

Untitled Hospital Show

"Pilot"

by
Jennie Snyder Urman

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EXT. ROBERT H. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL -- 8 A.M.

Kids milling on campus before the bell signals the end of freedom. The usual scene - jocks and cheerleaders holding court...and on the outer edges - the nerds. We focus on one unfortunate-looking FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL. She sits alone, watching the popular kids play hacky sack, laugh, flirt. As we SLOWLY PUSH IN, we hear voice-over:

EMILY (V.O.)

I wasn't one of those kids who thrived in high school. I was kind of geeky. Alright, I was very geeky. Plus, I had the unfortunate nickname of "Pits" due to the severe case of flop sweats I got during debate club finals, the one and only time I was on stage in front of the whole school. So yeah, high school was rough. But you know what got me through? The knowledge that I would outgrow all those feelings of insecurity, and inadequacy and at some point, I'd blossom into the secure, confident, kick-ass person I was always meant to be.

And suddenly the Frizzy-haired Girl looks up, through the chain link fence, and stares at the camera.

FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL

What are you looking at, loser?

And now we're outside the chain link fence, with our 25-year old heroine, EMILY BARNES...the source of the voice-over, our P.O.V. Emily used to be frizzy, now she straightens. She used to be chubby, now she diets. She used to be uncool, now she's...well, she has straighter hair and she's slimmer. Emily's wearing a jacket over hospital scrubs. On her feet, clogs.

EMILY

I'm not a loser. I was just thinking about high school and --

FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL

You look like a loser.

EMILY

No, I don't!
(then, insecure)
Is it the shoes? Because these are just work shoes.

FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL

It's not the shoes --

EMILY
 (a little desperate)
 Then what?

FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL
 It's just...you.

EMILY
 What does that mean?

The Teenager rolls her eyes as the bell rings.

EMILY (CONT'D)
 Don't roll your eyes! Why do I
 look like a loser?

The Teenager starts walking towards the school. Emily follows after her (outside the fence), quite worked up:

EMILY (CONT'D)
 Hey! Stop! You can't just say
 that to someone! Come back here!
 You come back here right now!

EXT. CURB BY ROBERT H. JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL -- MOMENTS LATER

An upset School Official is pointing away from the school. Emily hurries off, embarrassed:

EMILY
 I'm really sorry. I'm just a
 little on edge...

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
So, yeah. I'm still kind of
waiting for that confident, kick-
ass thing to happen.

EXT. DENVER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL -- MINUTES LATER

Emily walks up to the imposing hospital, going over the ACLS ("Advanced Cardiac Life Support") Code under her breath...

EMILY
 Airway, breathing, circulation,
 look for pulse, Compressions, IV,
 O2, monitor, Stable V-tach:
 Amiodarone 150mg IV, Compressions--

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Stop. You know it. You can do this.

And she's at the entrance. She stares at the smooth, white façade, daunted.

She glances back at the high school across the street. Then, she looks back at the hospital... her future. One deep breath and she enters...

INT. DENVER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL -- MAIN ENTRYWAY

It's bustling with activity. Completely overwhelming. Emily looks around, trying to get her bearings, trying to figure out where the hell she is supposed to go. Suddenly she hears:

MALE (O.S.)

Emily!

She turns. And there is WILL RIDER (27). Handsome and charming. The kind of guy who was definitely prom-king. The kind of flirt who can make anything sound suggestive. Emily sees him and brightens, exited. Make that exuberant.

EMILY

Will!!! Hi!!!

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

Take it down a notch, Emily.

EMILY (CONT'D)

(tries for cool)

Hey...hey there. Sorry, a little overexcited. First day of school jitters. Not that we're in school anymore --

WILL

Don't be so sure. I heard that hospitals are a lot like high schools. And we're freshman all over again.

EMILY

Bite your tongue.

(then)

Which way do we go?

He motions to the left and they start to walk together.

WILL

So, what made you decide on Denver?

EMILY

How could I turn down the chance to breathe the same air as Gina Beckett? The woman pioneered the percutaneous valve replacement --

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Not to mention the fact that you're here.

WILL
 Well, I'm glad to see a friendly face...

Will throws an arm around Emily. She reacts:

EMILY (V.O.)
Okay, he's touching you. Do not spaz out. Do not. Spaz. Out.

Her shoulders shake -- like when you get a little chill. Or have a little orgasm.

WILL
 You okay?

EMILY (V.O.)
You totally spazzed out.

EMILY (CONT'D)
 Yeah, just cold.

WILL
 Gotcha. I heard this place can be cut throat. So we gotta stick together, okay?

Emily nods, grinning.

WILL (CONT'D)
 You seem like you're in a good mood...

EMILY
 I am actually. I've been in school for 23 years straight --

They push open the doors and walk into the locker room...

INT. DOCTOR'S LOCKER ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

... as they step inside:

EMILY
 I finally feel like I'm entering the next phase of my life.

And that's when we hear:

GIRL (O.S.)
 Pits?!

Emily freezes. Turns, ever so slightly...and there she.
 CASSANDRA KOPELSON. Beautiful, perfect, legs-up-to-there,
 Cassandra Kopelson. The girl who made Emily's life miserable
 in high school. Emily stares at her, dumbstruck.

EMILY (V.O.)

Noooooooooooooo!

CASSANDRA

Don't you recognize me?

EMILY (V.O.)

**Do I recognize you? You hid my
 clothes after gym class, you prank
 called my house, you tp'd my
 car...you were my tormentor, my
 nemesis, the girl I debated against
 in those fateful debate club finals--**

EMILY (CONT'D)

I'm just so bad with names...

CASSANDRA

Cassandra Kopelson! From high
 school!

EMILY

(pretends to remember)

Oh... Oh! Cassandra Kopelson! Of
 course! How are you?

CASSANDRA

Fantastic. And you look as flat-
 chested as ever --

EMILY

Excuse me?

CASSANDRA

I said you look as fabulous as
 ever.

Oh. Right. Emily was clearly projecting. She musters a
 smile:

EMILY

So, how in the world did you end up
 in Denver of all places?

CASSANDRA

Gina Beckett. The woman's a
 genius. First person to do a
 percutaneous valve replacement --

WILL

Yeah, that's why Emily's here too.

Great. They're rivals. Just like in high school. A beat as they both register this. Then, Cassandra turns to Will:

CASSANDRA

And you are...?

WILL

Will Rider. Nice to meet you,

Cassandra pours on the charm; this girl was born to flirt.

CASSANDRA

You too. So tell me, Will Rider, how do you know Pits?

EMILY

It's Emily, actually --

WILL

We went to med school together. What's with "Pits?"

EMILY

It's nothing, really --

CASSANDRA

That was her nickname in high school--

WILL (CONT'D)

Where'd it come from?

CASSANDRA

You know, I can't remember--

EMILY

Me neither. That's why I go by Emily now. Sometimes Em, occasionally Emme--

Meanwhile, the other Interns have started to file out...

CASSANDRA

Let's go. We don't want to get off on the wrong foot. I hear this place is cut throat.

WILL

Literally just said that --

CASSANDRA

Great minds.

And they're exiting...

INT. HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

Somehow, Emily is now trailing behind Will and Cassandra as they chat. She looks miserable. Another intern, TYRA GRANGER, catches up to her. Ty's a bit of an odd duck. A little Ally Sheady in breakfast club.

TYRA

That seemed awkward.

Emily looks at her, surprised.

EMILY

Oh. Yeah. I just thought I left high school behind...

TYRA

Hilarious.

EMILY

I know, right?

(then)

Why exactly...is that hilarious?

TYRA

Because a hospital is totally like high school.

EMILY

You know, that's the second time I've heard that today.

As they walk down the hall, Tyra points out different doctors, each who look like the "archtype" she describes:

TYRA

Because it's true. There are the jocks, aka the orthopedic surgeons, mean girls go into plastics, the All-American-girl-next-door types are gonna be in OB. True geeks - they're neurologists, the rebels are in the ER, the stoners - anesthesia, peds gets the sanctimonious churchgoers--

EMILY

How about us?

TYRA

Surgery's a melting pot. Little of everything. Which basically means none of us get along.

Emily looks at her, skeptical. Not sure she buys the theory.

EMILY

This is our first day, how do you know so much?

TYRA

I'm the Principal's kid...aka the Chief of Staff's daughter.

EMILY

(impressed)

Tim Granger's your dad?

TYRA

Yeah. But don't think I have a familial advantage. Dad's not so into me. Wanted a son, got a lesbian. Not the same thing.

(then)

FYI: He's gonna act nice, tell you he wants to be your friend, but he doesn't. That's just the way he ferrets out the weak ones. Never show weakness.

And we PRELAP with:

CHIEF GRANGER

I want you to think of me, not only as a boss, but also as a friend...

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Chief of Staff TIM GRANGER addresses our core group: Emily, Will, Cassandra and Tyra.

CHIEF GRANGER

If each one of you does not reach your potential, I consider it a failure on my part. And I do not like to fail.

(gaining momentum)

They say doctors have god complexes. You know why? Because we are gods. We make hearts beat. We make lungs breathe. We can make a feeble man walk and we can make a blind man see. Each and every day, we perform miracles. Never forget that. We. Perform. Miracles.

Our group is hanging on his every word.

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)

As surgeons, you will encounter everything. So, your job as interns is to get familiar with everything: emergency medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics, orthopedics, pathology, neurology, gastroenterology. In the course of a day, you will be paged by many different doctors in many different specialties. Their expectations of you will be the same. Exceed those expectations. Crush those expectations. Obliterate those expectations.

(inspired and inspiring)

It's not going to be easy. You are about to work harder than you've ever worked. You are about to sleep less than you've ever slept. And you are about to learn more than you've ever learned. But if you stick with it, if you excel, you will be better than you ever thought you'd be. And that is all I ask of you: Be better. Be the best.

(then)

Welcome to Denver Memorial.

A beat as our group absorbs the speech. The Chief smiles, motions to the two people flanking him.

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)

Now, I'd like to introduce your Resident, Doctor Micah Ellis --

MICAH ELLIS (late 20's) is a little bit of a nerd. The guy you never notice until suddenly you grow up and realize that he's kind of cute and besides, nerds are huge catches because they are loyal and have slightly low self-esteem so they probably won't cheat on you. Micah gives a little wave.

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)

And of course, your Attending.
Doctor Gina Beckett.

Gina (40's) rock star heart surgeon, is cold, cocky and seemingly heartless. Cassandra and Emily reflexively glance at one another. Emily looks away first.

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)

You might have heard that she pioneered the percutaneous valve replacement.

(MORE)

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)

Well, that is just the tip of the iceberg, I can assure you. Gina, they're all yours.

Gina looks at the Interns. Takes them in. Then:

GINA

We're walking.

And with that, she starts out of the room. Our group scrambles to keep up.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- MOMENTS LATER

The Interns hurry after Gina as she walks briskly down the hall.

GINA

Your job is to keep my patients alive. Any issue you have, you bring to Micah. Micah brings it to me. You and I... we don't talk unless absolutely necessary which I sincerely hope won't be the case. Don't even think about asking me when you'll be in an O.R. Here's my answer. Not for a while. Each of you has a pager. That is your lifeline. Like Chief Granger said, you will be called to assist departments all over the hospital. Response time is critical. When you are paged, you have sixty seconds to appear and yes, I have a timer.

Emily is taking this all in, feeling completely overwhelmed and completely intimidated. Micah leans over to her, whispers:

MICAH

Breathe.

EMILY

Is it that obvious?

MICAH

I'm a doctor.

He smiles. She smiles back, feeling just a little better.

INT. JULIA'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- 9 A.M.

And now our group is on rounds. A twelve-year-old girl, Julia, is in the hospital bed; her Mother, ABBEY, sits nearby. Gina consults her chart.

GINA

Julia was admitted yesterday after she fainted for the second time in gym class.

(to Will)

Present.

He glances at the chart, then presents the case.

WILL

The patient sustained contusions to face and head and was admitted for syncope work up and headache. CT shows no intracranial hemorrhage. EKG, Chest XRAY, CBC, and tox screen all within normal limits --

As Will continues, Emily watches him; she clearly thinks he's walks on water.

EMILY (V.O.)

Medicine is all about the little details. You have to pay attention to everything.

(then)

Like that tiny nick on his jaw. Most likely a result of an overzealous razor... Man, he has a nice jaw. The kind of jaw you'd want to caress, if caress wasn't such an ooky word. Although it does suit him. Caress. Caress, caress, car--

GINA (O.S.)

Doctor Barnes?

Oh. Emily snaps to. Everyone is looking at her.

GINA (CONT'D)

What is the prognosis?

Emily reacts. *Right.* She glances at the chart.

EMILY

The etiology of syncope likely to be vasovagal.

Emily notices Julia looking at her, confused. She explains:

EMILY (CONT'D)

Your body overreacted to something stressful, causing a sudden drop in your heart rate and blood pressure. Harmless.

GINA

(annoyed)

Direct your answers to me. And you are correct. Congratulations Doctor Barnes, you've earned a special assignment.

Emily looks excited. Cassandra looks jealous. Then:

GINA (CONT'D)

You're in charge of discharge paperwork.

Emily's face falls. Cassandra brightens. Gina exits, Cassandra, Tyra and Will trailing behind her. Will turns, giving Emily a smile of encouragement as he leaves. Once everyone's gone:

JULIA

Thanks for explaining. I never understand what she's talking about.

EMILY

Of course.

(then)

So, your discharge instructions...

(looks at chart)

Huh. Huh. Okay... this is a little complicated. Are you ready?

Julia nods, looking solemn. Emily looks equally serious.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Don't faint anymore.

Julia laughs. Her mom, Abbey, smiles too. That's the thing about Emily: she has great bedside manner. She knows how to put people at ease.

EMILY (CONT'D)

You're gonna be just fine.

JULIA

But what if I pass out again in front of Cody?

EMILY

A boy you like?

JULIA

(nods, then)

I see him in gym class, my heart races--

EMILY

Trust me, I get it. That heart racy thing happens to me too.

JULIA

But you're an adult.

EMILY

I appreciate the vote of confidence. But the truth is, sometimes I still feel like a kid.

(then)

How about this? Next time you see him... sit down. Because I can't have you falling and hitting your head. Or looking like a dork.

(off Julia's smile)

But if your symptoms change in any way, if the episodes become more frequent, or if you feel your heart racing beyond the usual Cody-speed, I want you to come right back here, okay?

Julia nods. Emily looks at Abbey who nods as well.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Alright, I'm just gonna check your vitals once last time, then we'll unhook you.

ABBEY

Sweetie, mind if I run out real quick to grab a cup of coffee?

JULIA

No problem.

Abbey heads out. As Emily checks Julia's vitals:

EMILY

So, I want to hear about this Cody guy.

JULIA

He's so cute. We got partnered up on a science project and I think he was flirting. Which doesn't make sense because he's not the kind of guy who would normally go for someone like me --

EMILY

Hey, what does that mean?

JULIA

He's really popular and he's got way better hair than Justin Beiber--

EMILY

Popularity's overrated. And you have pretty good hair yourself.
 (re: blood pressure cuff)
 You're gonna feel the cuff tightening...

JULIA

Thanks. You know, that other doctor never even remembered my name. She had to look at the chart every time. You're different.

Emily smiles. Julia smiles back. And then, suddenly, and seemingly from out of nowhere, Julia starts coding! The monitors flat line! Emily reacts, panicked. She calls into the hall:

EMILY

I need a doctor!

Nurse DOREEN (mid 40's, been here forever, seen everything) is already rushing into the room with a crash cart.

DOREEN

You are a doctor.

EMILY (V.O.)

A real doctor! Get a real doctor!

EMILY (CONT'D)

Page Dr. Beckett--

The room is filling up with Nurses and Orderlies all waiting for Emily's cue. Emily stares at Julia for a beat.

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

**What are you doing? Run the code!
 Run. The. Code.**

And suddenly, Emily snaps into action. She starts compressions.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Pulse?

DOREEN

(checking)
 Thready --

EMILY

I need 20 of etomodate, 100 of succinyl choline and the intubation kit? Where's the intubation kit? I need a tube in now --

NURSE JESSICA (25, beautiful) starts to intubate.

JESSICA

Copy that --

DOREEN

Oxygen's dropping. 69 percent --

EMILY

Hold Crich pressure! Hold, wait move, to the left. Ok right there.
(then, to Doreen)
Why aren't the pads on?

DOREEN

They won't stick, she's too sweaty--

EMILY

Then dry her off! Now!

Julia's chest is dried off:

DOREEN

Looks like v-tach --

The paddles are in place. Emily grabs them:

EMILY

On three...Clear!

She shocks her with the paddles. Nothing --

DOREEN

Rhythms's changing --

EMILY

PEA. Get me an amp of bicarb --

JESSICA

(putting in IV)
Bicarb's in --

Emily looks up at monitor. No change.

EMILY

Clear!

Another shock. Nothing.

EMILY (CONT'D)
Give her 10 units of insulin! 50g
of D50! 2 amps of Calcium --

Emily resumes compressions.

JESSICA
Insulin, glucose, calcium in --

DOREEN
V-tach again! We're losing her...

Julia is running out of time! Emily has no choice! She lifts her fist up and slams it down on Julia's chest, punching her in the sternum. A ventricular thump. Silence.

The Nurses are in shock. A beat as they all stare at the monitor which is a flat line for a long long second and then... with a beep, it's back to sinus rhythm. Julia opens her eyes. Emily is in shock, can't believe that just happened, can't believe it worked. Gina enters:

GINA
What the hell happened in here --

EMILY
She started coding, nothing was working, I did a ventricular thump--

GINA
(taking charge)
I want a chem 7, CBC, INR, ABG, and
an EKG stat. Doreen I want another
line in the left AC --

People start moving again and Emily is shoved aside...

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE JULIA'S ROOM

Emily exits into the hallway where the other interns are gathered. Everyone starts congratulating her: "Oh my God." "You totally saved her life!" "Way to go!"

Emily is reeling, her head is spinning. She puts her hands on her forehead, tries to calm down. And then, a voice:

CASSANDRA
Oh! Now I remember why we called
you Pits!

Emily looks down, sees the sweat stains. Off her mortified...

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXTREME CLOSE UP:

Emily's head... sideways. Her eyes dart back and forth.
PULL BACK to REVEAL we are in:

INT. DOCTOR'S LOUNGE -- 10:00 A.M.

Emily's searching under the couch for something. Not there.
Damn! She gets up, looks under the next couch.

EMILY (V.O.)

**Nefarious. N-E-F-A-R-I-O-U-S.
Nefarious.**

Emily looks increasingly nervous, she races out.

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

**That's the word that I spelled
correctly in the 5th grade spelling
bee to beat Cassandra --**

INT. BATHROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Emily is searching under the stalls as her V.O. continues.

EMILY (V.O.)

**Ever since then, she's targeted me.
But the thing about Cassandra is,
she's sneaky. Nothing nefarious
could ever be traced back to her.
Like the debate club finals. Right
before we started, she "accidentally"
knocked over my index cards. Sure,
she helped pick them up but then on
stage, I realized half of my notes
were missing. Hence... the flop
sweat debacle.**

Emily races out of the bathroom...

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Emily is running through the halls, dodging and weaving,
looking on the ground as she runs.

EMILY (V.O.)

**I knew Cassandra stole those notes,
but it could never be proven. Just
like I can't "prove" now that she's
the one who stole...**

INT. NURSE'S STATION -- CONTINUOUS

EMILY
 (breathless)
 My pager! Have you seen my pager?

Nurse Doreen shakes her head, no. Meanwhile, Micah walks by.

MICAH
 (to Emily)
 I've got a full schedule, can you
 keep an eye out for labs on 601?

Emily smiles, tries to seem composed.

EMILY
 Of course. Not a problem.

Micah nods, keeps walking. Emily starts off in the opposite direction.

DOREEN
 Pager's missing, huh? So that's
 why you haven't been answering.

Emily turns... scared.

EMILY
 Answering who?

EXT. E.R. LOADING AREA -- 10:02 A.M.

DR. IMELDA ANDAYA (a tiny little Asian girl whose short stature and sweet face mask the fact that she's a thrill seeking badass -- in and out of the ER) is waiting with a team of two ER interns and Will. Emily approaches, breathless. Dr. Andaya looks at her.

EMILY
 I'm sorry, I couldn't find my pager--

DR. ANDAYA
 What would Mount McKinley say if I
 "couldn't find" my crampons?
 (off Emily's confusion)
 I don't care! That's what the
 mountain would say!

Before Emily can respond, an ambulance pulls up, a police car close behind. The ambulance doors swing open and two men (early 20's, brothers) are unloaded. One of them is more seriously injured (DAN, 25, clean cut, wearing a thick down jacket); the other has superficial injuries (LEO, full sleeve tattoos, piercings, 27).

An EMT TECH (30's, burly) starts talking as he wheels Dan into the building.

EMT TECH

Motor vehicle accident. Multiple fractures, possible c spine trauma. Car was smoking, brother got him out. BP stable, oxygen 92, blood alcohol level .13--

Dr. Andaya motions to her Interns, barking out commands:

DR. ANDAYA

Trauma 2, order a CT, get neuro down here STAT. And be careful! Move that neck a millimeter, he doesn't walk.

Almost as an afterthought she turns to Will and Emily:

DR. ANDAYA (CONT'D)

Babysit the other guy until ortho shows up.

The second EMT wheels Leo over to Will and Emily. The right side of Leo's face is bloody and swollen and his right arm is hanging at an angle. Leo is distraught.

LEO

My brother, is he going to be okay?

EMILY

Just try to relax. We won't know anything for a little while --

LEO

It was last night. We were drinking last night. We woke up early to get back into town, we didn't feel drunk--

Leo sees a COP (30's, tough) approaching.

LEO (CONT'D)

I did that to him. I was driving. Oh god, if he dies --

WILL

You should stop talking...

LEO

No. It's my fault.

The Cop slaps a handcuff on Leo, attaching him to the gurney.

INT. TRAUMA BAY -- 10:30 A.M.

DR. IKE WEBSTER (30's) -- orthopedist, sexist jock-in-residence examines a distraught Leo who is still handcuffed to his bed. The Cop sits in the room, on his i-Phone. Will and Emily observe. Ike talks fantasy football as he performs the exam.

IKE

(to Will)

It's a half point-a-reception based league so I need guys that get targeted. Most people don't look at that. I do. That's why I took Welker so early. Roddy White too.

(to Leo)

Does this hurt?

He presses on the shoulder, Leo winces.

IKE (CONT'D)

Thought so. Looks like you got a couple of sick fractures. I'll order you up some pain meds.

(to Emily)

He's gonna need a CT of the shoulder.

Emily nods. Ike turns back to Will.

IKE (CONT'D)

You know what else I need?

WILL

Non contrast and thin cuts of the scapula --

IKE

Plaxico. I'm offering Walters. That would make my team unbeatable. Seriously. Un-beatable.

And with that, he's off. Emily takes this in.

EMILY

Jocks in ortho. Like Tyra said...

Before Will can ask what she means, Gina enters. To Emily:

GINA

Why are you ignoring my pages?

EMILY

I'm not. I can't find --

GINA

The rule is sixty seconds.

She starts out. Emily follows, upset.

INT. JULIA'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- 10:35 A.M.

Gina glances down at her chart while Emily looks on.

GINA

Julia, you have what is called severe obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. It's a disease of the heart in which the myocardium - the middle of the three layers - is thickened.

Julia and Abbey both look freaked out.

ABBEY

But her EKG was normal.

GINA

The EKG just looks at the electrical system of the heart. Your daughter has a structural abnormality. It's extremely rare for someone her age. We had no reason to suspect it.

JULIA

So, I wasn't fainting because of Cody?

Gina looks confused. Emily whispers:

EMILY

The boy she likes.

Gina shoots her a withering look; she doesn't like being shown up.

GINA

No. You were fainting because your heart doesn't pump properly. And we're going to have to reshape it with surgery.

Abbey and Julia react, scared.

ABBEY

Dr. Beckett, can I speak with you outside?

Gina nods. The two exit, leaving Emily and Julia alone.

JULIA
So, how serious is it?

EMILY
Serious. But you're gonna be just fine. Dr. Beckett's the best.

JULIA
You sure?

EMILY
I promise.

Julia still looks scared; Emily tries to distract her.

EMILY (CONT'D)
Now since we're alone, let's talk about the really important stuff. When are you going to tell Cody how you feel?

JULIA
Let's see. The day after... never.
(off Emily)
What if he rejects me?

EMILY
What if he doesn't?

JULIA
Does that doctor know how you feel?

EMILY
(caught)
What?

JULIA
Oh, come on. That doctor you were staring at during rounds. Brown curly hair, dimples, "hands that you want to linger at your neck, brush along your collarbone --"
(off Emily's look)
Have you not read "Twilight?"

EMILY
(laughs, then)
Okay, even if I was staring at him a little, that doesn't mean --

JULIA
He totally likes you too.

Emily looks at her, surprised. And next thing she knows, she's gossiping with a twelve year-old.

EMILY
How could you tell?

JULIA
He was looking at you! When you
were talking to me--

EMILY
Looking? Or looking looking?

JULIA
Looking looking.

EMILY
Can you tell the difference?

JULIA
Of course. I'm twelve.
(off Emily, excited)
You should tell him how you feel--

EMILY
I don't know--

JULIA
You told me to tell Cody--

EMILY
It's different.

JULIA
No, it's not. Plus, if we don't
tell them, someone else might get
there first. That happened to
Jacob. And Bella ended up having
Edward's alien baby! Which would
blow --

EMILY
It would blow. Big time.

JULIA
Okay, then. I'll do it if you do
it.

Emily looks at her for a beat. *Why not?*

EMILY
Deal.

Julia holds out a pinky. And the girls pinky swear.

INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE JULIA'S HOSPITAL ROOM

Emily exits Julia's room and is intercepted by Tyra who holds up a pager.

TYRA

Yours, I'm thinking?

EMILY

(grabs it, thrilled)
Where was it?

TYRA

In the lounge. I needed a five-minute break. Half a day and I've already intubated, disempacted, catheterized, cauterized. At least I think I cauterized, wasn't a hundred percent sure about that procedure, but fake it to you make it, right?

(off Emily, horrified)

I'm kidding. Anyway, I felt it vibrating behind a couch cushion. I wonder how it got there.

EMILY (V.O.)

The wicked bitch of the West Wing.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Who knows. Thank you so much.

TYRA

No problem. Maybe you'll do me a favor at some point.

EMILY

Of course, anytime.

TYRA

How about now?

EMILY

Huh?

Tyra motions down the hall to where beautiful nurse Jessica looks at a chart. Jessica glances at them, then looks away.

TYRA

She keeps staring at me. But I can't tell if she's staring at me because she likes me, or because I'm the Chief's kid. So, I need you to suss it out.

Emily doesn't like where this is heading.

EMILY
Suss...what out?

TYRA
Whether she's gay or straight.
(Emily balks)
Come on, I helped you.

EMILY
Why can't you do it?

TYRA
Because... my dad doesn't exactly
know that I dine at the Y.
(off Emily's surprise)
I lied before. His dislike of me
does not stem from my sexuality. It
stems from my personality.
(then)
Look, I just don't want to ask her
out if she's going to reject me. Or
worse, gossip about me. I told you
this place is like high school...
(then)
Please. You said you'd do me a
favor... Please, please--

EMILY
You're not going to stop bugging me
until I say yes, are you?

TYRA
Definitely not.

EMILY
Fine, I'll do it --

Luckily, her pager goes off, and she gets a reprieve...

EMILY (CONT'D)
Later.

INT. EXTERIOR RADIATION ROOM -- 10:45 A.M.

Emily and Will are waiting in the darkened room, behind glass, as the Radiologist takes a CT of Leo's shoulder. Light shadows flicker across their faces from the imaging computers. It's strangely intimate. Emily glances at Will.

EMILY (V.O.)
Just do it. Just tell him.

A beat, as she tries to get up the nerve. But she can't.

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Okay, I'm going to move over a few
 inches so our shoulders are
 touching. If he doesn't move, then
 he likes me.

She gathers her courage. And we watch as she moves, ever so slightly over. A little more... A little more... Until finally their shoulders are touching. A beat. Will doesn't move! Emily looks elated. Then:

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Wait, maybe he doesn't feel it. If
 he looks at me. If he looks at me,
 I'll know he likes me.

Will feels her eyes on him. Looks over, smiles.

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Say it, say it, say it --

EMILY (CONT'D)
 Will?

WILL
 Yeah?

EMILY
 (losing courage)
 Nothing.

Meanwhile, Ike enters from behind. He looks at the monitor:

IKE
 Multiple fractures. Sweet.

And... the moment is officially broken.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 10:55 A.M.

Will and Emily are wheeling Leo back to his room. He's a little looped on pain meds.

LEO
 Have you heard anything yet? About
 Dan?

EMILY
 We haven't. But we'll let you know
 as soon as there's news.

Before he can reply, we hear Nurse Doreen:

DOREEN (O.S.)
Miss, you can't go back there.

Emily, Will and Leo turn; Leo recognizes the upset woman.

LEO
Vicky!

VICKY (20's, pretty, well-dressed, pregnant) ignores Leo, turns to Emily and Will, almost hysterical.

VICKY
Dan, where's Dan, where's my
husband?

LEO
They haven't heard anything --

VICKY
(ignoring him, to Will)
Where is he?

WILL
Still in surgery. C'mon, I'll show
you where to wait.

As Will leads Vicky off, Leo crumples.

LEO
She hates me--

EMILY
I'm sure she doesn't --

LEO
Always has. And now... now that
I'm fine and Dan is...
(breaks off)
It should have been me. Danny,
he's the good one. He's the good
one...

Emily feels for him. And off Leo, distraught.

INT. NURSE'S STATION -- 11:30 A.M.

Will is going over a chart with Doreen.

WILL
Angela in 630's gonna need serial
hemoglobins every 4 hours. And
page me if her systolic gets below
90.

Doreen nods as Emily approaches. Will turns to her:

WILL (CONT'D)

Just heard that Dan's out of the woods. Hairline fracture at C-5, but he'll walk.

EMILY

Thank God.
(to Doreen)
Are the labs for 601--

Doreen shakes her head, "no." From behind, a voice:

CASSANDRA (O.S.)

Heard you found your pager, Pits.

Emily turns to find Cassandra walking past her.

EMILY (V.O.)

Do not bait the beast, do not bait the beast...

Oh, but she has to...

EMILY (CONT'D)

Cassandra, hang on a second.

Emily runs and catches up to her. Then, with a big fake smile:

EMILY (CONT'D)

Did you, by any chance, take my pager and hide it?

CASSANDRA

Are you serious?
(off Emily's nod)
I can't believe you're accusing me of something like that.

EMILY

I'm sorry.
(then)
Did you though?

CASSANDRA

No, of course I didn't!

Before Emily can respond, Micah approaches:

MICAH

You two, follow me.

They start walking behind him...

MICAH (CONT'D)

78-year old female with late-stage Alzheimer's was brought in this morning complaining of an upset stomach. CT showed a pseudocyst in her abdomen; it needs to be taken out before it ruptures. But unfortunately, her daughter left and the patient's not mentally sound enough to give her consent. No consent means we have to wait until the rupture occurs. Not pretty. So, I need you to find her daughter.

CASSANDRA

Of course. What's her name?

MICAH

That's the problem. No one can read the signature on the admitting paperwork.

He leads them into the room of Mrs. Coraline Elish...

INT. MRS. ELLISH'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

MICAH

Mrs. Elish, this is Dr. Kopelson and Dr. Barnes. They're going to take good care of you, okay?

MRS. ELLISH (70's, sweet-faced) looks a little anxious.

MRS. ELLISH

You'll help me find my daughter?

EMILY

Yes.

CASSANDRA

Absolutely.

MICAH

I'll check back in later, okay?

Mrs. Elish nods. Micah heads out.

MRS. ELLISH

Marian knows she's not supposed to play outside after dark. This is a safe neighborhood, but still, you never know.

EMILY

So your daughter's name is Marian?

MRS. ELLISH
Yes. Marian Elish.

CASSANDRA
(sotto, to Emily, re:
paperwork)
It looks like her last name starts
with a "K".
(then, to Mrs. Elish)
Did Marian get married maybe? And
change her name?

MRS. ELLISH
Married? She's only nine years-
old!
(then)
Would you excuse me, I have to use
the powder room.

EMILY
Do you need help?

MRS. ELLISH
Help? I should hope not.

As Mrs. Elish heads into the restroom, Cassandra and Emily
try to make sense out of the signature on the paperwork.

CASSANDRA
"Marian Kramden" maybe?

EMILY
Or "Kamden?"
(takes out pen)
I'll write these down, we'll just
have to make a lot of phone calls.

As she's writing, she tries another tact with Cassandra.

EMILY (CONT'D)
You know, it was actually pretty
funny. The whole pager gag.
(re: paper)
Maybe "Kommer?"

CASSANDRA
Or "Konner?" And again: I didn't
take your pager.

EMILY
I wish you would come clean. That
could be an "s" at the end.
"Kraines?"

CASSANDRA
 (increasingly angry)
 There's nothing to come clean
 about. "Krasner."

EMILY
 (equally angry)
 It's just that I know you did it.
 "Kravner" --

CASSANDRA
 You don't know anything! "Kraven" --

EMILY
 I do! "Kravitch" --

CASSANDRA
 I didn't steal it! "Kramden" --

EMILY
 We already said that! And of course
 you stole it! Just like you stole my
 debate club cards in high school!

Cassandra gasps. But before she can respond, a MALE ORDERLY enters.

MALE ORDERLY
 I'm here to take Mrs. Ellish's
 vitals.

EMILY
 She's just in the bathroom --

MALE ORDERLY
 No, she's not.

Emily and Cassandra look over. The bathroom door is open and Mrs. Ellish is gone! The girls exchange looks; they race into the hallway...

INT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE MRS. ELLISH'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

...but there's no sign of the old lady. Shit. They were supposed to find her daughter and instead they lost her! And off the girls, panicked...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 11:45 A.M.

And yet again, Emily is hurrying through the halls. She passes the Nurse's Station.

DOREEN

You lose that pager again?

EMILY

No, not my pager...

She rounds the corner and runs into Cassandra.

CASSANDRA

I checked the east wing. Nothing.

Before Emily can respond, Cassandra's pager goes off.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

I have to get this. I have four pending cases. Just find her!

And she's off, leaving Emily alone. Screwed. Emily hurries to the Elevator Bank...

INT. ELEVATOR BANK -- MOMENTS LATER

Emily presses the button and waits. The doors open to reveal Micah, standing with Mrs. Ellish.

MICAH

I take it you haven't found her daughter yet?

Micah and Mrs. Ellish exit the elevator. Emily is mortified.

EMILY

We looked away for a second. I'm so sorry, Mrs. Ellish. Let me take you back to your room.

MRS. ELLISH

(getting confused)
My room? Where am I?

MICAH

In the hospital.

MRS. ELLISH

(scared)
The hospital? Why?

MICAH

Because you're sick --

MRS. ELLISH

No, I'm not. Who are you? I want to go home --

MICAH

It's okay, just try to relax --

He reaches out to her, but Mrs. Ellish slaps his hand away.

MRS. ELLISH

No! You stay away from me!

MICAH

Mrs. Ellish --

MRS. ELLISH

Stay away! I need to go home! My daughter needs me!

The situation is spiraling out of control.

EMILY

She does need you. Because you're a really good mom.

MRS. ELLISH

I am, I am a good mom --

EMILY

But sometimes moms get sick, too. And when that happens you have to let people take care of you for once.

Mrs. Ellish is calming down. Emily continues:

EMILY (CONT'D)

And we're going to look after Marian until you're all better. We'll take good care of her, okay?

MRS. ELLISH

You'll make sure she wears a hat outside? It's cold, she hates wearing a hat.

EMILY

Absolutely. And anything else you can think of, you just tell me and I'll take care of it. Okay?

Mrs. Ellish nods. Micah is impressed.

GINA (O.S.)
What's going on?

They turn to find Gina standing there. Micah covers:

MICAH
Mrs. Ellish wanted to take a walk.
Dr. Barnes accommodated.
(to Emily)
Why don't you take her back to her
room now?

Emily nods, grateful, and starts to lead Mrs. Ellish away.

INT. COMPUTER BAY BY NURSE'S STATION -- 12:30 P.M.

On the computer screen: names and numbers of women with the first name of "Marian" and a last name starting with "K."
Emily is on the phone:

EMILY
So, if you're the person who
dropped off your mother, please
call us back. Thank you.

She hangs up, frustrated. Looks at the list. Next name.
But, before she can dial, Tyra leans over her:

TYRA
Now's your chance.

Emily looks up and Tyra motions to Jessica at the Nurse's station.

EMILY
I can't. I have to find Mrs.
Ellish's daughter --

TYRA
I'll make the calls. C'mon, it's
the perfect time.

Before Emily can protest, she finds herself being pushed out of her seat. She sighs and approaches the nurse's station.

INT. NURSE'S STATION -- CONTINUOUS

Jessica is filling out paperwork. Emily approaches, feeling incredibly awkward.

EMILY
Hey. I'm Emily.

JESSICA
 (glancing up)
 Jessica.

EMILY
 So where are you from?

JESSICA
 Wisconsin originally.

EMILY (V.O.)
Do not mention cheese.

EMILY (CONT'D)
 I really love cheese.

Jessica rolls her eyes. Emily wants to disappear, but she forges on, trying to seem "casual."

EMILY (CONT'D)
 So, have you been in Denver long?

JESSICA
 About two years.

EMILY
 Cool. I just moved here, so I'm still getting to know the place.

Jessica nods, still looking through papers. Emily glances at Tyra who is on the phone. Tyra motions her to go on.

EMILY (CONT'D)
 So, what do you like to do on weekends?

Jessica looks up. *Where is this going?*

JESSICA
 I don't know, hang out, I guess.

EMILY
 Yeah, there's so much to do.
 Hiking, skiing, hitting up bars.

EMILY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Be cool now...

EMILY (CONT'D)
 (trying for casual)
 Speaking of bars, do you like gay ones or straight ones?

Jessica reacts.

JESSICA

Straight ones. And just so you know, if I was gay, you wouldn't be my type.

With that, she walks off, leaving Emily unexpectedly insulted. Meanwhile, Doreen approaches, holds out a file.

DOREEN

Labs for 601.

Emily takes them, feeling humiliated.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 12:35 P.M.

Emily turns a corner and spots Micah up ahead, talking to Gina. She stops.

EMILY (V.O.)

I shouldn't interrupt. Although he did say it was important.

She starts towards them.

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

But they might be talking about something more important.

She stops.

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

But he said to get it to him as soon as I got it.

She starts again.

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

But Dr. Beckett hates being interrupted.

She stops.

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

But what if this is an urgent case?

She starts.

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

But I don't want to piss her off --

She stops.

GINA (O.S.)

Are you seizing Dr. Barnes?

Emily looks up to find Micah and Gina staring at her.

EMILY
 No. Sorry. No.
 (to Micah)
 I have your labs. For 601.

She gives them to him. But before Micah can look, Gina's pager goes off. She glances down.

GINA
 Hurry up --

She starts running. Micah motions for Emily to follow.

INT. DAN'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Gina, Micah and Emily rush in.

VICKY
 He seemed okay and then all of a sudden...

Dan (his head in a halo) is pale and unconscious. His breathing is labored. Nurse Jessica is holding an oxygen mask to his face. Another nurse is monitoring his vitals. Immediately Micah rips open his gown, feels his stomach...

JESSICA
 Pressure is dropping --

GINA
 He's bleeding out somewhere--

MICAH
 I'm guessing splenic trauma --

GINA
 (to Jessica)
 Call the O.R. Let's get him prepped for surgery.

Nurse Jessica rolls up the arms of the gurney and she and Doreen start to roll Dan out.

GINA (CONT'D)
 Ready to take the lead?

MICAH
 (surprised)
 Solo? Absolutely.

They hurry out, with the gurney. Before Emily can follow, Vicky grabs her arm. Emily turns to her:

VICKY

He makes me breakfast. Every morning, even though he has to get up at five to do it. And he puts slippers at the foot of my bed so my feet never have to touch the ground. And he sends checks back home to his mother, because his father died and her pension ran out...

(her voice breaks)

He's going to be okay, right?

EMILY (V.O.)

Who knows. A million things could go wrong. He could go into shock, he could bleed out, his lungs could clot, his heart could stop...

EMILY (CONT'D)

He's in good hands.

And off Vicky, hoping that's true.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR OUTSIDE O.R. -- 1:30 P.M.

Emily is watching Micah operate on Dan through the small rectangular window right outside the O.R. Will approaches and watches with her.

EMILY

Ligamentous attachments have been taken down, hilum exposed--

WILL

Splenic artery cross clamped?

She nods. Then:

EMILY

Five years. Micah's been here five years and he's just now getting a solo surgery.

WILL

Hey, we thought med school would last forever and it flew by.

EMILY

It did, didn't it...

WILL

Do you remember what Professor McCallum said when we got our cadaver in gross anatomy?

EMILY

"You will remember where you were standing. You will remember your first cut."

WILL

Do you? Remember?

Emily looks at him, all raw emotion:

EMILY (V.O.)

Of course. I was standing next to you.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I cut through the sternum.

WILL

And I knew, watching you, that you'd make a great surgeon. You have the most amazing hands...

Emily blushes.

EMILY (V.O.)

Say it, say it, say it...

But again, she can't bring herself to do it.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Thanks.

From the O.R., Micah looks up at them. Gives a thumbs up.

INT. WAITING ROOM -- 1:35 P.M.

Emily has just given Vicky the good news.

VICKY

He's okay, really?

EMILY

Really. Doctor Ellis will be out to give you the details, but Dan's out of the woods.

Vicky takes this in, her whole body relaxing.

VICKY

I'd like to see Leo, would that be okay?

INT. LEO'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Emily leads Vicky into Leo's room.

EMILY

Leo? You have a visitor.

He looks up and sees Vicky. Emily smiles. And suddenly, Vicky attacks Leo... hitting him, screaming at him.

VICKY

You almost killed him! You
sonovabitch, you almost killed him!

Emily tries to peel her off, but Vicky is all adrenaline. Leo just takes the assault, doesn't even try to move.

EMILY

Stop, what are you doing,
stop!

(calling out)

Help! We need help in here--

VICKY

I hate you! Do you hear me?
You should have been in there
-- it should have been you
getting cut open --

Orderlies run into the room and help restrain Vicky --

VICKY (CONT'D)

No! Stop! He almost killed my
husband, he almost killed him --

Finally, they get her out of the room. Silence. Emily looks at Leo, who stares, stoic.

EMILY

Are you okay?

LEO

Fine. I'm fine.

EMILY

Let me just check you out --

LEO

I said I'm fine.

But Emily opens his robe and that's when she sees... a red abrasion on his upper right chest. She looks further and at his waist, on the left, another red abrasion.

LEO (CONT'D)

She didn't do that.

EMILY

I know she didn't. It's a classic seatbelt abrasion.

(realizing)

From a seatbelt fastened on the passenger side... You weren't driving were you?

LEO

Of course I was --

EMILY

No. You weren't.

(it's all coming together)

Your brother had splenic trauma. But we didn't look for that because it usually happens when the abdomen hits the steering wheel. And you said he was the passenger.

LEO

You don't know what you're talking about --

EMILY

I think I do.

LEO

No! You don't!

(then)

Look, you don't get it. All my life, I've been a screw-up. But not Dan. He's the good one. The one who bails me out. Only one in the family to go to college, to go to law school. He's interviewing to work in the D.A.'s office.

(then, firm)

He wasn't driving. Trust me, I'm the screw up. He's the good one.

Off Emily, taking this in...

INT. NURSE'S STATION -- 2:15 P.M.

Emily approaches Doreen:

EMILY

You paged me?

Doreen points to a MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN standing nearby.

DOREEN

Says she's here to sign consent papers for her mother.

Emily nods, then heads over to the woman.

EMILY

Hi. I'm Dr. Barnes --

MARIAN

Marian Kramden. I got your message. You have papers for me to sign?

EMILY

Of course. Let's go to your mom's room, we can take care of it there.

MARIAN

I'd rather do it here.

EMILY

Don't you want to see your mother?

MARIAN

That woman isn't my mother.
 (off Emily, confused)
 My mother was smart. She was vibrant, she was a great cook, she told dirty jokes, she never forgot a birthday --

EMILY

She's still the same person--

MARIAN

No. She's not.
 (then)
 For the last three years I've done everything for her - fed her, bathed her, put her to bed - and every morning, every single morning -- she asks who I am.

She's clearly in pain, but she's determined not to break.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

I just can't do it anymore. I'm done.

And off this declaration...

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 2:30 P.M.

Emily is walking down the hallway, carrying a bag of tubes, when Cassandra catches up to her.

CASSANDRA
What are you doing?

EMILY
Running blood down to the lab.

CASSANDRA
No, about Marian Kramden. She's waiting, Doreen said you have the paperwork...

EMILY
I do.

CASSANDRA
Well, are you going to give it to her?

EMILY
No. I'm not.

CASSANDRA
Why?

Emily stops walking, spins around.

EMILY
Because she wants to abandon her mother! And if she does that, Mrs. Elish, a kind and compassionate woman who devoted her life to her daughter, is going to spend her last days in a state-run facility, where she'll most likely have no visitors and where she'll most certainly die. So no, I'm not giving her daughter any papers until I figure out how to convince her to do the right thing!

And suddenly Emily's pager goes off. She glances at it, looks confused...

INT. CHIEF GRANGER'S OFFICE -- 2:35 P.M.

Emily is standing in front of Chief Granger. He is smiling.

DR. GRANGER

...And I know this place can be overwhelming, so I like to check in with my interns from time to time, see how they're doing.

EMILY

(smiling back)

Oh. Thanks. So far so good.

DR. GRANGER

Good. Great.

(then, bigger smile)

Because I actually got word of a little run in between you and a nurse?

EMILY

Huh?

DR. GRANGER

Jessica? I think that's her name?

Emily reacts as she realizes what he's talking about.

DR. GRANGER (CONT'D)

(kindly)

Why don't you tell me what happened?

EMILY

Oh. Well, I --

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

Abort! Abort! Remember -- he's not a friend!

She stops talking abruptly, stares at him.

DR. GRANGER

You...?

EMILY

I... am not sure what you're talking about.

And just like that, his smile fades. He is suddenly very serious. And a little scary.

CHIEF GRANGER

Were you or were you not inquiring about her dating practices?

EMILY (V.O.)
I was doing a favor for your daughter!

EMILY (CONT'D)
 I was just trying to get to know her...

CHIEF GRANGER
 Well, be careful how you "get to know someone." We have very strict rules in this hospital with regards to sexual harassment.

Emily reacts, horrified. *Sexual harrassment?!* Granger continues:

CHIEF GRANGER (CONT'D)
 You're lucky she didn't file a formal complaint.
 (then)
 You're on notice, Dr. Barnes.
 Don't let this happen again.

And off Emily, shaken up.

INT. JULIA'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- 3:00 P.M.

Emily enters, reeling a little, to find Julia texting.

JULIA
 What's a non-dorky way to say "I can't wait?"

EMILY
 "I'm awash with anticipation, "
 "I'm intoxicated by the prospect,"
 "I'm yearning for the moment" --

JULIA
 I'll go with "I can't wait."

EMILY
 What can't you wait for?

JULIA
 (grins, then)
 My date with Cody.

EMILY
 You told him?!

JULIA
 Yes. And he likes me too!

EMILY
 (in shock)
 Wow. Wow...

JULIA
 You don't have to seem so surprised
 --

EMILY
 No, I'm not surprised. I'm
 impressed. That took ball--
 (oops, realizes)
 --very...

JULIA
 What's ballvery?

EMILY
 I said bravery. Good for you.

JULIA
 I take it you haven't told Dr.
 Will?

EMILY
 I've been swamped. I'm a doctor,
 you know.

JULIA
 Yeah, I do know.
 (then, vulnerable)
 You're doing my surgery, right?

EMILY
 Oh, sweetie. I can't. You need
 someone experienced.

And suddenly Julia drops the bravado; she looks vulnerable.

JULIA
 That mean doctor?

EMILY
 She's not mean. She's just... not
 nice. But she is the best. You
 want the best --

JULIA
 I want you. You care about me.

EMILY
 She does too.

JULIA
 No, she doesn't.
 (vulnerable)
 Can you at least be in the room?
 To make sure I'm okay? Please?

Julia suddenly looks very young. And very scared.

EMILY
 I guess you can request that I'm in
 there with you...

Julia grins. And we PRELAP WITH:

GINA (O.S.)
 You told her she could request you
 in there?!

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE NURSE'S STATION -- 3:15 P.M.

Gina is reaming Emily out!

EMILY
 I'm sorry, I didn't know what to say--

GINA
 You say you don't know what the
 hell you're doing! You say that
 even though you think you're hot
 stuff you're not! And you say that
 you don't know if you'll ever be in
 a surgery because right now, your
 attending physician is so pissed
 off, she doesn't even want to look
 at you!

And with that, Gina walks off, leaving Emily alone, looking miserable. A beat, and then there's a hand on her shoulder. Emily turns and it's Will. He's witnessed the tirade.

WILL
 You're a rockstar, she'll realize
 it soon enough.

She looks at him. He pulls her in for a much needed hug. And that's the opening Emily needs. Raw, emotional, feeling reckless, she blurts it out:

EMILY
 I like you.

Will reacts. But before he can reply, Emily continues, her words pouring out fast... so she can't stop them.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I've liked you since you cracked the chest of our corpse in gross anatomy. You took the heart out and held it in your hands and I remember thinking, that could be my heart, he might as well be holding my heart. And I was too shy to say anything, and then once we became friends I didn't want to jeopardize the friendship... but I know if I don't say anything, then we'll always just be friends and I don't want to be the shy girl wishing my life will turn out the way I want it to. I have to make it turn out the way I want it to. And what I want -- what I really, really, want -- is you.

She looks at him full of hope and expectation and vulnerability. He looks back at her for a beat. Then:

WILL

(feels badly)

I'm so sorry. I just don't see you like that. But I'm so touched by what you said, I really am. And I hope that we can still be friends, because I really value your friendship.

Emily absorbs this, her heart breaking.

EMILY (V.O.)

Do not cry. Don't you dare cry.

EMILY (CONT'D)

(forces a smile)

Of course we can be friends. I just wanted to get that off my chest. And now it's off... so that's great.

And off Emily, trying not to crumble...

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. STAIRWELL -- 3:30 P.M.

Emily fights tears as she digs into a package of Ring Dings. There are many other snacks around her. Micah enters.

MICAH

Doreen saw you come in here with half the vending machine. You okay?

EMILY

(eating Ring Dings)
Oh yeah. Really great.
(off his look, words pour out)
Except for the fact that Gina hates me and the Chief thinks I'm a pervert and the guy I love isn't going to have alien babies with me, and my high school nemesis is being nefarious and these are really really stale.

Upset, she takes another huge bite out of a Ring Ding.

MICAH

You lost me at alien babies.

EMILY

I'm just having the worst day...

Micah looks at her for a beat. Then:

MICAH

Follow me.

And he starts out. Emily grabs the Ring Dings and follows...

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- MOMENTS LATER

Micah walks down the hall with Emily. As he walks, he points to various hospital rooms.

MICAH

That man in there? He's going to have to learn to walk again without a leg.

(points to another room)

And that woman in there, she's going to have a colostomy bag for the next six months.

(another room)

And the woman in 601?

(MORE)

MICAH (CONT'D)

She's going to be told she has stage IV pancreatic cancer. Her son will try to sell her on the fact that there are all these new trials that she can get into, but you and I know the truth. Six months. A year if she's lucky. And she's going to feel sick every single day of that year. So no. You're not having the worst day. Not by a long shot.

Emily immediately feels silly. He's so right.

EMILY

(chagrined, joking)

I meant... the worst hair day.

He smiles, appreciates the humor. Then, genuine:

EMILY (CONT'D)

Thanks. You must think I'm incredibly self-absorbed...

MICAH

No. Just human. Now, hand over those Ring Dings and get back to work.

She pulls a pack from her pocket and gives it to him.

MICAH (CONT'D)

And the other one.

She pulls out another. He smiles. And off this warm moment.

INT. DAN'S HOSPITAL ROOM -- 3:45 P.M.

Emily is checking Dan's vitals. He's groggy, but awake.

EMILY

You gave us quite a scare. Open up.

He opens his mouth, Emily puts in a paper thermometer.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I'm so glad you're feeling better. Your brother, though, he's in a world of trouble. You know, since he was driving. Seems to think he deserves it though. Keeps saying you're the good one, you're the good one.

(looks at him, pointedly)

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)
I believe him. I think you are
good.

She takes the thermometer out, glances at it.

EMILY (CONT'D)
98.2. Very good.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 4:00 P.M.

Emily exits the room, when:

WOMAN (O.S.)
There you are!

She turns to find an angry Marian Kramden.

MARIAN
I've been waiting to sign papers
for over three hours. What is the
hold-up?

Emily looks at her, knows she can stall no longer.

EMILY
I'm sorry. I have them. This way.

INT. NURSE'S STATION -- MOMENTS LATER

Emily hands the papers to Mrs. Kramden. Marian looks at her,
feeling guilty. Then:

MARIAN
It's not like I planned to do this,
you know. I brought her in to be
seen and then I had to go to work.
The nurse told me not to worry, she
said they'd take good care of her.
So I left. And then, when I was
driving away, I just had this
overwhelming sense of *relief*. That
someone else was watching her.
That it didn't have to be me
anymore.

EMILY
I know it's a lot of work. But
your mother, she needs you--

CASSANDRA (O.S.)
Back off. You have no idea what
this woman's going through.

Emily and Mrs. Kramden turn to find Cassandra there.

EMILY

Cassandra, what are --

CASSANDRA

I mean it. You have no idea what it's like to care for someone 24 hours a day, so you can't possible judge --

MARIAN

Exactly.

CASSANDRA

(to Marian)

Trust me, I get it... I've lived through it. My brother had cystic fibrosis. He was sick his whole life.

Emily reacts. She had no idea. Cassandra continues.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

Growing up, we had a hospital bed in our living room. I couldn't invite anyone over because my parents were afraid he'd catch a cold. Everything -- *every single thing*-- revolved around my brother. His progress, his setbacks.... After a while, I couldn't take it. I just stayed out of the house. Because when I was home, all I thought about was death.

(painful admission)

Sometimes I even prayed for it, because that would be easier than waiting for his lungs to scar so much that he would slowly suffocate... which is what happened.

Emily listens in shock, moved. Cassandra continues:

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

But there were these other moments -- little moments -- when he felt better. When we'd watch TV or complain about my parents or fight over the last Oreo...

(she's emotional)

And those moments -- *those stupid little moments* -- I'd give anything to have one of them again.

(then, staying strong)

Illness... it changes what you are capable of.

(MORE)

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

But it doesn't change who you are.
And your mother...she might not
always recognize you, but she does
love you. And I know that for a
fact, because the whole time she's
been in the hospital -- *the whole*
time -- she's been looking for you.

Marian's eyes well up; Cassandra's reached her. Emily reacts, emotional as well.

INT. MRS. ELLISH'S ROOM -- 4:10 P.M.

Marian enters. Mrs. Ellish looks over at her, blankly.

MRS. ELLISH

Who are you?

MARIAN

I'm your daughter. I'm here, Mom.

And we PULL BACK...

EXT. MRS. ELLISH'S ROOM -- SAME TIME

To reveal Cassandra and Emily watching this interaction from behind the window. Emily looks at Cassandra, moved. Beat.

CASSANDRA

Okay, that look on your face?
That's the reason I didn't tell
anyone in high school. I don't
need your pity. And just because I
had a sick brother doesn't mean I'm
not a bitch.

EMILY

Trust me, I know. You're a huge
bitch.

CASSANDRA

Thank you, I appreciate that.

Despite themselves, the girls share a smile. Then:

EMILY

But why are you? Such a bitch to
me? What did I ever do to you?

CASSANDRA

Oh come on. You really need me to
say it?

(off Emily)

Everything always came so easy to
you.

(MORE)

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

I mean, not the looks thing or the popularity thing, but the school thing --

EMILY

(disbelief)

You were... jealous?

CASSANDRA

I wouldn't say jealous.

EMILY

(absorbing this)

You were. You were jealous.

CASSANDRA

If you ever repeat that, I'll deny it. And I'll probably spread a nasty rumor about you.

Emily laughs. The moment is interrupted by Emily's pager. She checks it. Her expression changes:

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)

What?

EMILY

My patient... she's still insisting I'm in on her surgery.

(realizing, elated)

I'm gonna be in on a surgery...

CASSANDRA

Good luck.

(Emily smiles, then)

Don't freeze up the way you froze up during the debate club finals.

EMILY

I knew you stole those cards!

CASSANDRA

You know, you really need to get over high school already.

Emily takes this in.

EMILY

That's true. I do.

(then)

But just admit it. Please.

CASSANDRA

Eh, it's been so long, who can remember?

Emily shakes her head. And off the small détente...

EXT. O.R. SCRUB ROOM -- 4:30 P.M.

Emily scrubs in next to Gina. Gina is cold. Still angry.

GINA

You watch. You don't talk, you
don't touch.

And with that, she strides into the O.R.

INT. O.R. -- 4:50 P.M.

CLOSE ON: Julia's face. Asleep. She looks so young, so vulnerable. WE PAN DOWN, past the blue curtain at her neckline and REVEAL: her open chest cavity. Her heart is exposed. Gina is at work. Three residents and three Nurses are assisting as needed. Emily stands back, at a distance.

GINA

And after six courses, they brought
out dessert. Honestly, I didn't
think I could eat any more...

As Gina continues to talk, M.O.S., we hear Emily's V.O.

EMILY (V.O.)

**Here's the thing about being in
surgery: doctors never talk about
the surgery. They talk about
everything else -- husbands, wives,
children, pets, plumbers... but
never the surgery. Once they start
talking about the surgery, there's
usually something wrong.**

GINA

It's a pretty good restaurant, you
should try it. Cooley clamp.

A NURSE hands her one; she continues to work.

GINA (CONT'D)

Doctor Barnes. What are hemoglobin
parameters for hemostatis?

EMILY (V.O.)

**This could be a trick question.
She said not to talk.**

GINA

Doctor Barnes!

EMILY
12-15 g/dL using packed RBCs to
optimize O2 delivery --

GINA
Platelet parameters --

EMILY
Above 100,000/mcL.

GINA
Clotting time?

EMILY
180-240 seconds.

GINA
What do I want for dinner tonight?

EMILY
Um... Thai?

GINA
Wrong. Italian.

And Gina smiles. Just a little.

GINA (CONT'D)
Huh. We're still getting some flow
behind the mitral valve. Let's
resect a little, see if we can
increase the size of the outflow.
Kelley clamp.

She's talking about the surgery. The room is a little tense.
Gina holds out her hand; the nurse hands her another
instrument. Suddenly the machines start beeping.

CARDIO NURSE
Blood pressures's dropping.

And then, without warning, blood starts spurting out of
Julia's heart. Commotion in the room:

GINA
Irrigation, I can't see the field --

A Nurse tries to irrigate; there's too much blood.
Meanwhile, the monitors are beeping, the numbers are falling.

CARDIO NURSE
70 over palp--

GINA
We've got to stop this bleeding
now!

And off Julia, suddenly in a lot of trouble.

END OF ACT 5

ACT SIX

INT. O.R. -- 4:51 P.M.

Julia is in trouble; Gina and her team are desperately trying to stop the bleeding! Everyone is busy, Emily is the only one observing, the only one who is not working.

GINA

I need hemostasis here! Move.
Move! Retract the anterior leaflet.
I said retract. Not too much!
(to Emily)
Get in here, now!

Emily hurries over.

GINA (CONT'D)

Place your finger here, apply steady pressure, and whatever you do, don't move. Can you handle that?

EMILY

Yes, of course. Yes.

And suddenly, she's got her hand in the body, she's staunching the blood flow!

GINA

Five-oh!

She holds out her hand, a suture is placed in it. She goes to work.

GINA (CONT'D)

Pursestring. Cinch. Don't move that finger, Doctor Barnes. Tie.

Silence as she works. And then, the bleeding stops. The tension in the room starts to ease...

GINA (CONT'D)

Okay, now I'm going to make a 2-inch incision around the apex of the heart.

EMILY

Ventricular remodeling...

GINA

Exactly. We're removing the muscle that encroaches on the cavity...Okay. That should do it...

A beat as they look to the monitors. Then:

CARDIO NURSE
Blood-pressure's rising.

And the team exhales. Julia's going to be alright.

EXT. O.R. -- 5:15 P.M.

Emily is taking off her blood spattered surgical gown. Gina is scrubbing down. A beat, then:

GINA
So you didn't completely embarrass
me in there.

Emily turns, surprised by the compliment. Gina puts out her fist for a fist bump and Emily, thinking she's trying to shake her hand, ends up shaking Gina's fist. It couldn't be more awkward. Gina shakes her head and walks off. Emily is mortified once again. But in the scheme of things, an awkward fist-bump/handshake just isn't that bad. She smiles.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- 5:30 P.M.

Vicky, Dan's fiancée, is pacing outside of Leo's room. She sees Emily and hurries over, distraught:

VICKY
Dr. Barnes, it was Dan. He was
driving. He called the police. He
turned himself in.

EMILY
(feigning surprise)
Really?

Vicky nods. Then, she looks through the window at Leo, in his hospital bed, all alone.

VICKY
What do I even say to him?

EMILY
How about... I'm sorry.

And we PRELAP with:

GIRL'S VOICE (O.S.)
I'm sorry.

INT. HOSPITAL LOCKER ROOM -- 5:45 P.M.

It's Tyra. Emily is getting her things from her locker.

TYRA

I heard you got in trouble with my dad. Of course, I heard it in the context of 'watch out for that predatory lesbian,' but still...

EMILY

I just don't understand why you won't tell him. I mean, you don't seem the closeted type.

TYRA

I'm not. I'm the organize-the-march type. Have been since college. But with my dad...it's different. He's only ever been with my mom. They met in high school, they have this Beaver Cleaver marriage.

EMILY

He might surprise you --

TYRA

He won't. He's judgemental and self-righteous and horrifically close-minded and... I still feel like a goddamn kid around him.

(then)

Anyway, thanks for covering for me. You're way cooler than you look.

She smiles, Emily smiles back. Tyra starts out, when:

EMILY

Wait. Why don't I look cool?

TYRA

(laughs, then)

Come on, you know what I mean.

And off Emily, trying to figure it out.

INT. ELEVATOR BANK -- 5:55 P.M.

Emily, still in scrubs, waits with a group of people. The doors open, revealing a packed elevator. Emily motions of the other people to go ahead of her. She turns, heads towards the stairs...

INT. CORRIDOR/STAIRWELL -- 6:00 P.M.

Emily opens the door to the stairwell. She enters and that's when she sees: Chief Granger, hugging Nurse Jessica. It's a clear romantic embrace. Emily freezes.

So that's why Jessica was staring at Tyra! The two look up, quickly separate. Emily and the Chief make eye contact. She turns and hurries back out...

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- CONTINUOUS

Emily walks away from the stairwell, wishing she could unsee that. Guess he's not so "Beaver Cleaver" after all. Meanwhile, Micah approaches.

MICAH

Heard you kicked ass in surgery.
Not the worst day after all?

EMILY

(smiles)
No. It wasn't. You leaving?

MICAH

Not just yet. See you tomorrow.

She waves and heads off. We stay with Micah. He watches her for a beat, then heads down the corridor and stops in front of Room 601. Micah takes a deep breath. Then enters:

INT. ROOM 601 -- 6:05 P.M.

The FEMALE PATIENT (mid-60's) looks up expectantly as Micah enters.

MICAH

Hi Mom.

MICAH'S MOTHER

Just tell me the truth.

MICAH

(trying for optimistic)
You have pancreatic cancer. But
look, there are all these great new
trials that I can get you into...

And off Micah the son, not Micah the doctor...

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR -- MOMENTS LATER

We pick up Emily, walking past the hospital rooms and the patients she helped today:

EMILY (V.O.)

**The thing about being an adult that
no one tells you when you're
growing up is that you don't feel
like an adult.**

WE SEE: Julia, in her hospital room texting. And smiling.

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

All your stupid insecurities and anxieties, they're still there. Only you feel even more stupid and insecure about being stupid and insecure because you're not supposed to be stupid and insecure anymore. You're supposed to have the answers. You're supposed to know.

WE SEE: Vicky, sitting beside Leo.

VICKY

I was wrong about you. And I'm sorry.

EMILY (V.O.)

But we don't always know. And those answers? They're not always easy to come by...

WE SEE: Marian with her mother. Mrs. Ellish looks at her.

MRS. ELLISH

You look so familiar. Do we know each other?

And we're back to Emily. She enters the elevators...

INT. HOSPITAL -- MAIN ENTRANCE

Emily emerges from the elevators and walks purposefully through the entry way. She exits.

EXT. HOSPITAL -- SUNSET

Emily heads outside.

EMILY (V.O.)

Well, you know what? I'm done feeling stupid and insecure about feeling stupid and insecure.

She crosses the street, heading towards her car. A voice from behind:

FRIZZY-HAIRED GIRL (O.S.)

Hey. You're a doctor?

Emily turns. It's the Frizzy-Haired Teenager from the opening scene.

EMILY

Yes, I am.

FRIZZY HAired GIRL

Huh. That's pretty cool...

Vindication! Emily grins, watching as the Frizzy-haired girl heads off.

EMILY (V.O.)

**The truth is, I think part of being
an adult is that you stop waiting
for yourself to change and you
start to accept who you are.**

And then she sees them. Standing by the fence, in front of the school. Will and Cassandra. They are talking, laughing, their heads close together. Flirting. They clearly have chemistry. A knife in Emily's heart.

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

**Oh, who am I kidding. It's got to
get better than this. Right?**

And we... SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW