....

DIEGO
The baby is? What? The baby is what?

KERI
The baby is coming.

DIEGO
I. But you're okay.
I mean. Are you hurt?

ANNA
(Breathing.)

KERI
She's okay. Right. You're okay.

ANNA
I'm okay.
(Breathing.)
The baby is. Okay. But the baby is. Don't let me do it like this.
I don't want to have the baby like this. Please Diego please.

DIEGO
Okay.

TIM
You need to go get help.

DIEGO
What?

TIM
You need to go get help.

DIEGO
What do you mean?
What was that.
Was it?

TIM
It doesn't matter what it was. What it is. Does not matter.

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DIEGO
What's wrong with your-
You're bleeding.

TIM
My leg is broken. My prosthetic. But it cut my-
I'll be fine. But I'm bleeding and. For now.

KERI
Put pressure on it.

TIM
I am. I know what to-

DIEGO
But what if the explosion. If it.

TIM
That's what you have to go find out.

KERI
I'll stay with Anna.

DIEGO
I don't think I should go.
Don't think I can.
Better if I stay here...

KERI
I'll stay with Anna. This way if something.

TIM
Diego look at me.

DIEGO
(Looks at Anna.)

ANNA
(Breathing.)

KERI
(Breathing with her.)

TIM
Look at me.

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DIEGO
(Looks at Tim.)

TIM
You need to go get help now.

DIEGO
But if.

TIM
You find help. You find us help.

DIEGO
I.

TIM
You're the only one that can go.

DIEGO
Someone should be coming for us.

TIM
No one's coming for us.

DIEGO
(Watching.)

ANNA
(Breathing.)

KERI
(Breathing with her.)

TIM
Go.

DIEGO
Okay. I'll go.

TIM
Okay.

(Diego stands up. Gets his footing.)

TIM
Go.

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DIEGO
Okay.

(Diego stumbles off and out of the car.)

ANNA
Where's he going? Why is he leaving?

KERI
He's going to get help.

ANNA
I don't want him to go.

TIM
He's gone.

ANNA
He's not supposed to be gone. He's supposed to be here. With me. When. I can't. I can't do this without him. I. This is not how we practiced it.
Ahhhhhhhh.

KERI
Okay. Breathe. Don't push. Just breathe.

ANNA
(Labored breathing.)

KERI
That's it.

ANNA
I.
Don't.
Want.
This.
To.
Happen.

KERI
It's not going to happen right now. Okay. Just don't. Don't push.

ANNA
WHERE THE FUCK DID DIEGO GO?!!!

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KERI
Okay, stay calm.

ANNA
I AM FUCKING CALM!!

TIM
Diego went to get help.

ANNA
Why would he leave me.

TIM
He went to get help.

ANNA
Why didn't you go you piece of shit. You make Diego go. Is this some sort of payback. I'm sorry we didn't help you. My mother's throat collapsed in my hands.

TIM
My leg broke off and I'm bleeding pretty severely.

ANNA
Oh. I'm sorry. It's just-

TIM
It's fine.

ANNA
(Breathing again.)
Oh. Oh. Oh. Oh.

KERI
That's fine. Don't apologize. Just relax.

ANNA
Stop telling me to fucking relax. I know what you're doing and it's not working. I'm not one of your fucking animals. Spaniel cocker whatevers.

KERI
Okay.

ANNA
I'm sorry. I.
Oh.
Oh.

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Oh.

KERI
Breathe. Breathe.

ANNA
(Breathing.)

TIM
....

KERI
Good.

ANNA
(Breathing.)

(There is shouting off and something loud. Metal banging against metal.)

ANNA
Wha.
What. Wha.

KERI
That's nothing.

TIM
It's nothing.

ANNA
Where is. Okay.
Where is Diego. Why isn't he back yet.

TIM
He'll be back.

ANNA
I know he's coming back. Why would you fucking say that. I didn't ask *if* he was coming back. I asked *when* like in why is not back yet. Like in already. Like in he should already be back with fucking help I can't believe he left me.

KERI
He had to.

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ANNA
I know I just can't believe it. We had such a great plan. We would be in The Forest Hills. We should be-

KERI
Things don't always go to plan.

ANNA
Right. I know. Right. I know that.
Oh.
Because you mean. With your. I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

KERI
It's okay.

(Anna tries to hug Keri.)

ANNA
Okay.
Okay. Okay.
(Breathing.)
(Breathing.)
(Breathing.)

TIM
....

(more shouting from off.)

KERI
What's happening.

ANNA
(Breathing.)

TIM
I don't know.

KERI
....

TIM
....

ANNA
(Breathing.)

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KERI
Is this how it ends?

TIM
I don't know.

ANNA
(Breathing slows.
Contraction subsides.)

TIM
....

ANNA
We used to be such good friends.

KERI
Yes.

ANNA
Such good. Friends.

KERI
Uh huh.

TIM
(Listens to the shouting.)

KERI
What are they saying?

TIM
I don't know.

ANNA
Can we be that again?

KERI
Uh huh.

ANNA
Good. Good. That makes me…

KERI
....

For Perusal Purposes Only

ANNA
....

TIM
....

ANNA
Don't leave me.

KERI
I'm not going to.

ANNA
I know Tim is hurt and maybe you want to take care of him and maybe you just want to get out of here, the both of you, together. But I. I understand that. But-

KERI
Anna. We're not going to leave you. Okay?

ANNA
Okay. It's just that I.
Thank you.
Can you deliver my baby.

KERI
I. What-

ANNA
I'm going to have the baby now. Can you deliver it?

KERI
You're not. You just need to-

ANNA
Keri you're not listening to me I'm going to have this baby now because that's what is happening and it's not up to me or you or fucking disappearing Diego or cripple Tim. This baby is coming out of me. Do you hear this?

KERI
Yes. I hear you.

ANNA
Good because this is.

(The doors to their car are being pried open.)

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KERI
What is that. Is someone trying to get in here?

TIM
I can't see.

KERI
Someone is breaking in.

ANNA
What?

KERI
Don't let them in here.

TIM
I can't.

KERI
Tim I don't have a good feeling about this. You.

TIM
What do you want me to do?

KERI
I want you to stop them.

(The doors pry open and steam pours in.)

DIEGO
(From the other side:)
Hey. Hey. Is that you guys. Is this the right.

TIM
Diego is that you.

KERI
Be careful it could be. Be someone else.
Tim do something.
Do something.

ANNA
Is that Diego.

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KERI
(Shaking Tim:)
Do something.
Do something.
Do something.

(Diego climbs through the doors and into the car.)

ANNA
Diego.
You came back.

DIEGO
Are you okay baby.

ANNA
I'm okay. No baby yet.

KERI
She's doing okay. We.

TIM
What's going on out there.

DIEGO
C'mon we have to go.

(We can see more of his head now and it's bloody.)

KERI
What happened to your head.

DIEGO
Oh. I. There was a-
It doesn't matter. We need to go. We need to get out of here.

ANNA
Yes. Yes. Let's please.

(Keri helps Anna.)

DIEGO
(To Tim:)
Can you walk.

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TIM
Not really, I-

(Diego helps Tim up.)

(Keri helps Anna up.)

(Diego supports Tim.)

TIM
Is everything-

DIEGO
Everything is.

TIM
...

DIEGO
...

(Diego helps Tim out of the doors first.)

(Then helps Anna and Keri climb out.)

(They're gone.)

(More shouting.)

(The lights flicker.
And out.)

End of Play.

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