

MAGGIE

ACT TWO

19 INT. CHURCH REC HALL - SAME (N2)

19

A SUPPORT GROUP is in session. We PAN across TWELVE WOMEN, sitting in a circle, finally landing on Gary who listens, sympathetically, to a woman, LUPE, sharing, a bit emotional.

LUPE

...And so I always find a reason for Ruben and I to have the lights off. He thinks I'm really into candles. I'm just not ready for him to see me like this.

Understanding nods from all the women. And Gary. He whispers to an OLDER WOMAN next to him.

GARY

I like candles. I like pillows. Sue me.

She smiles. The LEADER gives Lupe a comforting look.

LEADER

Thanks, Lupe. What all of us here share in common is an incredible relief to be in remission. That said, each of us takes on life after breast cancer in a different way. You have to find the way that works for you. Sounds like you're doing that.

Lupe hears this and nods. So does Gary. The leader turns to MAGGIE (30s), attractive and fun.

Start →

LEADER (CONT'D)

Maggie, did you maybe want to introduce yourself?

SC#1

Maggie steels herself, very aware of Gary's presence.

MAGGIE

Sure. Okay. My name is Maggie...

ALL

Hi, Maggie.

MAGGIE

...and I-- Hi, everyone. Honestly, Old Me never would have come to a group like this. But after this last year...

Sympathetic smiles. Gary leans in, interested in her story.

1/7

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I'm at a place where I-- Excuse me...  
(re: Gary)  
Why is he here?

Everyone tenses up. This question has come up before.

GARY

Men get breast cancer too. It may be  
only 1% of us, but it's all of me.  
Believe me, I would have preferred  
ball cancer.

(to older woman cringing)

Sorry, Joan.

(to Maggie)

And in case you're wondering, the boys  
are fine.

(not done yet)

Also, I promise, I only ate one donut.

/END

The others suppress their laughs. Maggie feels horrible,  
immediately looking at Gary in a different way. She offers a  
sympathetic (potentially flirtatious) smile. He smiles back.  
He knows exactly what he's doing.

2/7

31 GARY'S 2006 AUDI TT - SAME (D3)

31

The car is a mess - dirty laundry and old take-out containers have been thrown in the back seat. It's a college dorm room on wheels. As Gary drives, Maggie opens the glove compartment and starts riffling through. He looks over, intrigued.

Start →

GARY

So you're just doing that?

SC#2

MAGGIE

Well you're not talking.

(looking at CD case)

And I'm just trying to figure out who you really are. Because "guy with breast cancer" seems to be the least surprising thing about you.

She pulls out a CHARLESTON CHEW that has been in that glove compartment for more than a few hot days.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Bullseye. These are my favorite.

She rips into it and takes a huge bite.

GARY

I wouldn't eat that. I don't even know where it came from.

She pulls out a single tampon and holds it up.

MAGGIE

(through a mouthful of candy)

How 'bout this? Any idea where this came from?

/END

He shrugs. Water off a duck's back. She can't help but laugh.

3/7

36 INT. JON &amp; DELILAH'S HOUSE - A LITTLE WHILE LATER (D3)

36

Regina, Maggie, Gary, Eddie and Rome sit on the couch talking. The conversation has gotten more serious.

Start →

EDDIE

I just-- Why didn't he get help?

~~ROME~~~~Maybe it's something he couldn't explain, because he doesn't understand it himself.~~~~(correcting)~~~~Didn't understand it.~~~~REGINA~~~~Yeah. To a lot of people, it's still taboo. Especially in the Black community.~~

Rome fidgets and forces a smile. The friends sit there, none of them knowing what the answer is.

MAGGIE

Maybe he just lost sight of the horizon.

They turn to Maggie.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I was watching this documentary on JFK Jr. Remember when his plane went down?

EDDIE

July 16th. 1999.

(off their look)

It's my birthday.

~~GARY~~~~Your birthday is the 12th. And you are the only grown man ever to exist who celebrates his birthday for a whole week.~~~~REGINA~~~~(to Maggie)~~~~..Please continue.~~

MAGGIE

Kennedy was with his wife and her sister. They were going to see family. His life seemed perfect.

REGINA

Because it was.

SC#3

4/7



MAGGIE

Kennedy was a novice pilot. And he was flying at night. And then the clouds came in. His instruments were telling him which way was up, but he didn't trust them. The truth was right in front of him and he couldn't see it. He lost sight of the horizon and he nose-dived. And by the time he realized what was happening, it was too late. He couldn't pull up.

GARY

What does that have to do with--

MAGGIE

That's depression.

We see this hit them all. Rome gives the subtlest of nods. Yes.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Now maybe he wasn't depressed. Maybe something else was going on. People keep secrets from their closest friends and family. And sometimes you don't even know they have these secrets until an event like this happens.

They take this in for a beat, then:

GARY

You'll have to excuse Maggie. During her free time, she fancies herself an armchair psychologist.

MAGGIE

True. But during the day I'm a clinical therapist at Beth Israel, specializing in depression.

Gary does a half-laugh, thinking she's kidding, but then catches himself.

REGINA

Tell me you knew the occupation of your funeral plus-1.

A beat. Maggie playfully whispers to Regina:

MAGGIE

He didn't.

Gary shrugs. They all laugh.

/END

5/7

41 EXT. JON &amp; DELILAH'S PATIO - SAME (N3)

41

The women sit in front of a fire pit, drinking wine and eating appetizers.

REGINA

~~...I just like to give him crap. The date wasn't that bad. Gary loved it. He got laid.~~

~~Maggie and Delilah look up, surprised by this new information.~~

REGINA (CONT'D)

~~Her name was Veronica, I believe. Our waitress. Gary forgot his wallet. And he stayed behind to "settle up."~~

~~They share a laugh.~~

REGINA (CONT'D)

~~And that date led to me meeting Rome. And Gary needing a shot of penicillin. (laughs, then) Seriously, Gary is an amazing friend. Underneath that hot mess is--~~

MAGGIE

--a lukewarm mess?

They laugh again.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I never would have thought a guy like Gary would be the first man to truly understand what I'm going through.

A beat.

DELILAH

Were you scared?

Maggie doesn't look up. She just nods.

DELILAH (CONT'D)

I see that in Gary. He tries to hide it. Even though he's in remission, it's like he's afraid--

MAGGIE

--it's gonna come back.

REGINA

Is it the same for you?

Maggie hesitates, then:

Start →

SC#4

6/7

MAGGIE

As much as I can be similar to Gary.

They laugh.

END

\*

7/7