

MOMENTS IN LOVE

Chapter 4

Script #304

Written by:

Aziz Ansari and Lena Waithe

Directed by:

Aziz Ansari

304 - Chapter 4

EXT. NEW YORK CITY- DAY

Shots of New York City

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, HALLWAY TO BEDROOM - DAY

The radio plays. Alicia wakes up and heads to the bathroom.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Alicia is having an espresso while looking at the fertility clinic pamphlet. She takes her keys and jacket and walks out.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, WAITING AREA - DAY

The camera is in a waiting room at a fertility clinic. Alicia is there.

It's packed with people, mostly women with their male partners. One couple is leaving the hospital and passing through, the woman is in tears and her husband comforts her. The crowd takes notice.

A nurse, SHEVON, calls patients' names.

SHEVON

Kate Forbes?

Another couple, KELLY and WENDY, are exiting the office. Kelly is holding pamphlets. Wendy looks upset.

WENDY

I don't appreciate her talking about my vagina like that! She was very condescending.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Alicia sits with her fertility doctor, DR. PERKINS. She's all business, not mean, just doesn't sugarcoat. She has a lot of patients and keeps things moving. Dr. Perkins shows her a graph.

ALICIA

Hi.

DR. PERKINS

Hi, have a seat.

ALICIA

Thank you. I'm Alicia.

DR. PERKINS

I'm Dr. Perkins, make yourself comfortable.

Alicia sits down.

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)

So Alicia, what brings you here today?

ALICIA

I want to have a baby. I'd like to carry. Preferably as soon as possible.

DR. PERKINS

Okay, we'll hopefully we can help you with that.

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)

So. A woman's fertility peaks when she's in her twenties, and then it slowly starts to decline. When she gets to about 37, this rate of decline becomes far more rapid. After turning forty, it is extremely difficult to get pregnant even with the most aggressive fertility treatments. We're talking less than 5%.

(beat)

You are 37, so you're on the declining part of this graph here, so time really is something you should factor into the decisions you make.

(beat)

Given your medical history, in vitro fertilization, is your best option.

(beat)

(MORE)

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)

With IVF the goal is to stimulate the body to create as many viable eggs as possible, we then retrieve those eggs, inseminate them with the sperm, grow the embryos and we choose the best embryos to implant into your uterus and hopefully achieve pregnancy.

ALICIA

That's a lot of information. Okay. What are the chances of it working?
(beat)

DR. PERKINS

For someone with your age and profile, on average thirty to forty percent, but every woman's body is different. We could hit roadblocks at any stage.

(beat)

One thing we do need to factor in is cost, your insurance company does cover IVF, but it's complicated. We have to prove that you are infertile and have been trying to conceive with a partner for six months.

ALICIA

What does that mean in regards to me and my sexuality?

DR. PERKINS

Well, the insurance company doesn't have a policy for that.

ALICIA

They don't have a policy for queer people?

DR. PERKINS

The insurance company needs a diagnosis code in order to confer benefit. The majority of American insurance companies do not have a code for gay and desires pregnancy or single and desires pregnancy. They have a code for being attacked by an orca or being sucked into a jet engine, but not for gay and desires pregnancy. But my office has dealt with this a number of times. We'll do our best.

(MORE)

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)

The fact that your fallopian tubes are blocked, we can use this argument with the insurance company. But they may not cover some of the embryology and they may not cover medication. So, you will still be looking to spend anywhere from seven to ten thousand dollars out of pocket.

ALICIA

What about the fact that I am using my friend as a donor? Doesn't that make it cheaper?

DR. PERKINS

No, that makes it more expensive, because we have to test and screen his sperm. If you were using an anonymous donor, that would have already have been through this process.

ALICIA

Okay so if I am straight, and I was having sex with my partner, they don't have to get their sperm tested?

DR. PERKINS

No. You've already been having intercourse with that person and therefore already assumed the risk of transmitting an infectious disease. That's what the screening is there to reduce that risk.

ALICIA

That's mad. That's so unfair.
That's mad.

DR. PERKINS

I will write out everything that we've talked about and I will send that to you so you have it, clear. You can take your time to read it and go over it. There's information on the website and you can call the office any time if you have any questions.

INT. CHINESE RESTAURANT - DAY

Alicia sits with Darius.

DARIUS

So do you think you're gonna do it anymore?

ALICIA

Yeah, I'm not sure. I don't know, after all of that, I'm just a bit freaked out. To be honest, it's more expensive than I thought, it's more complicated than I thought. And like, after all that, it might not even work. I may not even get a kid out of it.

The conversation is immediately disrupted as a young British girl seated nearby, CAMERON, age 5, starts screaming. Her father, DONALD, tries to placate.

CAMERON

Ahhhh! Ahhhhh!

Alicia and Darius are startled.

CAMERON (CONT'D)

I can't take it! I can't take it!
It's too spicy! It's too spicy! I
can't take it!

DONALD

I understand it's spicy, but you
can't scream in the restaurant!

CAMERON

I can't take it!!!

DONALD

Cameron!! Please!

Alicia smiles and looks over fondly.

ALICIA

Aww, I really want that...

DARIUS

That's what you want? A kid that
can't handle spicy food?

ALICIA

Yeah. A kid who can't handle spicy
food. It's adorable.

They take a pause.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

I just... I don't know. I don't know.

DARIUS

Okay so hypothetically, if you did do it, would my role be same? Do I just swing by the house?

ALICIA

Yeah, so hypothetically if I were to do it, you would this time go to a clinic.

DARIUS

So, I just need go to the hospital and jerk off into a cup?

ALICIA

Maybe say it quieter in a restaurant, but yeah, they would have videos for you.

DARIUS

I feel like the porn they have in hospitals is always kinda weird, I'll just bring my phone.

ALICIA

You go to hospitals a lot and check out their porn?

DARIUS

No.

Alicia laughs.

ALICIA

That's funny.

DARIUS

Well look, I'm still really honored to be a part of this. You're a great person, you're gonna be a great parent. I'm happy to help in any way that I can. Do you want me to be involved beyond the "donation"? You want me to come to the appointments or help with the injections or anything?

ALICIA

No, no. I think I got it. If I do this, I want to do this by myself. You know, you can do your thing in the cup and I'll sort out the rest.

DARIUS

I'm here however you need me.

ALICIA

Thank you. I guess one of the things I'm worried about is the money. You know, like I could borrow some money from my mom and get out a loan. You know, I have savings, but like oh my gosh, the other day, I saw this amazing retail space.

DARIUS

You still thinking about opening up your own antique shop?

ALICIA

Yeah, cause the pop up is going well, and to have a physical space would be so cool.

DARIUS

Where is it?

ALICIA

Boerum Hill. Space needs a little work and stuff but it would just be.. I don't know.

DARIUS

Are you gonna be able to afford both?

ALICIA

I think so.

(beat)

But that's the thing I could spend all of that money, all of that time, and all of that energy and then have nothing... so...

(beat)

Do you know anyone that's done it?

DARIUS

One of my friends did it back in the day. It was an ordeal.

ALICIA

Yeah, what do you mean?

DARIUS

It's pretty life consuming, it was exhausting, it was expensive. It's not easy.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, KITCHEN - DAY (13.00)

Alicia packs all her medications from the kitchen counter into the fridge. She reads the instructions that say:

ALICIA

Injections must be administered three times a day. All medications must be taken within a two hour window..

(beat)

Ok, two hours.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - NIGHT

The clock reads 7:01PM.

Alicia stands in her apartment, alone. She opens the package for a syringe and stares at the needle, she glances at instruction manual, a small bottle of medicine.

She stares at the needle.

ALICIA

Shit. That's fucking huge, okay.

Reads the instructions and views the diagrams. She's starting to panic a bit.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Oh shit. And pull this... okay.

She mixes the medication according to the instructions. Talking herself through the process.

She stares at the needle, tries to gather herself.

She grabs a fold of her stomach and puts the needle near it.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Ahhh, eeeeeek, damnit. No. No. No.

She can't do it. She puts it down.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Oooh fuck, fuck... Come on Lish.
Okay. You just call... your fucking
mom.

She is on the phone with her mother, SHARON. Her phone is on speaker as she has the medication apparatus on her counter.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Mom?

SHARON (O.S.)

Hello lovely.

ALICIA

I'm trying to do this injection
thing. And, it's really hard.

SHARON (O.S.)

Oh, can't someone from the hospital
come over and do it for you?

ALICIA

No Mom, if I have them come over
its like 200 quid every visit. It's
like ridiculously expensive here.

SHARON

Jeez.

ALICIA

I'm not being funny but it kinda
feels like there's just so much
stuff and it's like the universe
trying to tell me me I'm not meant
to have a kid. You know? I don't
even know where I'm going to get
all of my money from to pay for
this kid for daycare let alone
clothes and nappies and shit. Sorry
to swear, I'm sorry Mom.

SHARON

Oy, oy, oy.

ALICIA

I'm sorry.

SHARON

Alright, alright. Look let's just
take a deep breath because you're
giving me anxiety already and the
child ain't born yet. Alright?

(MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)

Let's take this one step at a time.
Alright?

ALICIA

Mhm.

SHARON (O.S.)

You need to just focus on jabbing
the needle in your belly.

ALICIA

Mhm..

SHARON (O.S.)

Look, thousands upon thousands of
women who've done these injections,
are you not trying to tell me you
are weaker than all of them? I
don't believe that, love. Alright?

ALICIA

No, I'm not.

SHARON

Furthermore, I've got a down
payment on this grandchild, so you
can't give up now and use all my
money.

ALICIA

Mom, that's dark.

Alicia and her mom share a laugh.

SHARON

It is.

Alicia smiles.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Okay baby, let's do this together.

Alicia takes a breath, gathers herself.

She takes the needle and inserts it into the small glass
bottle to extract the medicine.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You ready?

ALICIA

Yeah. Just got to get my belly out.
One second... Okay, I'm ready.

SHARON (O.S.)

Right then. One... two... three.

She grabs a fold of her stomach, and jabs it in, pushes all the medication.

ALICIA

Oh my god.

She takes it out. She's laughing and excited.

SHARON

Come on.

ALICIA

What? It's done! I did it. Not even that bad!

Alicia laughs.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Mommy, it's not even that bad!

SHARON

Only a hundred and fifty four of 'em to go.

ALICIA

That is so many. I'll call you in a few hours when I got to do it again.

SHARON

Alright darling. Don't worry, okay?

ALICIA

I love you.

SHARON

Love you too.

She hangs up.

ALICIA

One down.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

Alicia is serving a CUSTOMER. She hears her alarm. It's time to get her injection.

ALICIA

Really sorry, that's my alarm.
Phil? Could you help this lady out?

Alicia calls over her boss, PHIL.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

She's really interested in this
light. I just got to go- sorry,
sorry. Be back in just a minute.
Sorry!

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

Alicia mixes her stuff and injects herself at work.

PHIL(O.C.)

Alicia, can you come up for a
second?

ALICIA

Yep! Yep, yep! Just a second.

She finishes the injection.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, WAITING AREA - DAY

Alicia waits for her routine appointment, she's hopeful.

A woman, RACHAEL, is arguing with the receptionist.

RACHAEL

No, no, no I ain't paying no damn
bill. You better go cross check and
double check. Open up your big eyes
and go find my details in your
system! No, no, no. You think I'm
pulling money out my ass? I can't
afford it! I can barely pay my damn
rent.

SHEVON

I understand-

RACHAEL

Well, anyway, I ain't paying shit.
My insurance is covering me, so you
can kiss my ass.

SHEVON

Please have a seat. We have other
patients to see.

Rachael storms off.

SHEVON (CONT'D)
Alicia Jackson?

ALICIA
Yep!

Alicia approaches the desk.

SHEVON
Hi. How are you?

ALICIA
I'm good, thank you.

SHEVON
You're here for your monitoring
appointment, yeah? Great.

INT. IVF CLINIC, HALLWAY - DAY

Alicia lays back ready for the appointment. NURSE CORDELIA
knocks on the door.

CORDELIA
Alicia?

ALICIA
Yeah?

CORDELIA
You ready?

ALICIA
Yeah, yeah! I'm ready.

Cordelia comes in.

CORDELIA
You're alright?

ALICIA
Yeah, just a bit nervous.

CORDELIA
So anyway, as I explained we're
going to be checking the follicles.
Yeah?

ALICIA
Yeah. It's not going to hurt?

CORDELIA

It's not going to hurt but it might feel uncomfortable. Alright?

ALICIA

Okay.

CORDELIA

Alright. Deep breath in. Ready? There's enough gel on it, so it shouldn't be too uncomfortable.

ALICIA

Yep-

CORDELIA

Looking good. Looking very good. Alright. Going on the next side now. Alright?

Cordelia is careful with the monitoring instrument.

ALICIA

Mhm.

CORDELIA

Next time bring someone to hold your hand, okay? Alright. I'm counting the follicles now.

Cordelia counts the follicles.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)

Alright, everything is looking great. Well done. I'm about to take it out now, yes? Deep breath in. Well done. Well done. Okay, so I'm going to give you some tissues to clean yourself and I'll come back in to take your blood.

ALICIA

That one's gonna hurt.

CORDELIA

Just a sharp pinch. You'll be alright. Clean up and I'll be back soon.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, BATHROOM - DAY

Alicia does an injection and puts it in the sharps container, it's hard, but she's getting better.

INT. LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Alicia doing laundry alone. Sitting into the chair exhausted.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, WAITING AREA - DAY

Alicia waits for her appointment, exhausted.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, ULTRASOUND / SONOGRAM ROOM - DAY

Alicia has a check-up with Cordelia. She knocks.

CORDELIA

Alicia?

ALICIA

Yeah?

Nurse Cordelia enters.

CORDELIA

Oh dear, I don't like how you're sounding. What's wrong? Looking so tired.

ALICIA

Yeah, I'm just really bloated. Is that-

CORDELIA

That's natural. It's because you're coming towards the end of your stimulation. Cheer up. Something wonderful is coming. Alright, so you know the routine.

Cordelia sits and prepares the monitoring instruments.

ALICIA

Let's do this.

CORDELIA

Yes. Let's do this. I don't like how you're looking today.

ALICIA

Sorry.

CORDELIA

I know, okay, here we go. Alright? Breathe. Breathe. Breathe. Yeah. You want me to stop?

Alicia gets emotional.

ALICIA

No, no.

CORDELIA

Okay. Alright, alright. I'll be as quick and as gentle as I can be. Okay? Okay.

Alicia exhales, exhausted.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT BUILDING, STAIRS - NIGHT

Alicia trudging up the stairs with some bags, she's exhausted. She drops her keys.

ALICIA

Fuck's sake!

She picks them up and goes inside, slamming the door.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - NIGHT

She gives herself an injection. She's getting better at injections, but is also getting a bit tired.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - NIGHT

Alicia is crying, watching TV. She's on the phone, it's on speaker. The margarine commercial on TV. She's crying, Darius calls.

ALICIA

Hello?

DARIUS (O.S.)

Hey!

ALICIA

Hey.

DARIUS (O.S.)

Are you okay? Are you crying?

ALICIA

Yeah, uhm... I'm watching this margarine ad.

DARIUS (O.S.)

Ok. What was so sad about the margarine ad?

ALICIA

Aw, this little girl. She's eating pasta. She's got a family and stuff. So, I don't know.

DARIUS (O.S.)

Well, how's it going otherwise?

ALICIA

It's hard. It's hard. It's like the world is moving without me. Sorry, sorry.

DARIUS (O.S.)

No, you don't have to apologize. You know I'm here for you, right?

ALICIA

Yep.

DARIUS (O.S.)

If there's anything I can do, it's what I'm here for.

ALICIA

Yeah, you know what? I was going to order some food. And then I'm going to be okay.

DARIUS (O.S.)

You sure?

ALICIA

Yeah, yeah. I'm going to be fine.

DARIUS

I can come over, you know?

ALICIA

No, it's snowing, it's cold. It's really fine. I'm going to order some food and we're going to be good. Sorry. My brain is just so...

DARIUS

Alright. I'll check in on you.

ALICIA

Yep, okay.

DARIUS
Okay, you take care.

ALICIA
Okay, take care. Bye bye.

DARIUS
Bye.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Alicia is in a blue and pink outfit you wear before a medical procedure.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, OPERATING ROOM - DAY

NOTE: There is a YouTube doc that shows these processes called BABY MAKERS: THE FERTILITY CLINIC. These steps I'm detailing now are around the 29:51 in the doc mentioned above. Shevon, Dr. Perkins and a surgery nurse, CATT, prepare for egg retrieval.

A shot of medical instruments.

SHEVON
Okay, bring the bed up a bit please?

DR. PERKINS
Okay, can I have the speculum please? Thank you. I'm just going to pass the speculum now.

Dr. Perkins prepares for egg retrieval. Catt puts the anesthesia mask on Alicia. She goes under.

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)
Is the patient doing okay?

CATT
Just getting her to relax.

Dr. Perkins watches the monitor, extracting the embryo.

DR. PERKINS
Good, thank you. So alright, just going to have a look around. Alright. Could you prepare the needle please?

SHEVON
Yes Doctor. Needle ready.

DR. PERKINS

Thank you.

Shevon and Dr. Perkins exchange instruments.

SHEVON

Preparing the needle. Go ahead with the tube.

Beat.

SHEVON (CONT'D)

Tube ready.

DR. PERKINS

Alright, Catt, are we ready to retrieve?

CATT

Yes, Doctor.

DR. PERKINS

And Shevon?

SHEVON

Yes, Doctor.

The monitor shows the eggs being retrieved.

SHEVON (CONT'D)

Preparing the second tube. Ready, Doctor.

DR. PERKINS

Thank you.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING / RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Alicia is up but groggy. Dr. Perkins enters with Nurse Cordelia.

DR. PERKINS

Hey Alicia.

ALICIA

Hi.

DR. PERKINS

How are you?

ALICIA

Yeah, I'm good. How many eggs did we get?

DR. PERKINS

We got five eggs.

ALICIA

Okay, is that a good thing?

DR. PERKINS

It's a little lower than what I was hoping for, but ultimately, it's all about quality not quantity. My office will call tomorrow to talk about fertilization.

ALICIA

Okay.

DR. PERKINS

So, you'll still be feeling groggy and when you're ready, get dressed. Is someone coming to pick you up?

ALICIA

Um... I'm just gonna call a car when I'm ready.

DR. PERKINS

Alright. Good job today.

ALICIA

Thank you.

Dr. Perkins exits.

EXT. FERTILITY CLINIC - DAY

Alicia steps out, a car pulls up. She opens a door.

ALICIA

Tommy, picking up Alicia?

She gets in.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

Alicia is at work, she anxiously holds the phone.

VOICEMAIL

Thank you for calling Hope and Heart Fertility. Our patients are our priority.

(MORE)

VOICEMAIL (CONT'D)

We want you to achieve all your fertility goals in the safest, most effective, most affordable way. Please continue to hold.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alicia? Hi it's Cordelia!

ALICIA

Hi Cordelia. You alright?

CORDELIA

I'm fine, thank you! How are you?

ALICIA

I'm good, I'm just at work so.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Okay, I understand so I'll get straight to the point. Yesterday, we had five eggs. Three are fertilized. Unfortunately we lost two... Okay?

ALICIA

Yeah, so those three, definitely have a chance?

Alicia's boss, PHIL, walks over and tries to get her attention.

PHIL

(quietly calling to
Alicia)

Alicia? Can you come up stairs for a minute?

ALICIA

(to Phil)

Sorry one second... Yeah, yeah, I'll be right there.

(back to the call)

So, are those three definitely viable?

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alicia, not necessarily, we need to continue to monitoring you, yeah?

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - DAY

Alicia walks in the front door. She answers a call from the clinic.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alicia?

ALICIA

Hi Cordelia, how are you?

CORDELIA(O.S.)

How are you Alicia? You alright?

ALICIA

I'm good. You got any news?

A pause.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alicia, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, it's not good news... The embryo... We're not going to be able to transfer it.

ALICIA

Yeah, I had a feeling that might be the case.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

It's too fragmented. We're going to have to discard this one, cause it's not going to achieve the pregnancy.

Alicia breaks down.

CORDELIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Alicia? Can I make a follow up appointment for you to come and see the doctor? Would that be okay?

ALICIA

(not able to keep it together)

Can I actually call you back please?

She starts to cry.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Yes, of course I can, whatever you want. Okay?

ALICIA

Bye.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alright baby. Bye.

Alicia puts the phone down.

Alicia starts to break down.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Alicia and Dr. Perkins meet.

DR. PERKINS

So Alicia, we have to make some decisions here. If your goal is still the same, then our only option is to do another cycle.

(beat)

Now we can try a more aggressive treatment plan, but we could end up in this same place we are now.

Alicia is a bit exasperated/distraught.

ALICIA

Can you just tell me what to do?

DR. PERKINS

I can't do that. I can only tell you the options-

Dr. Perkins takes a beat. Alicia goes from distraught to sad.

ALICIA

I'm just not sure financially... If it's something... I can...

Alicia takes a beat, has a brutal realization.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Just realizing I might not be able afford my own child, so.

Alicia breaks down.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, BEDROOM- NIGHT

Alicia is on with her mom.

SHARON (O.S.)

I don't know Alicia. It's a lot for you to go through again.

ALICIA

I know, I know.

SHARON (O.S.)

What about waiting until you've got a partner? So at least you're not doing this by yourself?

Alicia takes a pause.

ALICIA

Mom, Mom, I'm tired of waiting for someone else to make things happen in my life.

Alicia starts getting upset.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Not everyone's life is finding someone, falling in love, getting married, and having kids. These fairy tales we all learn are such fucking shit. Like, why does that have to be my story?

She starts to cry, but slowly recovers. Gathers herself. She finds her resolve.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Like, I want to make my own choices. I don't want to wait! I don't want to wait for someone to fulfill the goals I have for myself. I can't do that to myself anymore.

SHARON (O.S.)

Listen, if you wanna do it, I support you. If you decide it's too much, I support you.

(beat)

You alright?

ALICIA

Yeah, yeah. I'm okay.

SHARON (O.S.)

Everything will work out, you know? Whatever way you go, whatever you decide.

Alicia stares at her photo of Goldie Williams, looking right back at her.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Alicia sits with Dr. Perkins.

ALICIA

You know what? Fuck infertility. I know my body can do this. Yeah and you know why I know that? It's because I'm a bad bitch. And you're gonna be a bad bitch with me. Alright? Yeah, right. I'm gonna focus up. I'm gonna eat right, I'm gonna exercise, do the yoga, the vitamins, I'll even do that spiritual shit I read about online. Yeah but, we're doing this. We're getting this done. You hear me? Are you with me?

DR. PERKINS

I am with you, however you want me to be.

ALICIA

No, no, you've gotta be a bad bitch.

There's an awkward pause.

DR. PERKINS

I'm...

ALICIA

No Dr. Perkins, you help women create life when the world tells them they can't. You, my darling, are a bad bitch. Together, we're gonna harvest these eggs. There's gonna be so many eggs in that petri dish, that you're not going to have space in your lab. Yeah? Alright we're getting this done. I just came here to tell you that.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - DAY

Alicia is cleaning up her house, unpacking fertility medication. The phone rings. Alicia answers.

ALICIA

Cordelia?

HUDSON (O.S.)

Oh no, sorry, my name is Hudson Clay, I work for Dexhart Real Estate. You had inquired about a retail space we have in Boerum Hill?

Alicia takes a beat.

ALICIA

Yeah, I'm not in the market for a retail space anymore, but thank you.

HUDSON (O.S.)

Oh, ok, well no problem, if anything changes, just let me know.

ALICIA

Will do, thank you though for the call. Take care. Bye, bye.

She hangs up and sits down.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - NIGHT

Shot of her confidently doing an injection. She has a bunch of bottles of vitamins and is parsing them out into a weekly pill box.

ALICIA

Okay bitch, round two.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP, BASEMENT - DAY

Alicia confidently injects herself while listening to the music.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, EXAMINATION ROOM - DAY

Cordelia gives Alicia an ultrasound, she is more upbeat.

CORDELIA

Okay, here we go again. I like your socks, very pretty.

ALICIA

Do you see the little...?

Alicia gestures to the pattern on her socks.

CORDELIA
Very pretty. How you been?

ALICIA
I'm okay.

CORDELIA
Good!

ALICIA
I'm okay. How are you?

CORDELIA
I'm good, thank you for asking.

ALICIA
Good.

CORDELIA
Alright, same procedure as normal.
Nothing changes. Ready? Deep breath
in? Alright.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM / BEDROOM - DAY

Alicia's getting exhausted again. And scared it may not work.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC- WAITING AREA- DAY

Alicia waits for her appointment, she's anxious/upset.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, ULTRASOUND / SONOGRAM ROOM - DAY

Alicia is getting an ultrasound with Nurse Cordelia. Alicia hears a knock at the door.

ALICIA
(weak)
Yeah?

Another knock.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
Yeah? Yeah.

Cordelia enters. Alicia is upset.

CORDELIA
Oh dear.

ALICIA
I'm so tired.

CORDELIA
Nearly there, Alicia. Nearly there.

Cordelia grabs her hand. Alicia cries.

ALICIA
What if it doesn't work?

CORDELIA
It is going to work. Why wouldn't it work? This is a different time, Alicia. It's going to work! You're a strong woman, Alicia. It's going to work.

ALICIA
I just don't want to do this again.

CORDELIA
No, you've come this far. Yes? You've come this far. It's going to work. Hold on, it's going to work.

Cordelia goes to Alicia's side and takes her hand.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)
Look you're causing me to do so much work!

Alicia laughs.

ALICIA
I'm just scared.

CORDELIA
That's understandable! That's understandable. Big brave girl like you, you're here.

Cordelia comforts Alicia, rubbing her head.

ALICIA
Yeah.

CORDELIA
It's going to work. Positive thoughts. Positive! Yes? We're in this together. Okay? You ready? You sure? Or should we leave it for today?

ALICIA
No, come on. Let's do it.

CORDELIA
Okay.

ALICIA
Lets do it.

CORDELIA
Let's do it.

Cordelia returns to the monitor.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)
Working me out today. I'm not as
slim as you!

ALICIA
Sorry! I'm sorry.

CORDELIA
Okay, here we go. And we have the
blood test after.

ALICIA
Yeah.

CORDELIA
Ready? Sure?

ALICIA
Yeah.

CORDELIA
Alright.

Cordelia starts to monitor the follicles.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)
Okay, things are looking good,
Alicia. Looking very good. Oh very
proud. That's it! Happy tears,
happy tears! Yes, everything is
looking lovely.

ALICIA
Okay.

Alicia breaks down.

CORDELIA
Alright. Ready to come out now,
yes?

ALICIA

Mhm.

Cordelia removes the instrument.

CORDELIA

Well done, sweetie. I don't like to see you like this, you know.

ALICIA

I'm sorry.

CORDELIA

No, no need to apologize. Okay, do you need a drink of water?

ALICIA

Yes, please.

CORDELIA

I'll get you that. I'll give you this tissue to clean up. I'll bring you the water and then we'll do the test. Okay? Well done darling, well done. Nice pretty green socks.

Cordelia pats her leg.

CORDELIA (CONT'D)

You buying some for me?

ALICIA

I'll get you some.

CORDELIA

Yes.

Alicia smiles.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

Alicia is tired, is polishing an antique.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Alicia is in a blue and pink outfit, ready for her second egg extraction procedure.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, OPERATING ROOM - DAY

Alicia is out again. Catt, Shevon and Dr. Perkins prep for the second extraction procedure.

SHEVON
Needle ready. Prepping the tube.

DR. PERKINS
Catt, are you ready to go?

CATT
Yes, Doctor.

DR. PERKINS
Great. Shevon, are you ready to go?

SHEVON
Yes, Doctor. Tube ready.

DR. PERKINS
Let's do this. And it's Alicia's second time so let's get as many eggs as possible.

Shevon and Dr. Perkins pass the tubes back and forth as each embryo is collected.

SHEVON
Next tube. Tube ready. Next tube.
Tube ready.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING / RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Alicia is groggy. Dr. Perkins enters.

DR. PERKINS
Alicia?

ALICIA
Hi.

DR. PERKINS
How are you doing?

ALICIA
Good. What's the number? Tell me.

DR. PERKINS
Well, I was hoping we would get at least five.

ALICIA

Yeah?

DR. PERKINS

And we got thirteen.

Alicia BEAMS. She's so happy, she almost cries.

ALICIA

Thirteen?!

DR. PERKINS

Yes.

ALICIA

That's good.

DR. PERKINS

It's excellent, I'm very happy.
It's the same process as last time,
my office will be in touch with
updates about the fertilization.

ALICIA

Okay, okay!

DR. PERKINS

Let's enjoy this though, this is
really good. You should be happy.

ALICIA

I'm happy. I am happy. You know I'm
happy because I told you, we're bad
bitches.

Dr. Perkins smiles. Alicia laughs.

DR. PERKINS

Uh... Sure. Alright, I'll see you
later.

INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - DAY

Alicia sits at her desk, on the phone.

VOICEMAIL

Thank you for calling Hope and
Heart Fertility. Our patients are
our priority. We want you to
achieve all your fertility goals in
the safest, most effective, most
affordable way. Please continue to
hold.

CORDELIA (O.S.)
Alicia? It's Cordelia.

ALICIA
Yes, yes. Hi Cordelia, you alright?

CORDELIA (O.S.)
I'm alright! You okay?

ALICIA
Yeah, no, I'm good. I'm-

CORDELIA (O.S.)
Alicia, sorry, it's good news.

ALICIA
It is!

CORDELIA (O.S.)
Yes, we have five good quality embryos! Unfortunately we lost four, four didn't progress but we have five good quality embryos!

Alicia laughs.

ALICIA
I love you so much!

CORDELIA (O.S.)
You love me, don't you? I know you do! I'm so happy for you darling. Remember: Five. Good. Quality. Embryos.

ALICIA **CORDELIA (CONT'D)**
Five. Good. Quality. Embryos **Five. Good. Quality. Embryos.** *

CORDELIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I know you're at work so you can't scream anymore.

ALICIA
I know, I'm waiting for my boss to come. Thank you so much.

CORDELIA (O.S.)
You are so welcome.

ALICIA
Talk to you soon?

CORDELIA (O.S.)
Tomorrow!

ALICIA
Tomorrow! Tomorrow. Thank you
darling.

CORDELIA (O.S.)
Have a good evening.

ALICIA
Bye!

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Alicia sits with Dr. Perkins.

DR. PERKINS
The good news is we are ready to
implant this embryo, but there is a
bit of a problem.

ALICIA
What's wrong?

DR. PERKINS
When we retrieved the eggs, we
found some polyps in your uterus.
Polyps are growths which could
impede or jeopardize the
implantation of the embryo. So, we
can freeze the embryo, and remove
these polyps, but it does involve
surgery and we should do it soon.

Alicia sighs and gathers her resolve yet again.

ALICIA
Well, what about my insurance? Will
they cover the surgery?

DR. PERKINS
Yes. I already checked and we can
do it, next week, on the 16th.

Alicia thinks for a quick beat.

ALICIA
Is there not any other day you can
do?

DR. PERKINS
I'm afraid it is, and we really
should do this as soon as possible.

Alicia resigns herself.

ALICIA
Okay, I'll make it work.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, OPERATING ROOM - DAY

Alicia is under for the procedure.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, OPERATING ROOM - DAY

The procedure is in progress. Shevon, Catt and Dr. Perkins
are present.

DR. PERKINS
Is everyone ready to start? Are you
ready Shevon?

SHEVON
Yes, Doctor.

DR. PERKINS
Alright. Here we go.

The procedure begins.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING / RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Alicia wakes up, Cordelia comes in.

CORDELIA
Alicia, how you feeling?

ALICIA
(groggy)
Yeah I'm good.

CORDELIA
You feeling good? You up for a
visitor? There's a handsome young
man outside, can I let him come in?

ALICIA
Yeah.

CORDELIA
Yeah?

Darius enters with a happy birthday balloon and a cupcake with a candle.

DARIUS
Hey... Happy birthday.

ALICIA
Oh my god!

Cordelia pulls him out a chair.

DARIUS
Thank you Nurse.

ALICIA
Oh my gosh. A cupcake!

DARIUS
How are you feeling?

ALICIA
I'm good.

DARIUS
Good!

ALICIA
I'm so glad you're here.

DARIUS
Of course, I'm glad I'm here too.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alicia recovers from surgery alone.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, DRESSING / RECOVERY ROOM - DAY

Alicia is in the pre operating room dressing area.

INT. FERTILITY CLINIC, OPERATING ROOM - DAY

Alicia is laid back, Cordelia and Dr. Perkins prepare for performing the procedure.

CORDELIA
Okay so I am just going to put a
bit of gel on, going to be a little
bit cold.

DR. PERKINS

Alright now we are ready to implant
your embryo.

Dr. Perkins has a long catheter with the embryo.

Shot of an ultrasound showing the embryos going in.

DR. PERKINS (CONT'D)

And we're done.

ALICIA

Wait, that's it?

DR. PERKINS

That's it. I'm just going to check
that it's clear.

CORDELIA

It's clear.

DR. PERKINS

It's clear.

Alicia squeezes Cordelia's hand.

CORDELIA

Can you let go?

Alicia giggles.

ALICIA

Yeah, sorry.

DR. PERKINS

I want you to go home and rest.
We'll do a blood test in 11 to 12
days and hopefully we'll have some
good news.

ALICIA

Okay. Alright.

DR. PERKINS

You did great.

CORDELIA

Clean you up a bit here, a little
bit.

DR. PERKINS

Take care.

Dr. Perkins leaves.

ALICIA

Thank you.

CORDELIA

Well done. Well done.

INT. ALICIA'S APARTMENT, LIVING AREA - DAY

Alicia nervously waits for a call. The phone rings.

ALICIA

Hello?

CORDELIA(O.S.)

Alicia?

ALICIA

Yeah, hi-

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Hi Alicia, it's Cordelia. How are you doing?

ALICIA

I'm good, thank you, I'm good.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alicia?

ALICIA

Yes.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Your results have come back. Tested positive! Congratulations, Alicia, you're pregnant! You're pregnant, darling! You're pregnant!

Alicia is overcome.

CORDELIA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You did it! Well done! You've done it! Okay? Well done.

ALICIA

Yeah! Oh.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Congratulations!

ALICIA

Thank you so much.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

So someone from the office is going to call you for a follow up appointment, okay?

Alicia is overjoyed and crying and laughing.

ALICIA

Okay, okay.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alright? Congratulations darling, I am very happy for you!

ALICIA

Thank you Cordelia, thank you so much for everything. Thank you.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

You're so welcome. You are so welcome. Now you go and celebrate wisely!

ALICIA

I will. Okay, I will.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Alright, take care darling.

ALICIA

Okay, bye.

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Bye bye.

She hangs up. Takes a beat. Takes it in.

ALICIA

Okay... okay..

Makes a call.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Mum?

As Alicia says it and realizes what it now means in her life we...

FADE TO BLACK.

MUSIC: Jessye Norman - Le Nozze di Figaro, K. 492/ Act 2:
"Porgi Amor"

END OF EPISODE 304