

DR. BROWN / AMANDA

1.

INT. DOCTOR BROWN'S OFFICE. DAY

ANDY is doing some paperwork in his office, when a woman pokes her head in - meet AMANDA. Late thirties, beautiful with a sad smile permanently etched into her eyes. She's a quiet force, full of kindness and lost hope. We like her immediately.

AMANDA

Look at you in the white coat. It's so official...

DOCTOR BROWN

Call me old fashioned, but I just don't think you should give people tetanus shots in plaid. There's something undignified about it.

AMANDA

Some might argue that you shouldn't do anything in plaid, but that's a whole other can 'o worms.

She produces a pen from her purse and gives it to him.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

You left this at the house the other day. It looked fancier than a Bic, so I thought I should get it back to you...

DOCTOR BROWN

You didn't have to come all the way here, Amanda. I would've picked it up on my next visit.

AMANDA

Oh, it's nice to get out. Trust me, I don't mind.

(suddenly feeling guilty)

Although I probably should--

DOCTOR BROWN

Why don't you take a coffee break with me? I could use the caffeine...

AMANDA

Thanks, but Jake will be waiting. I promised him I'd be right back...

Andy says nothing, giving Amanda the opportunity to make her decision. She smiles, a little embarrassed, and sits down.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

Just two minutes.

(3 pgs)

"overwood"

(CONTINUED)

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2.

DOCTOR BROWN
You must be pretty tired.

AMANDA
(immediately defensive)
Oh, it's not like that. It really isn't.
I know what you must be thinking, but I
don't consider Jake a burden--

DOCTOR BROWN
I know you don't.

AMANDA
I love him.

DOCTOR BROWN
I know that, too.

Another moment for Amanda to consider how honest she can be.
And then all at once, the words start to tumble out of her
mouth, almost without her realizing it.

AMANDA
It's funny, but sometimes I go days
without leaving his side. I don't even
notice the time. Three days will go by
and it'll feel like a minute. Then out of
nowhere, I'll be making his food, or
combing his hair, and I'll just snap.
Suddenly, it's been an eternity and I've
lost half my life in that house. I've
gone gray up here and soft in the middle,
and I don't even remember how it happened.
I'll look at Jake and wish he would
disappear. That this would all be over so
I could just go to a movie. Take a cruise
someplace where there's sand. I love the
beach. I love having a tan. I can't
remember the last time I had one.

(she smiles, then)
And then I'll realize what I was thinking
and I'll start to cry. Not because of all
those things that I'm missing, but
because I'm wishing them. I'm wishing he
would die so I could get a tan. I mean,
honest to God. What kind of person thinks
those things?

DOCTOR BROWN
Lots of people. Almost anyone in your
situation--

(CONTINUED)

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3.

AMANDA

No, they don't. And if they do, then shame on them. Shame on me for every second I'm dreaming about another life that doesn't include my husband.

She suddenly realizes her intensity, and is once again shy. She stands up, apologetic.

AMANDA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, Doctor Brown...

DOCTOR BROWN

You don't have to be.

AMANDA

Please don't tell Jake--

DOCTOR BROWN

It's nothing to be ashamed of, Amanda. They're just feelings. They're not truths.

But Amanda clearly disagrees. She starts to go:

AMANDA

We'll see you tomorrow. Jake looks forwards to Tuesdays now. Don't ask me how, but I can tell.

She smiles again, then walks out leaving Andy alone.

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