

As Winter Turns to Spring

Mark's apartment. Rosie is folding clothes and passing them to Mark as he packs a suitcase.

START MARK It's a one-bedroom apartment... more of a studio really. And not a glamorous one. But with rents the way they are it's all I could afford. But at least it's on the Bart and it has light. And they say that if you have light you don't need space.

ROSIE Who says that?

MARK People who live in studios, I guess.

ROSIE I'll come out and see you.

MARK Maybe wait a while. Let me find my feet, start the treatment, you know.

ROSIE How soon....

MARK I have my first appointment next week.

ROSIE And when...

MARK I'll start to see some effects within a couple of months.

ROSIE I'm scared that you're going to be lonely.

MARK I'll meet people.

ROSIE I'm worried that you're going to be unhappy.

MARK I'm unhappy now... I have been unhappy for a long time.

ROSIE I'm worried that people will make fun of you.

MARK They will. Some people. Just as long as you don't.

ROSIE I'm worried that you won't feel the same way about me.

MARK I don't know how I'm going to feel about anything.

ROSIE I'm worried...

MARK Rosie... stop it.

Beat

ROSIE I was thinking I could come out at the end of the year. Maybe we could get a place together.

MARK No.

ROSIE Why not?

MARK Because I can't be taking care of you.

ROSIE I'll take care of you.

MARK I don't want you there.

ROSIE Why are you being so mean?

MARK You just don't want things to change.

ROSIE I don't know why they have to. First Pip. Now you.

MARK You need to grow up. You need to decide who you are and get on with it. You're smart, you know. You're smarter than any of us.

ROSIE I don't know how to do that.

MARK You have to stop loving us so much... Mom and Dad, Pip, Ben and me. You can't love us as much as you do.

ROSIE How do I do that?

MARK Stop thinking that we're the best thing since sliced bread.

ROSIE We are.

MARK We're not. We're fucked up. Like most families.

ROSIE I hate you.

MARK You have to say goodbye, Rosie. You have to turn around and walk away.

ROSIE I can't do that.

MARK Then stay. And be the one they want.

Beat

MARK I don't know what I'm doing. I mean look at all this stuff. These shirts and jeans and ties and jocks. My razor and deodorant. This all belongs to somebody else now. And my watch, Rosie. Mom and Dad gave it to me for my graduation. It means something. I don't know what to do with all the things that mattered to me.

ROSIE Let me wear it.

She holds out her arm. He places it on her wrist.

ROSIE Hold up your arm.

Mark holds up his arm. Rosie takes off her watch, and places it around his wrist.

ROSIE What's her name?

END MARK Mia.

Transition - Mark picks up the suitcase.

MARK I hear the sound of the horn and I know that it's time to go. I wish it was a cab and that the goodbyes were over but Dad has insisted on taking me to the airport. Rosie comes too, of course. She's at the wheel. Dad is in the front passenger seat. So I sit in the back, which makes me feel like a child again, which I resent a little. Dad wants Rosie to take the streets. She insists on taking the