

PLAY #1

by

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THE FAN

(At Rise: Two women and a baby.
RACHEL and BEETA.)

RACHEL

What's he staring at?

BEETA

He loves that fan.

RACHEL

He sure does, doesn't he? I wonder what he's thinking.

BEETA

Probably not much.

RACHEL

I mean... It's like spiraling. Like maybe he must have
been doing... How many hours ago?

BEETA

Thirty six? What do you mean spiraling?

RACHEL

You know... Spiraling down to earth. Isn't that what
babies do?

BEETA

Like the cord? You mean when the cord was around his
neck?

RACHEL

No. I mean coming down. Like from wherever babies come
from. From the doorway to wherever babies are before
they become babies. (Pause.) What did you say about
the cord?

BEETA

It was wrapped around his neck.

RACHEL

Oh god. Is he okay?

BEETA

He's okay, Rachel. Look at him. See?

RACHEL

His eyes are closed now. But I imagine he's seeing the fan spinning. He's imagining it spinning behind his eyes.

BEETA

He might be.

RACHEL

Look. He opened his eyes again. He sure loves that fan! (Laughs.)

BEETA

Have you thought about...?

RACHEL

His name?

BEETA

What's his name?

RACHEL

I dunno.

BEETA

Do you think...?

RACHEL

Quit bugging me, Beeta... Jesus. I'm so tired.

BEETA

It's best if you make some decisions sooner if not later.

RACHEL

I can't make those kinds of decisions. It just doesn't seem real.

BEETA

What?

RACHEL

That this happened.

BEETA

It happened. I was there. Remember? I held your hand.

RACHEL
You did? That was you?

BEETA
Yes. If you're gonna...

RACHEL
What?

BEETA
Be a mama. You've gotta come back... You've gotta bring yourself back.

RACHEL
I dunno.

BEETA
What about me?

RACHEL
What about you?

BEETA
I could watch him.

RACHEL
No.

BEETA
I could. I'd like to do that. Until you get yourself together.

RACHEL
I dunno. You would do that?

BEETA
You can't...

RACHEL
Don't tell me I can't! (Pause.) Really? You?

BEETA
I adore him!

RACHEL
But... I'm... He came from me...

BEETA

Just temporary. Don't you see? It's really the best thing.

RACHEL

What am I gonna do?

BEETA

You have to stay here. And get yourself together.

RACHEL

Here? When can I go home?

BEETA

You'll come home. And I'll be there. And so will he. I promise.

RACHEL

I dunno, Beeta. I want to bring him home, now.

BEETA

They won't let you.

RACHEL

But he's mine.

BEETA

For now it's either me... Or them.

RACHEL

For how long?

BEETA

Until they say it's okay.

RACHEL

Okay.

BEETA

Okay?

RACHEL

You're right.

BEETA

You just need to sign this paper... Rachel?

RACHEL

What?

BEETA

What are you doing?

BEETA

I'm looking at the fan. (Pause.) Whenever I look at a fan here, I'll think of him... And you. You and him together.

(BEETA puts the paper down in front of her. She holds RACHEL's hand.)

BLACKOUT

END OF PLAY