

DR. TODD

Sounds fun.

CATHY

Except when Sean would hold me under the water and fart on my face.

She glances down to see that her paper robe is slightly open in the front.

CATHY (CONT'D)

Oh, hello breast. How long has that been happening?

DR. TODD

I didn't notice.

CATHY

Well, screw you. Anyway, in regard to your question, I don't think I want to do that.

DR. TODD

Not at all?

CATHY

I just have always liked my hair. I cry every time I get it cut.

DR. TODD

You won't necessarily lose your hair.

CATHY

My nose is another story. If you told me I was going to lose my nose-

He hands her A BROCHURE.

CATHY (CONT'D)

What's this?

DR. TODD

Some information on alternative treatments.

CATHY

Oh, crap. I thought it was a cure.

DR. TODD

How does your husband feel?

CATHY

He has a knot in his back from sleeping weird. He's using a heating pad. Is that what you'd recommend? (off Dr. Todd's look) I haven't told him yet.

Dr. Todd is clearly taken aback.

DR. TODD

I grew up with parents who perfected the art of talking about each other in front of each other but not actually to each other, and still, you've shocked me.

CATHY

I'm just kind of a private person. Except around you. I can't seem to shut up around you.

He hands her ANOTHER BROCHURE.

DR. TODD

Here are some tips on how to tell your loved ones. A lot of people find it difficult.

CATHY

Are you married?

DR. TODD

No. But I think I'd want to know.

CATHY

I planned to tell him. But when I got home that day, he had trapped a mouse under a skillet and was standing there waiting for me to come do something about it and I just found myself saying "I need to be alone for a while."

He hands her yet ANOTHER BROCHURE.

DR. TODD

Some support groups you might be interested in.

CATHY

I just got an image of when you do get married, you and your bride standing at the altar passing brochures back and forth.

DR. TODD

Don't you think you should be honest with your family?

CATHY

Honesty is overrated. White lies can really keep a marriage together. You're single so you still romanticize the idea of a symbiotic relationship with no secrets.

DR. TODD

Can you tell your brother?

CATHY

I'm afraid he'd just try to squeeze in one last attempt to fart on my face for old times sake.

DR. TODD

I don't have a brochure for that.

CATHY

Then are we done?

He hands her a prescription.

DR. TODD

As needed for discomfort.

CATHY

Wow. I should get in touch with my college boyfriend and see if he still has his bong.

DR. TODD

You don't have to. You can get it in cigarettes, tea, cookies, brownies...

CATHY

Can I mix and match?

DR. TODD

I believe you can.

CATHY

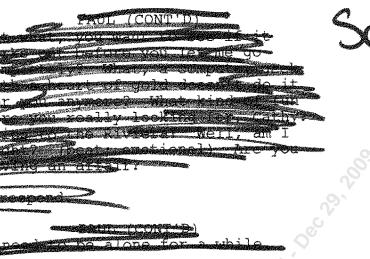
I believe I will.

DR. TODD

Tell someone, Cathy.

Beat.

END



He grabs his jacket and exits. She stares after him for a moment, then turns to the phone and plays Dr. Todd's message again.

EXT. OUTROOR CAFÉ - THE NEXT MORNING (D-3)

Cathy has three pieces of cake in front of her. Dr. Todd picks at an omelet.

DR. TODD

So who have you told so far?

CATHY

You're like a dog with a bone about that.

DR. DODD

Eventually vol'll have to tell them.

CATHY

Maybe not. Maybe I'll just leave a Post It on my front door that says heard Morocco was great this time of year.

DR. TODD

Morocco's so random.

CATHY

Maybe you should tell them for me. After all, you have more practice with giving this sort of news. Does it get easier? Do you kind of like it? Does it give you a bit of a God complex?

DR. TODD

You're my first.

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Beat.

CATHY

Really?

DR. TODD

I mean...I've been in on other diagnoses, with other doctors when I was in training--

CATHY

How old are you?

DR. TODD

Thirty-one.

CATHY

(teasing)

Holy Shit. (sarcastic) Shows you how good my insurance is. I got the new guy. What if I'm healthy as a horse and you just got caught up in youthful exuberance?

DR. TODD

That's what second opinions are for.

CATHY

So, as your first, how was I?

DR. TODD

The first thing you said was, "It's okay." Like you were more worried about me.

CATHY

That's a bad habit of mine. It takes twenty eight days to break a habit, right? I have that.

DR. TODD

So how was I?

CATHY

(thinking)

Very matter of fact and professional but detailed. You dumbed it down just enough to be clear but not insulting. And underneath it all you seemed sad, and I appreciated that.

(MORE)

CATHY (CONT'D)

But after you left the room I heard you joking with a nurse about putting the donuts too close to the urine samples and was that what you were supposed to wash them down with.

DR. TODD

(horrified)

You heard that?

CATHY

Made me question your sincerity.

DR. TODD

Well, I can't just fall apart in the hallway at work.

CATHY

Couldn't you though? I would have appreciated a little screaming to the heavens on my behalf.

DR. TODD

They discourage that in med school.

CATHY

You asked my opinion.

DR. TODD

I did. And...thin walls. I'll remember that.

CATHY

You'll remember more than that.

DR. TODD

I will?

CATHY

Of course. Because you always remember your first.

They share a smile. The WAITER approaches.

WAITER

Wow are you all doing?

CATHY

I don't know about him but I'm almost finished.

The WAITER pods and exits. Cathy winks at Dr. Todd.

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