

DANI clears her throat and takes the dictionary from him.

DANI

“To shine with or as if with a subdued steady light or moderate brightness.”

ROSS starts to exit.

DANI

“To appear briefly or faintly.”

ROSS is gone.

Silence.

DANI transitions to present.

DANI

And that was it.

SONYA

He should have called you. He should have been concerned.

DANI

He should have. Yes.

SONYA

I'm sorry that happened to you. I'm glad it's over now.

DANI nods, halfheartedly.

SONYA

It is over now, isn't it?

I wish Ross had killed him instead.

DANI laughs.

DANI

I've thought that too.

SONYA

What a prick. I wanted him to kill my boss. I even thought about how I wanted him to die. Poison.

DANI

Why poison?

SONYA

The act of drinking the poison is easy. It's clean. But the act of dying from it isn't. That's what I could never understand about what Ross did. It was so grisly. So dirty. There should be a sense of balance, don't you think? Just enough cleanliness and just enough gruesomeness. Otherwise, who are we, really?

DANI

Did you ask him to do it?

SONYA

I was planning on it. I was going to ask him one day after work, but as I was leaving this little red haired girl ran past my desk and towards my boss. She catapulted into his arms and he lifted her up to the ceiling. "How's the view up there?" he said to her. She laughed. She wasn't scared at all. I caught myself smiling. He and I exchanged this look like, "isn't this the best thing that has ever happened in the history of all creation."

My father wasn't a good dad. I'm not even sure if he was a good person. But I'm glad no one poisoned him. I still hate my boss, but I don't want him to have a clean but messy death. At least not because of me.

DANI

I'm glad you didn't poison him.

SONYA

Me too. I think I know what you mean about not breaking your clients' necks now. Knowing you can do something, but choosing not to, can be more exhilarating than doing it.

DANI

Why do you think that is?

SONYA

Maybe it's because we know we'll always have the option, but if we do it, then there's nothing to look forward to. If we do it, that's it. We're done. Our lives are finished. You want a drink?

DANI

There's some old beer in the pantry.

SONYA walks over to the pantry and opens the door.

SONYA

Where's the bird?

DANI joins her.