

"loss, and what to do next"

written by

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Cast of Characters

CAMERON: 19, Alex's boyfriend.
Emotional and confused. He is
very hard on himself.

ALEX: 19, Calm and composed.
Mentally ill but represses it
the best she can. She is
strong for everyone but
herself.

BRIAN: 20, Alex's best friend and
roommate. He is an alcoholic.

RECEPTIONIST:

NURSE:

JACKIE: Brian's lady

PERSON 1:

PERSON 2:

THERAPIST:

Authors note: This playwright explores difficult and sensitive content such as drinking, self-harm, and abortion. Reading may be triggering for some. Please don't continue reading if it becomes too much to handle!

ACT IScene 1

*The stage lights go up, a small apartment bedroom is arranged on stage. A full-sized bed sits on stage left, in front of it is a desk and chair, a laptop sits on the desk. Over on-stage right is a dresser with some picture frames sitting on top. The bedroom door stands at the end of stage right. A younger teen couple enters through the door. **Alex**, a college student and the owner of the room carries a grocery bag over to the bed. **Cameron**, around the same age as Alex and a full-time employee as a delivery driver, Alex's boyfriend, follows behind her.*

The two take a seat on the edge of the bed. Alex opens the grocery bag revealing an assortment of food items for the night's dinner and a small box labeled pregnancy test. She looks down at the box and sighs as Cameron puts his arm around her shoulder.

CAMERON

I just think it's best to calm down before/

ALEX

/I'm almost two weeks late, Cameron. I could be off but- it just doesn't make sense. The only time this could've happened was two months ago and- and I don't know. My cycle was normal last month so like how-

(sighs)

Something just feels off.

Silence.

CAMERON

I mean- like there was that one time. Last month, remember?

ALEX

But we took Plan B and/

CAMERON

/It's not a hundred percent guarantee, Alex!

Silence.

CAMERON

Sorry.

ALEX

Don't be sorry/

CAMERON

/I am.

ALEX

We're just- it's really stressful.

CAMERON

Of course, it is- look, everything will be fine Alex.
I promise, okay?

*She looks up from the bag and over at him. Her
face is painted with fear.*

ALEX

(softly)
What if it's not?

CAMERON

It will be.

ALEX

I know, I know it's just- what if/

CAMERON

/We'll cross that road if we have to, okay? One step
at a time.

*Alex lets out a sigh. She grabs the test, takes
a deep breath then stands up.*

CAMERON

Do you want me to go/?

ALEX

/No- just, I'll be fine. Should get the results back
in-

(reading the box)
ten minutes.

*Cameron grabs hold of her hand for a moment,
then lets her exit stage right.*

*We only focus on Cameron at this moment, we
don't show Alex's process in the bathroom.
Cameron sits on the bed; his leg begins to*

shake as he waits patiently for his girlfriend to come back with the results. He puts his head in his hands as he leans forward.

A minute passes by. Alex slowly enters through the door.

Cameron springs up to look at her.

Alex walks over to the bed and sits, her face is blank, her mouth is closed but wide.

ALEX

It's positive.

CAMERON

You're pregnant? What- how do you know already? Did you do it right?

ALEX

Yes, I did it right! I peed on the stick, and it came back positive within the first three fucking seconds/!

CAMERON

It's okay! Alex, just- calm down.

Silence.

CAMERON

Maybe, I don't know- maybe it just needs a little more time/

ALEX

Time for what? For it to become more positive?

Silence.

Alex's entire body is shaking. Her face is bright red.

ALEX (CON'T)

I'm taking another one.

Alex rushes out of the room once more.

Cameron sits there in awe; he can't move or speak. He just stares into the audience with a blank expression.

Another few minutes pass like this.

*Alex comes back into the room less frantic than before. She has **two** pregnancy tests in her hand. She walks over to Cameron and takes a seat next to him. The two stare off into the audience, not saying a word. This goes on for about thirty seconds.*

CAMERON

(mumbling)

What are we going to do?

Cameron leans onto Alex, he hugs her tightly.

ALEX

I don't know.

Cameron begins to sob.

CAMERON

(crying)

I want a baby.

Alex places her arm around Cameron. She lays her hand over his head, gently petting his hair.

ALEX

I know, Cam. I do too it's just- I don't know what to do! I want a family with you more than anything/

Cameron lifts his head. He locks eyes with Alex.

CAMERON

/I'm with you... no matter what, okay?

Alex nods. she starts to lay down, lowering her head onto Cameron's lap. She faces away from him.

ALEX

What am I going to say to her? My mom's going to literally kill me if she finds out.

Cameron wipes the tears from his eyes.

CAMERON

I wish I knew the right answer, really. I just don't-
(deep breath)

I just don't know if we're in a position to handle

a child right now.

Alex remains laying, her hands clutch into a tight fist.

ALEX

We both know the answer, it's just hard.

Alex begins to sit up.

ALEX (CON'T)

I really want that life for us but, we can't. It wouldn't be fair for our baby.

Alex stands up, she grabs the grocery bag on the floor.

CAMERON

What are you doing?

ALEX

I'm going to make dinner; I have to do something or-or I'll freak.

Cameron nods.

Alex exits the room.

It's just Cameron on the bed. the stage lights narrow in on him as the rest of the bedroom fades away.

Cameron breaks down; he cries alone on the dark and empty stage. Stage lights fade to black.

Scene 2

The stage lights turn on. The Center stage is occupied by a small wooden table, it's surrounded by four metal chairs. To the left of the table sits a tacky-looking living room consisting of a sofa, a dirty rug, and an overly gigantic television. To the right of the table is the kitchen. The refrigerator is stained with handprints, the sink piled high with three-day old dirty dishes. Standing at the stove is Alex. Her hands shakily remove the groceries from its paper bag.

She takes out a knife from the drawer beside

her. As calmly as she can, Alex starts to cut up the onion she had purchased earlier that day.

the sound of blunt and spaced-out **chopping** echos in the silence of the stage.

Alex's friend **Brian**, who also resides in the apartment, enters behind the table which serves as the only entrance and exit to the shared space between roommates. He wears a wireless headset over his ears and holds a glass of blue liquid in his hand.

Brian, while humming the tune **Tennis Courts** by **Lorde**, makes his way over to Alex. His lanky arms and legs flail around as he dances over to her.

He leans his arm against Alex's shoulder as he watches her cut the onion.

BRIAN

Are you crying?

Alex looks up at him. Her eyes are sweating tears.

ALEX

(sniffling)

Onions.

BRIAN

Ahhhh....

He gives a thumbs up.

BRIAN

(chuckles)

Nice!

Alex gives a slight smile at him, then returns her attention to the onion.

The chopping sound resumes.

ALEX

What's that.

BRIAN

(pointing to the glass)
Ah this- Sex on the Beach.

The chopping sound stops again. Alex slowly turns her gaze towards Brian's smug face.

ALEX

What?

BRIAN

Sex on the Beach! Dude, it's this dope ass drink- you gotta try it.

ALEX

Why is it blue...

*Brian holds up his pointer finger. He places his drink on the counter. He then opens a cabinet above the stove and pulls out a bottle of **Blue Curacao**.*

BRIAN

Instead of orange juice.

Brian has an overly animated grin on his face as he dangles the bottle flamboyantly in front of him.

Alex, clearly unamused, gives him a slight smile before returning to her tasks. She transfers the onions into a hot pan over the stove, moving the mince around every few seconds.

Brian puts the bottle on the counter, He takes a step back, disappointed that his antics weren't entertaining enough. He watches Alex cook in silence, watching her every move. Every thirty seconds or so he repositions himself to observe at a different angle, practically circling her. Alex tries to ignore him but eventually whips her head towards his direction.

ALEX

Dude.

Brian takes a step closer to Alex, he concentrates on maintaining uncomfortable eye contact with her.

ALEX

(aggressively)

What?

Brian jumps back at the shout.

BRIAN

Are you sure it's the onions?

ALEX

Brian, I love you to death but, what the fuck are you talking about? You're acting like a complete psycho/

BRIAN

Why are you crying?

Silence.

Alex turns her attention back to the stove; She adds in a jar of tomato sauce to the pan.

ALEX

I told you already. It was just/

BRIAN

/Yeah, the onion.

Silence.

Alex continues to stir the sauce; her body is visibly tense.

beat.

BRIAN

I think Cameron is crying.

ALEX

Fuck- dude, you know what fine! Hold this.

Alex aggressively hands Brian the wooden spoon. She stomps towards center stage, exiting through the door.

Brian looks down at the spoon, slowly he raises it to his mouth. He hesitantly licks it but quickly withdraws when he hears Alex stomping back into the room.

Alex walks up to Brian, holding her empty hand

out at him. Brian, in return, gives her the spoon back. She grabs his hand before he can pull it away and places the two tests in his palm.

Brian looks down at his hand, then back at Alex. He does this a few more times.

ALEX
Well?

Brian is now staring at the tests, completely frozen in place.

ALEX
Are you gonna say something or/

BRIAN
/I am too drunk to process what is actually happening right now.

He lifts his head, now looking at Alex.

BRIAN
Are you and Cameron/

ALEX
/We can't.

BRIAN
When did you find out?

ALEX
Today.

BRIAN
Well- I mean, are you guys at least going to consider/

ALEX
/We can't, Brian.

Alex walks back over to the stove, adding spinach from the grocery bag into the pan. She continues to stir.

BRIAN
Well, uh- how's Cameron doing... with all of this I mean.

ALEX

(sighs)
You already said it yourself, he's in my room right now if you wanna go bother him... I'm sure he could use the company.

BRIAN

But why are you/

ALEX

/I need to do this.

BRIAN

But, why Alex?

Alex lowers her head, staring at the bubbling sauce. Her hands are trembling.

ALEX

Can you just check on him, please?

BRIAN

But/

ALEX

/Brian!

Silence.

Brian takes a step back.

ALEX (CON'T)

(softly)
He could really use some support.

Brian nods, slowly walking backwards towards the door. He doesn't break his eye contact towards Alex, whose whole body is now shaking as she stands over the pan.

Brian is about to say something, but decides to walk away at the last second, leaving Alex alone in the kitchen.

The stage lights slowly close in on just Alex, her back facing away from visibility.

She quickly wipes her eyes with her sleeve and resumes cooking.

The remaining stage light fades.

Scene 3

The stage lights go up, we are back in Alex's bedroom. The room should be brighter to resemble a change in day.

Alex is sitting on her bed. She holds her cellphone close to her mouth. The voice of a woman can be heard talking to Alex through speaker phone.

Alex talks to the lady as she gazes out her window, it's a beautiful day outside.

RECEPTIONIST

(over the phone)

-And you will need to bring any form of identification as well as your insurance card upon visiting for your appointment.

ALEX

Do you offer financial support for people who don't actually have insurance?

RECEPTIONIST

Yes, actually- most Planned Parenthood locations offer financial aid for certain circumstances.

ALEX

So, I don't have to bring any form of insurance.

RECEPTIONIST

No, it is not technically required for the procedure. Although, it is recommended for it is usually cheaper than what we can offer.

Cameron enters her room from stage right. He quietly walks over to Alex who is still on the phone. He lays down next to her, wrapping his arms around her waist. This affection is ultimately ignored by Alex.

ALEX

(louder)

How much?

RECEPTIONIST

Six-fifty, flat. There's no tax or anything like that involved.

ALEX

What about a copay?

RECEPTIONIST

It's included in the six-fifty.

ALEX

And the check-ups after the procedure are included as well, right? Sorry if I'm asking too much- just want to make sure I have enough in my account for next Monday.

Cameron raises his head towards Alex.

ALEX

Okay, thank you- I'll see you then.

RECEPTIONIST

No problem, take care now.

Alex hangs up. She looks down at Cameron, his arms are extended. Alex slowly repositions herself, laying down in Cameron's arms. He holds her tightly.

CAMERON

How much?

ALEX

Six-fifty.

CAMERON

Oh.

beat.

ALEX

We'll split it, of course.

CAMERON

Yeah- no I figured... How much do you have?

ALEX

Not enough, you?

Cameron shakes his head.

CAMERON

Same as you.

ALEX

(sighs)
I can ask Brian if we can owe him, I'm sure he'll help us out.

CAMERON

Are you sure?

ALEX

What other option is there?

beat.

CAMERON

When's the appointment?

ALEX

Monday.

CAMERON

Next Monday?

ALEX

Mhm.

CAMERON

What time?

ALEX

(sighs)
Like, nine?

CAMERON

A.M.?

Alex nods her head.

CAMERON

(under his breath)
Shit.

Alex pulls away from Cameron's embrace, she sits up.

ALEX

What?

CAMERON

My younger sister's birthday is on Sunday, then my baby brother's birthday is that Tuesday.

Cameron covers his eyes with the palms of his hands.

CAMERON (CON'T)

I haven't decided if I should tell my parents yet.

ALEX

Cameron, it's fine. You don't have to come/

CAMERON

/What do you mean? Of course, I should be there for my own girlfriend's abortion bro, like- that's so stupid actually.

ALEX

It's fine, Cameron. Seriously.

Tears start to emerge from underneath Cameron's hands.

ALEX (CON'T)

You have siblings that look up to you. I just think that you really should be there for their birthdays. Plus, it's not like I'll be alone, Brian can take me to my appointment.

CAMERON

I want to be there for you!

ALEX

Cameron, it's fine! You don't need to worry/

CAMERON

/I'm going to worry! Okay, my girlfriend is having an *abortion!*

ALEX

I'm a tough gal! I'm sure everything will turn out fine.

CAMERON

(aggressively)

And what if it doesn't? What if everything isn't fine? What am I supposed to do if everything isn't fine?

ALEX

You don't know that!

CAMERON

You don't either! How am I supposed to comfort you?

How am I going to hold you tight if you shut down?
How am I supposed to get a hold of you when you shut
down?

ALEX

Cameron...

CAMERON (CON'T)

I want to go through this together!

ALEX

Cameron.

CAMERON (CON'T)

I should be there! I'd hate myself if I wasn't there
for the love of my life the day she has to kill our
child!

silence.

*Alex begins to tremble, she's holding back
tears.*

CAMERON

(sighs)

I can try and come over on Monday, even if it's just
for the day/

ALEX

/And what will you tell your parents? You live over
an hour away!

CAMERON

I don't know! Like- I can just tell them you need me
for some shit/

ALEX

/I don't need you to come!

Silence.

CAMERON

Sorry.

Alex attempts to recollect her composure.

ALEX

You don't have to apologize; Cameron I know you're
hurting, okay? I am too.

CAMERON

Yeah, exactly. *I'm hurting. I'm the one sitting here crying like a baby when I'm not the one who has to go through this. I need to be there for you/*

ALEX

/Just because you're not the one who actually gets the procedure done doesn't mean that your pain is any less valid!

Silence.

ALEX

Please don't say that shit.

CAMERON

(shakily)

Sorry.

silence.

ALEX

I'm sorry.

Cameron shakes his head, his eyes still covered.

CAMERON

Why are you sorry?

ALEX

I don't know.

Cameron moves his arms revealing a face full of sorrow. He extends his arms out once more.

CAMERON

Can you please come here?

Alex sighs, her face remains blank and her body still trembling. She nods her head and lays back in Cameron's arms.

ALEX

When are you supposed to go home?

CAMERON

Probably Saturday night.

ALEX

I really think you should be there for their

birthdays.

CAMERON

I know but/

ALEX

/Your brother is turning ten, double digits! He really looks up to you. He loves you, Cameron.

CAMERON

And I love you.

She kisses him on the forehead.

ALEX

(soft)

You have a little time to think about it, okay? Please think about it. I'll talk to Brian about the money later today.

CAMERON

Will you call me?

ALEX

Of course.

CAMERON

Promise?

Alex wraps her arms around Cameron tightly.

ALEX

Promise.

Cameron continues to cry more.

The stage lights fade to darkness, but the cries can still be heard.

Scene 4

Monday- The stage lights go up. Alex is sitting in a Planned-Parenthood clinic on a paper-covered bench. She looks down at her phone, the texts read-

(9:02) Alex: I'm at my appointment.

(9:04) Alex: Brian sent over the money earlier today. We owe him two hundred each.

(9:13) Alex: The waiting room is uncomfortable.

(9:16) Alex: There's another lady here, she looks like a washed-up stripper lol.

(9:26) Alex: It's kind of awkward in here.

(9:41) Alex: I'm heading in now, wish me luck <3

Alex puts her phone away; her leg is visibly shaking.

A nurse walks into the room and begins setting up a machine hooked up to her computer. Alex twiddles with her thumbs as the nurse begins to explain the procedure.

NURSE

Okay, so I'm going to have to ask you to lift up your gown. I'm going to apply this jelly onto your stomach, it's a little cold.

Alex lifts up her patient gown revealing her stomach, the nurse applies the jelly and starts to rub it around with a small and smooth plastic tool. She continues to speak as he looks at the monitor.

NURSE

Okay... there, yep. It looks like you are about two months and a week along. Do you want to look? It's not required but we always ask our patients beforehand.

Alex nods and looks over at the monitor which is projected on stage. A small bean can be seen in a larger dark circle on the screen.

ALEX

(softly)

It's so small.

NURSE

At this stage the baby is barely developed, it barely has any features other than a general shape.

She takes the tool off Alex's stomach. She turns to Alex.

NURSE (CON'T)

Now, I have to ask you before we proceed, is anybody making you do this?

Alex shakes her head no.

NURSE

Alright, I'll go grab the right medication and we can go over what it does and what will happen next, okay?

Alex nods and the nurse leaves the room. She sits there quietly, still twiddling her fingers. Alex looks around the room and over at the machine.

A few minutes pass by.

The nurse re-enters the room holding two bottles. She opens one and takes out a large pill. She hands it to Alex with a bottle of water.

NURSE

Okay, so you'll take this pill... You can take it now if you're ready.

Alex opens the water bottle and takes the pill.

NURSE (CON'T)

This pill basically stops the fetus from growing. Now, these pills/

She hands the bottle to Alex.

NURSE (CON'T)

/These I want you to take any time within the next seventy-two hours. You can take them as soon as you get home or even tomorrow, but you have to take them within the time given. You're going to have to place these four pills in between your gums and your teeth. Let them dissolve for about 30 minutes. It's going to taste bad, and you'll have the urge to swallow them but don't. Once the thirty minutes is over you can wash the rest down with water. The instructions will also be on the forms I give you before you leave. You'll start to feel the effects of the pills within the following hour or two. The heavy bleeding may continue within the following **months** so do not be alarmed, it is perfectly

normal.

The nurse continues to explain the procedure, but her words become muffled. The stage light closes in on Alex who sits center stage, staring out at the audience. The rest of the office disappears. The stage lights fade to black after a few more moments of this.

Scene 5

Alex's texts are projected on the stage. The sound of the iPhone message delivered goes off after every text.

(10:35) Alex: I guess I was farther along than I expected.

(10:35) Alex: I'm a little over two months.

Missed call from Alex

(10:47) Alex: Just got back to the apartment.

(11:30) Alex: These pills are gritty.

(11:37) Alex: Brian bought me some tea!

Missed call from Alex

(12:33) Alex: I'm making Brian watch bad movies with me lol

silence.

(3:44) Alex: I think I might crawl into the shower, I wanna pass out.

(5:45) Alex: It hurts.

silence again.

Scene 6

The stage lights come up; Alex still remains center stage. When the lights come up Alex is seen laying propped up on her bed, her sheets covering the lower half of her body. Alex stares straight forward at the audience still.

The stage is silent.

Over the next 2 minutes, the stage lights brighten and dim in a cycle to show the passage of time between days. (This isn't a representation of the actual time).

Alex remains in the same spot; she doesn't move or speak this entire time. She continues to just stare at the audience, her face is expressionless. It is as if she is dead.

The faint sound of her phone vibrating can be heard coming from her nightstand. Alex slowly looks over at the phone. She answers.

ALEX

(weakly)

Hello?

CAMERON

Babe? Hello?

ALEX

Hey.

silence.

CAMERON

I'm sorry, baby, I just woke up.

ALEX

I figured.

CAMERON

(chuckles)

Yeah, I have to fix my sleep schedule... I'm sorry baby. How are you holding up?

ALEX

I'm alright, pains gone down a bit. The bleeding itself is disgusting.

CAMERON

I should be able to pay Brian back once I get a job. Does he mind waiting?

ALEX

He said it's fine, he knows were both looking for work.

The sound of a car door opening, and closing can be heard over the phone.

ALEX

Where you going?

CAMERON

Ah, I'm going over to **Niko's** (Cameron's friend) for a bit.

ALEX

Ah... who's gonna be there?

CAMERON

Uh, not really sure. Niko said a bunch of his friends from a few towns over are going. Not really my scene but- I don't know I just need a distraction.

ALEX

Fair, I guess. Just try not to drink too much, you're known to have a weak stomach.

CAMERON

I know, I know. Probably won't to be honest.

ALEX

I know just- be careful, please?

CAMERON

I will baby... Do you wanna stay on the line? I can facetime you there.

ALEX

Nah, it's fine. Don't wanna intrude on your time with the homies.

CAMERON

Okay well, call me if you need me, okay?

ALEX

Mhm.

CAMERON

Okay, I love you, baby. Bye-bye.

Alex hangs up the phone. She looks at the time, it's only been seven or so hours since the appointment.

Alex lays back down in her bed, staring out

the bedroom window. The sounds of chirping birds and the gentle breeze of spring fill the stage.

*She pulls the covers over her head. We can hear Alex softly cry as the sunlight from outside slowly turns to night, darkening the stage. This is the first time Alex has **cried**.*

Scene 7

Alex enters her bedroom with a bottle of wine in her hand. She goes over to take a seat at her desk.

She checks her phone to see if Cameron has called but sighs when she sees nothing. She places her phone on the desk and signs on to her laptop.

Brian enters the room, two glasses in hand.

BRIAN

Are you sure you should be drinking?

ALEX

Not sure.

She looks over at Brian.

ALEX

You ask me if I should be drinking but appear to have two glasses with you.

BRIAN

(chuckles)

Well, I already knew you were gonna, didn't want you to end up drinking all alone.

Brian places the glass next to her; he opens the bottle of wine and begins pouring.

ALEX

Are you sure it isn't because you're a crippling alcoholic?

BRIAN

Hey man, you're the enabler here!

ALEX

(chuckles)
We both are. Probably not the best idea moving in with you.

Brian sits down on the bed behind her.

BRIAN

You're seriously doing homework? You literally just got over the pain.

ALEX

What else am I gonna do? Lay down and let the pity pull me into the endless void of depression?

BRIAN

Don't you do that anyway?

Alex turns her head sharply at Brian. Brian raises both his hands in the air.

BRIAN

All I'm saying is that you need time to grieve. You had your abortion literally today!

Alex starts drinking the wine in her class. She finishes it quickly.

ALEX

Appointment.

BRIAN

What?

*She opens the **wine bottle** and drinks; she doesn't pour a glass.*

ALEX

Thank you, by the way.

BRIAN

For?

ALEX

The money, thank you for the help.

BRIAN

(blushing)
Ah- don't worry about it; I know you'll pay me back.

Alex takes another sip from the bottle.

ALEX

Appointment. I had my appointment today. I don't even know if I'm clear yet.

BRIAN

Alex, I doubt you're still pregnant. If you were, you wouldn't be drinking.

Silence.

Alex starts typing on her laptop.

BRIAN

Soooo.... How's Cameron holding up?

ALEX

Don't know.

BRIAN

What do you mean you don't know?

ALEX

I mean, I don't know. He went out and hasn't messaged me since.

Alex's typing gets faster and more aggressive. She continuously sips on the wine.

BRIAN

Well, have you tried texting him?

ALEX

I've been texting him all day. If he wants to talk, he can call me.

BRIAN

I'm sure he will. Cameron can be a little dense, but I don't think he would just ignore you on purpose.

ALEX

I don't get why I'm being ignored in the first place.

There is a long pause in the conversation, only the sound of typing is heard. This goes on for about 20 seconds.

Alex's phone rings, she looks over.

ALEX

Speaking of-

Alex picks up the phone.

Brian gets up from the bed and places his hand on Alex's shoulder. He then exits the room.

ALEX

Hello?

Cameron can be heard out loud, his breathing is shaky.

CAMERON

I'm sorry.

ALEX

Why? Are you okay?

CAMERON

No.

His breath becomes more erratic.

CAMERON (CON'T)

I locked myself in Niko's bathroom, I'm too anxious to be out there right now.

ALEX

It's okay just calm/

CAMERON

/It's not okay! I should be there with you right now and I'm not! I'm fucking pathetic.

ALEX

I don't know what to say.

CAMERON

Yeah, well neither do I.

Silence.

Alex clearly tenses up. She takes a deep breath before speaking.

ALEX

I'm not gonna say that I'm not upset.

CAMERON

Yeah, I know. I'm a fucking shit boyfriend who can't even be there for you in the time you need me the most/

ALEX

/I told you I don't need you here! We already went over this so can you stop blaming yourself!

CAMERON

You do need me! You need me and I'm sitting here locked in a bathroom crying like a fucking baby because I can't seem to man the fuck up and tell my parents!

ALEX

You could've called!

There is a short silence. Cameron can be heard sobbing over the phone, he's hyperventilating.

ALEX

I have been laying here *all* day by myself. Waiting for my boyfriend to fucking call me. Trying to be strong and act like I have everything under control so you wouldn't have to feel bad!

CAMERON

I fucking do feel bad! It fucking hurts, Alex!

ALEX

Are you kidding me? You wanna know hurt! I had to crawl into the shower, Cameron. I had to lay in there with the fucking hot water pelting me from above because I couldn't take a bath with all the bleeding! I had to sit there and watch the small clot that would've been our child leave my body and then- oh my god and then, I had to fucking push it into the drain because it was too big to go through the grate!

beat.

ALEX (CON'T)

(calmer)

And where were you? You were asleep. And when I finally got a hold of you, you went to fucking Niko's.

Cameron is sobbing quietly on the other end.

ALEX (CON'T)

I love you, Cameron. I understand that this is how you chose to cope but, a fucking call would've been nice.

CAMERON

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry, Alex. I'm fucking up. I fuck up everything.

ALEX

And now I have to be the strong one and comfort you. I always end up comforting you.

CAMERON

Fucking don't. I don't deserve it.

ALEX

What else am I supposed to fucking do, Cam? Just let you throw yourself a fucking pity party?

CAMERON

Yes! That's all I'm fucking good for so just fucking let me!

He continues to sob.

ALEX

I'm gonna go.

CAMERON

Babe, please don't/

ALEX

/I'm gonna fucking go!

CAMERON

Alex you're hurting! Why won't you let yourself see that?

ALEX

Because I'm not allowed!

Alex is trembling.

ALEX (CON'T)

Can't you see this is fucking pointless! Are you even listening to me? I can't be sad or else we're both fucked.

CAMERON

(hyperventilating)

But- I, I/

ALEX

Goodnight, Cameron.

Alex quickly hangs up. She grabs the bottle of wine and tries to drink what's left but there isn't any.

She screams, throwing the bottle against the wall and shattering it. The stage light narrows onto only her.

*Alex walks over to the **broken bottle**, picking up the shards. She cuts her hand on one of the pieces and laughs.*

ALEX

Of course.

*She grabs the shard that wounded her and places it on her wrist, slowly applying pressure with shaky hands. She stares intensely at her arm that's covered in **old scars**. Tears start to flow down her face as she struggles to gain any composure.*

Alex throws the shard across the room. She curls into a ball on her floor and sobs. The remaining light fades.

Scene 8

The stage is illuminated by streetlamps scattered around. The floor is coated in grass. Alex walks along a path leading up to a bench facing the backdrop of the stage, it looks out towards a painted city.

*Alex sits on the bench, pulling out a **journal**. She writes facing away from the crowd. Her words are projected on the stage as her monologue is read out loud.*

ALEX

I killed you.

My lover's child.

I carried you, dead, a lifeless bean-sized person in my belly. You lived in my stomach until your last day, I carried your corpse around for hours, I shoved you down the drain as I trembled in agony. Now I live in a world of "what if"

What could've been.

You're first breath, you're first steps... first laugh, you're first day of school, our arguments, our meaningful resolutions; everything.

I killed it all.

I can't ask for forgiveness; I can't even begin to forgive myself. If only I could be stronger, better equipped to live in a world that knows you.

I'm sorry I abandoned you... **I love you.**

The streetlights fade.

Scene 9

No specific timeframe should be given from this point on. Only the season should be noticeably changing.

We reenter the same setting of Alex's bedroom. There are clothes, empty wine bottles, and trash spread all over the floor.

Alex is sitting up on her bed, her knees up to her chin. She stares out at the night sky through the open window of her dimly lit room. Her arms full of old scars are freshly painted with new.

*She is smoking a **cigarette**. The gentle breeze of the warm night blows the smoke in all directions.*

Soft music plays in the background.

*Song: **Bran-New Lovesong** by **The Pillows***

Cameron enters the room, drying his wet hair with a towel. He places it on the chair in front of her desk.

Cameron looks at Alex with concern.

ALEX

How was your shower?

CAMERON

It was alright, a little cold.

ALEX

Ah, yeah, I think Brian was using it before. Heat runs out too quick here.

CAMERON

(chuckles)

Heh, yeah...

There is an awkward pause.

Alex takes another drag of her cigarette.

CAMERON

You wanna do anything?

Alex takes another cigarette from her pack, holding the new one up to the burning one in between her lips, lighting it. She puts out the old one and starts smoking the new.

She takes a drag.

ALEX

Like what?

CAMERON

I don't know... We could watch something, maybe some ***Ghost Adventures?***

ALEX

Pass.

CAMERON

Aw, come on, you love that show!

ALEX

I rather just- I don't know, sit here. Listen to music or something.

CAMERON

Sad music.

ALEX

Hey, good music.

CAMERON

So, all good music has to be sad?

ALEX

(scoffs)

I never said that.

Silence.

*The song changes: **Drunk Drivers/ Killer Whales**
by **Car Seat Head Rest** plays.*

Alex points to a half empty wine bottle on her desk.

ALEX

Pass me that?

Cameron sighs, passing the bottle to Alex.

CAMERON

It's already late, babe. Shouldn't we sleep soon?

Alex takes a swig and then holds out the bottle to Cameron gesturing for him to drink.

He takes the bottle, contemplating for a moment and then takes a sip.

ALEX

Not like I have anything else to do, schools over.

CAMERON

I know but, Alex, you've been drinking since you woke up.

Alex grabs hold of Cameron, dragging him to the bed.

ALEX

And you've been looking cute since I woke up/

She takes another drag; Cameron blows the smoke out of his face.

She puts the cigarette out on the windowsill.

ALEX (CON'T)

/And yet, you've barely given me any attention.

CAMERON

I've been busy.

ALEX

You've been gaming.

CAMERON

That counts as busy!

Alex giggles, her face is bright red.

She grabs Cameron, softly kissing his neck.

ALEX

Well, I have you now; I'm not letting go.

Her kisses become more aggressive as she slowly leans Cameron back on the bed. She makes her way down, kissing from his collar bone to his hips. Alex slowly rubs his inner thighs with her hand causing Cameron to exhale. Cameron puts his hands on her shoulders, stopping her from moving down further.

CAMERON

You're still bleeding pretty heavily, babe.

ALEX

(softly)

It's never stopped you before, I'll make you feel good.

Cameron abruptly sits up, gently pushing Alex away.

CAMERON

I'm sorry it's just- we haven't since/

ALEX

/But we can now.

CAMERON

Alex, no.

Alex's expression changes. She sits back up.

ALEX

Do you not want me?

CAMERON

Baby, of course I do. I/

ALEX

Oh my god, you don't want me.

CAMERON

Alex, no! That's not it- it's just, it doesn't feel right.

beat.

CAMERON

I really want to but, it just feels... weird.

ALEX

Sex with me feels weird.

CAMERON

No, babe it just-

(sighs)

-everything feels off since that day and well, we haven't done anything since.

ALEX

What? So now that this happened to us, we can't have sex?

CAMERON

No that's not what I meant/

ALEX

/Then when, Cameron?

CAMERON

Not while you're drunk!

There is a long pause.

Alex slowly lays down, curling into a ball.

ALEX

I'm sorry.

CAMERON

No, baby... It's really okay I just- I want it to be normal.

ALEX

We have sex drunk all the time.

Cameron lays down facing Alex. He grabs her hands with his, holding them tightly.

CAMERON

I don't want you to feel uncomfortable. I want you to feel safe and protected.

ALEX

You think I'll freak out? That I'll be brought back to that day through some sort of trauma?

Cameron brings Alex's wrists to his forehead, gently rubbing her scars with his thumbs.

CAMERON

We're still there. That day, we never left.

ALEX

What are we supposed to do?

He lowers her arms, making eye contact.

CAMERON

Just hold onto each other.

Alex starts to tear up, she nestles her head in Cameron's chest.

ALEX

I'm sorry.

CAMERON

I know, baby. Just try to get some rest.

The two lay there as the song continues to play out. The stage lights fade.

Scene 10

The stage is back to the park; the sounds of cicadas fill the dimly lit stage.

*Alex sits at the bench, **journal** in hand; she writes.*

ALEX

I'm tired of it all.

I don't want the pity; I don't want the pain.

You don't want it too.

I can tell by the look in your eyes, the way you speak to me, the way you hold me; we're hurt.

Stuck in a silent limbo, as if the word abortion was a curse.

It's not your fault.

You're trying.

I think it's my fault.

If the God above exists, he is cruel and unforgiving.

Maybe he is at fault.

You watch as I struggle, as I get lost in the pain.

The stains on my wrist make my mother cry. The stains on my thighs make you shiver.

I'm hurting them; I am cruel and unforgiving.

Please forgive me for the words I cannot say.

The stage darkens.

Scene 11

The stage is brightly lit, the sounds of waves crashing, and seagulls can be heard.

Alex, Cameron, Brian and some girl Brian is with, all lay on a large towel covering the sand filled floor.

Brian passes Cameron a metal bottle, filled to the brim with tequila. Cameron winces at the taste.

Cameron passes the bottle to Alex.

ALEX

This shit is disgusting.

CAMERON

Yeah, we should've brought our own/

BRIAN

/Hey man, all I'm saying is you guys could've come

into the store with us.

Alex scoffs as she takes a sip, her face is sour.

Jackie, the girl Brian brought, gets up from the towel. She holds her hand out to Brian who gets up with her.

JACKIE

Alex, could you take a few photos of us by the water?

ALEX

Uh- yeah, sure.

Jackie smiles as she hands her phone to Alex.

They all walk over to the front of the stage. Jackie and Brian pose with their backs to the audience. Alex proceeds to take pictures of the two as Jackie guides Brian into the next pose.

Alex hands the phone back to Jackie.

JACKIE

Thank you, Alex!!!!

Alex nods with a slight smile and walks back to the towel where Cameron lays face down.

Jackie hands the phone to Brian who continues to take pictures of Jackie by the water.

Alex shakes Cameron.

He rolls over.

ALEX

Do you want to go swimming at all?

Cameron rubs his eyes, looking out at the water.

CAMERON

The waters probably cold, babe. Plus, aren't you still bleeding?

ALEX

It's gone down a bit!

Cameron gives Alex a look.

ALEX

Okay, not really but, I came prepared!

CAMERON

If you're not careful,
(he suddenly grabs her waist)
the sharks will get ya!

*Alex chuckles as Cameron tickles her stomach.
She tries to fend him off.*

ALEX

I doubt there are any sharks here, baby.

CAMERON

What do you mean, this area is known specifically for
having some of the most viscous sharks around!

ALEX

(chuckles)
Yeah, well like I said, I came prepared.

CAMERON

Whatever you say...

*Alex smiles at him as she gets up. She runs over
to the water.*

*A long and silky blue fabric representing the
ocean is carried across the stage, covering half
of Alex's body.*

Cameron and the others run over, following Alex.

CAMERON

It's fucking cold!

BRIAN

(laughing)
It's not that bad!

*The four laughs, running around in the water
together.*

*Alex slowly separates from Brian and Jackie, who
are sucking at each other's faces as they float
in the sea.*

She looks over at Cameron who just shrugs it off. He swims over to her.

CAMERON

Do they have to publicly sexualize each other all the time?

Alex laughs as she jumps into Cameron's arms. The two start to kiss, the sexual tension between them grows quickly.

CAMERON

Why don't we dry off, maybe take a trip to the car?

Alex smiles as she goes in for another kiss. The two runs off the stage leaving Brian and Jackie behind. The water is carried off the stage in the other direction, bringing Brian and Jackie with it.

The stage is back to the original beach setup.

Alex walks on stage, she grabs a towel from the ground, wiping the water off her body. Cameron reenters behind her. Grabbing her waist from behind.

ALEX

(laughing)

At least let me dry off.

Cameron ignores her as he kisses the back of her shoulders.

Alex's smile quickly fades.

She looks down.

*Drops of **blood** cover small areas of the sand below.*

Cameron stops and takes notice.

CAMERON

Babe.

ALEX

Are you fucking-
(to Cameron)
-grab me a bigger towel?

Alex frantically tries to wipe her legs as blood continues to flow from her bathing suit.

Cameron hands Alex another towel.

ALEX

It won't stop!

CAMERON

Okay, it's okay just- lets go find a bathroom. I think I saw a restaurant up the road from the car.

Brian and Jackie enter the stage.

BRIAN

What's going on?

Alex wraps the larger towel around her waist, covering her legs.

CAMERON

We're just gonna run to the car, grab another pad for Alex.

BRAIN

(to Alex)

Awww, does someone need a new diaper?

ALEX

Shut the fuck up, Brian!

Brian takes a step back.

BRIAN

Woah, woah! Take it easy, Alex it was just a joke!

Alex starts to tear up, her face red with embarrassment.

She storms off the stage, Cameron running after her.

Jackie punches Brian's shoulder.

BRIAN

Ow!

JACKIE

Nice one, Brian.

She walks off stage.

BRIAN

It was a joke!

Lights fade.

Scene 12

The stage is set up as a small, dimly lit bathroom. The walls are covered in miscellaneous stains and grime.

The ambiance of a crowded bar/ restaurant is muffled but audible.

Alex runs into the bathroom, locking the door behind her.

She walks over to a single stall, shutting the door behind her. She can be heard sobbing.

A few minutes pass by, she exits the stall with hands covered in blood. Her towel and legs look like a crime scene.

She frantically washes her hands in the bathroom sink. She grabs paper towels and wets them, wiping up her legs.

Knocking followed by the sound of people waiting outside are heard.

ALEX

One minute!

The crowds banter grows louder.

PERSON 1

What's going on?

PERSON 2

I don't know they've been in there for fucking ever!

Knocking can be heard again, this time it is increasingly louder.

PERSON 2

Can you hurry the fuck up! There's a line out here, you know?

The sounds of people murmuring behind the door

*becomes **louder** than the running water.*

Alex squats to the ground, covering her ears with her hands as the knocking continues. Her body trembles as she rocks back and forth.

The stage lights turn off but the sounds of people whispering and knocking continue for a few moments after but trail off. All that's left is the soft sound of Alex crying.

Scene 13

*The stage lights go up. Alex sits stage right on a small sofa covered in colorful blankets. Sitting opposite of her is an **older woman** wearing blazer and slacks. She holds a pen and notebook in her hand. A large window sits behind them. Colors of orange and red shine through with the sun.*

Alex's leg shakes intensely.

THERAPIST

And have you told your professors why you haven't been handing in the assignments.

ALEX

No uh, I haven't really gotten the chance.

THERAPIST

Well, I could always write a note if you ever need one but, I need you to try getting out of bed, even for just an hour a day, to do your work.

Alex nods her head in agreement.

THERAPIST

Now, do you think the medications are helping at all with the stress?

ALEX

A little... I don't know it's hard to tell right now.

THERAPIST

Because of the anxiety with school or because of the month?

ALEX

I think it's both? I don't know it's been in the

back of my head but I haven't really let it impact/

THERAPIST

/It is impacting you, Alex. You were pregnant for a baby that was due this month; it makes sense that you can't find the motivation to do things.

The therapist writes in her notebook.

THERAPIST

Have you spoken to your mother at all?

ALEX

Yeah, uh- I told her over the summer, sometime before I started seeing you.

THERAPIST

And how did your mother react?

Alex visibly tenses up, her leg shaking more than before.

ALEX

She uh... it was alright, I guess. She cried, hugged me a few times. She was upset- upset I didn't tell her when it happened. She wanted to be there for me but, I don't think she would've handled it the same if I told her then.

THERAPIST

And why is that?

ALEX

She just gets worked up? In higher moments of stress, I guess she's been known to act... irrationally?

THERAPIST

Don't you think you might do the same?

ALEX

(scoffs)

I mean, yeah but who doesn't?

THERAPIST

Alex, when was the last time you harmed yourself?

Alex puts her hand around her wrist, rubbing it with her thumb.

ALEX

It's been a little while; probably a month.

THERAPIST

That's great news, you should be proud!

Alex gives a soft smile.

THERAPIST

And how about your boyfriend? Has he noticed any progress with you?

ALEX

Yeah, actually. He uh mentioned it on our last outing.

THERAPIST

An outing as in, a date?

ALEX

(chuckles)

Uhm, no. A trip to the grocery store.

THERAPIST

And what brought up the topic?

ALEX

Of my progress?

THERAPIST

Mhm.

ALEX

Uh, I guess it was when we got in the car to go home? It was the first time I was able to go out without completely panicking.

THERAPIST

And is this panicking normal?

ALEX

Like before the abortion?

Alex takes a moment to think.

ALEX (CON'T)

Kind of? Only when I get overwhelmed which happens easily in public.

THERAPIST

So, you've been feeling overwhelmed more frequently

since the abortion, one could assume.

ALEX

I don't think so? The abortion isn't something that's usually at the top of my mind anymore.

THERAPIST

But here you are now experiencing frequent panicking that has escalated since then, correct?

ALEX

Yeah, I suppose but/

THERAPIST

Alex, I think you're repressing it. You think you've moved past the abortion but in reality, you've only shoved it to the back of your mind in hopes that it can stay there. You're protecting yourself as well as those around you by numbing the emotions you have towards the event in order to maintain control; to prevent yourself from acting out *irrationally*. Does that sound like something that could be happening?

Alex is taken aback.

She takes a moment to process what her therapist has said.

ALEX

(under her breath)

I guess.

THERAPIST

Alex, in order to get better we need to deal with the things that hurt us the most, even if it's hard. Do you understand?

Alex nods in agreement.

THERAPIST

Now, how is your boyfriend responding to the abortion? Does he mention it to you at all?

ALEX

Cameron asks me from time to time about how I'm holding up.

THERAPIST

And what is your answer?

ALEX
Usually the same, I just shrug it off. Tell him I'm doing fine.

THERAPIST
Is that the truth?

ALEX
(annoyed)
I thought so.

THERAPIST
Alex, grief is not something you can just put aside. It doesn't become fair for you, or the people involved. I'm sure your boyfriend is still hurting just as much as you are which is why you need to communicate. Could you try that?

Alex nods again in agreement.

THERAPIST
I'm sure talking with him will be beneficial for both of you, sincerely. Now, I'm going to see you again in a week. I would like you to try doing what we talked about here today, alright.

ALEX
Alright.

THERAPIST
Good, I'm just going to check in with my receptionist and we will get you set up for an appointment next week.

The therapist leaves the stage leaving Alex alone. The stage is quiet.

The stage lights fade out.

Scene 14

Alex lies on her bed. The room is dark, slightly illuminated by the moon.

Cameron enters the room turning on the light.

Alex rolls over.

ALEX
You're home late.

CAMERON

Yeah, my shifts don't end until later now.

ALEX

At least this job pays well.

Cameron walks over to the bed, sitting on the edge.

CAMERON

I know it's hard, but this job is all I can do for now. It'll get easier in time.

Alex doesn't respond.

CAMERON

(sighs)

I'm doing this for us, Alex.

ALEX

I know.

CAMERON

Then why are you mad?

ALEX

I'm not.

CAMERON

You are.

beat.

ALEX

I never see you.

CAMERON

I need to work, babe.

ALEX

You could ask for shorter hours.

CAMERON

It's a new job, I doubt they'll let me off the hook so easily.

ALEX

I need you.

CAMERON

I should've done this in the first place.

ALEX

I need you.

CAMERON

I heard you.

Cameron looks up at the ceiling. His leg bounces, shaking the bed.

Alex still faces away from him.

CAMERON

I need you too, Alex.

Alex doesn't respond again.

CAMERON

(frustrated)

You talk about needing me but quite frankly, Alex, I haven't really been able to talk to you.

ALEX

I talk to you all the time.

CAMERON

You know what I mean.

ALEX

Clearly, I don't.

CAMERON

Alex, you refuse to even think about having a conversation about the abortion with me.

Alex turns over to look at Cameron.

ALEX

That- that's not true.

CAMERON

Don't bullshit me, Alex, you've been short with me every single time I've brought it up.

ALEX

I don't refuse to talk about it.

CAMERON

(frustrated)

Alex, when was the last time we talked about it for more than two minutes?

Alex tries to think but can't respond.

CAMERON

Every time we talk it's the exact same conversation. I ask you how you feel about it, you say fine, and then that's it.

ALEX

I am fine.

CAMERON

No, you aren't, Alex. you and I both know that you're not fine!

ALEX

Fine! What's on your mind, Cameron? Please tell me!

Cameron looks at Alex who has turned back over. His hand tenses into a fist.

CAMERON

We could've been ready.

ALEX

We weren't.

CAMERON

What if we were?

ALEX

We're still not.

CAMERON

For fucks sake, Alex. I'm trying!

Alex doesn't respond.

Cameron gets up in frustration. He punches the wall next to the bed.

Alex doesn't move.

CAMERON

If I was more financially stable things could've been different!

ALEX

You don't really believe that do you?

CAMERON

You don't?

ALEX

Cameron, even if we both had jobs, we still wouldn't have been able to afford a child!

beat.

CAMERON

I should've been ready.

Alex sits up, she faces Cameron with anger on her face.

ALEX

We both could've.

CAMERON

I want to take care of you!

ALEX

Why are you only putting blame on yourself?

CAMERON

Because I wasn't prepared!

ALEX

Neither of us was! Even if you had a job then we still would've been fucked? Don't you get it?

CAMERON

How/

ALEX

/Did you think you would just work? That you would work a full-time job that pays minimum wage every day? That you would come home and be able to spend time with me, with our child? Don't be fucking stupid, Cameron.

beat.

ALEX

We couldn't even afford the procedure. We had to rely on Brian for help! We haven't fully paid him back yet!

CAMERON

I'm working on it!

ALEX

And I'm not?

CAMERON

Jesus, Alex that's not what I said/

ALEX

/Everything about this conversation fucking sucks,
Cameron.

CAMERON

Having a conversation with me sucks, right.

ALEX

Holy shit, Cameron, this is exactly why I don't talk
about it with you.

CAMERON

So, you rather be ignorant? You prefer to not know
how I feel? I never know how you feel!

ALEX

I told you I feel fine!

CAMERON

I don't!

beat.

CAMERON

I don't feel fine.

ALEX

Then start the conversation with that.

CAMERON

Excuse me?

ALEX

Instead of asking me every fucking time you feel sad
if *I'm* fine, start the off by telling me *you're* not!

CAMERON

You never ask me if I'm fine!

ALEX

Cause' I know you aren't!

CAMERON

So, what? You just refuse to acknowledge it?

ALEX

Cameron.

CAMERON

What? Do my feelings not count?

ALEX

I've already told you multiple times that I know you're hurting. That it's okay to hurt! You're the one who's been telling me that I should be hurting, not you!

beat.

Cameron runs his hand over his face trying to wipe away tears.

ALEX

Cameron...

CAMERON

I'm sorry.

ALEX

Cameron, no-

(sighs)

I know I should be talking to you more. I know this isn't healthy, but you need to stop acting like you could've done better. This is our reality; stop focusing on what could've been.

Alex gets up from the bed. She grabs her shoes and cigarettes.

Cameron quickly wipes his face again.

CAMERON

Where are you going?

Alex puts on a heavy jacket. She grabs her keys from the desk.

CAMERON

Alex where are you going?

ALEX

Just, leave me alone.

CAMERON

No. What the fuck Alex, no! I'm just gonna follow you.

ALEX

Don't bother, Cameron. All I've done is hurt you;

I'm terrible.

CAMERON

Alex, I'm not gonna leave you.

ALEX

But you don't deny that I'm terrible.

CAMERON

We're both just stressed out, okay? We both have our problems, Alex.

ALEX

That's not an excuse for our actions!
(sighs)
Just let me go, Cameron.

CAMERON

I can't!

ALEX

Why? Why not? You never seemed to follow me before?
All the nights I've spent alone, all the times I wish
you were there; why now?

Alex sits on the bed, putting on her shoes.

CAMERON

You're right. I should've been there, and I haven't.
What else do you want from me, Alex? You want me to
come but when I try to you don't want me there? I
don't know what you want!

ALEX

For you to figure that out for yourself! I shouldn't
have had to beg you in the first place!

CAMERON

Right, I should've done it on my own. I'm the
asshole. So, can you please just let me come with
you?

ALEX

Do whatever you want, Cameron. I don't fucking care
anymore.

Alex gets up from the bed.

CAMERON

Alex.

ALEX

I need to clear my head.

Alex exits the room, slamming the door behind her.

Cameron stands there for a moment, completely frustrated.

He grabs his coat and shoes.

Cameron rushes off stage after her.

Scene 15

The stage is back in the park. Light snowfalls from the sky above.

*Alex is sitting on the bench; she isn't holding her **journal**.*

Cameron enters the stage, slowly walking along the snowy path. He walks up to Alex, not saying a word.

She looks at him as he looks at her.

CAMERON

Can I sit?

Alex says nothing.

She scooches over allowing Cameron to sit.

CAMERON

I'm really trying.

Alex doesn't respond.

CAMERON

(sighs)
I love you, Alex.

Cameron rests his head on her shoulder.

ALEX

I know.

CAMERON

Please tell me what to do; what I can do.

Alex leans her head against his.

They both stare at the city backdrop in silence.

Scene 16

"One Year Since the Beginning" is projected onto the stage. The stage lights go up. The same set-up as the first scene but cleaner. Alex sits at her desk; she is typing a paper on her laptop.

The bright white petals of spring flow with the wind, showing through the window.

Cameron enters through the door on stage right. He walks over to Alex, giving her a kiss on the forehead. He lays down on the bed and begins to scroll through his phone.

ALEX

How was work?

CAMERON

It was fine, I guess. A bit busier since it's a Saturday but, other than that I made some good tip money.

ALEX

That's better than nothing at all.

CAMERON

I suppose...

Cameron looks up from his phone.

CAMERON

I saw a cute baby at the door of one of my deliveries.

ALEX

Oh, yeah?

CAMERON

Yeah, I rang the doorbell, and I could hear him running up to the door. He was all by himself!

(chuckles)

He insisted on taking the pizza, but I wouldn't let him. He was only like, five or something?

Alex stops typing.

CAMERON (CON'T)

He was adorable, though.

ALEX

I bet... When do you work tomorrow?

CAMERON

Uhm, I think three to close?

ALEX

So, you won't be home for dinner- do you want me to leave you a plate in the fridge?

CAMERON

I should be okay; I think my boss is buying us all food.

ALEX

Oh.

beat.

Alex starts typing again.

CAMERON

What are you typing?

ALEX

(sighs)

This paper for my stupid psychology class.

CAMERON

The one from last year?

ALEX

Yeah, it's kind of bullshit that he failed me.

CAMERON

Same guy?

ALEX

Yeah, it's ridiculous! Everyone else gave me an extension but to him, an "abortion is not a reasonable excuse to miss three weeks of class."

CAMERON

It's really been a year, huh?

ALEX

Yup.

CAMERON

How are you holding up?

ALEX

Cameron, you ask me this all the time/

CAMERON

/I know, it's just, I don't know I feel like we never talk about it anymore.

ALEX

There's not much to talk about.

beat.

CAMERON

Do you regret it?

Alex stops typing again.

ALEX

I'm gonna go shower.

CAMERON

Alex...

Alex gets up from her seat, she starts to walk out of her room but stops for a second. She doesn't look at Cameron.

ALEX

I regret it every day.

She looks back, the look of sorrow paints her face.

ALEX (CON'T)

But that doesn't mean it wasn't the right choice.

CAMERON

I know, I just feel like we haven't been able to properly cope with it and/

ALEX

/We can try and cope all we want, Cameron. But even when the day comes that we do have a child, the loss of this one will still hurt just as much as it did the day we found out.

beat.

Alex turns back around.

ALEX

I'm supposed to be a mom to a four-month-old child right now.

Alex smiles with tears in her eyes.

ALEX (CON'T)

Isn't that strange?

The room falls silent as Alex walks out of the room. The sound of water from the shower can be heard off stage. Cameron, still laying down, stares at the door for a little while. He then looks back down at his phone and continues scrolling. The stage lights fade to black.

END ACT ONE.