

Above and Beyond

As I enter the ultrasound room, a distant memory gets hold of me, taking me back to ten years ago. My mom, my dad and I are sitting in our living room, listening to classical music, my dad's favorite music genre. I watch my parents as they look at each other adoringly and I promise myself I'll have that kind of a bond with my significant other. My dad realizes I'm watching them and turns to me, smiling.

"Is everything okay sweetheart?" He says as he opens his arms for a hug.

"Daddy, who do you love more, mommy or me?"

He lets out a loud laughter as he caresses my cheek. "Well, that's easy. You, of course." He smiles lovingly as he winks at my mom.

"But you don't look at me the way you look at her!"

"That's because she gave birth to you, and that makes her a goddess in my eyes. Now tell me, what would you do if you were in my place?"

I pout thoughtfully for a moment and answer. "Well, I guess I would do the same."

"See? Since she gave birth to my princess, she instantly becomes the queen. I know you may not understand what I'm trying to say right now but you will once you have your own babies." He looks at me sympathetically and keeps talking. "When you find someone who treats you the way I treat your mom, you'll know what I'm talking about. But enough chatting about boys since you won't be needing them for quite some time." He pretends to look intimidating but gives up and laughs with her. "Now why don't we all get ready and go get some ice cream?" He says and I clap my hands excitedly, skipping to my room happily.

If only I knew that was the last conversation I would have with my dad and that we would end up at the hospital instead of the ice cream shop.

I turn back to reality and a teardrop streams down my left eye. And I whisper, "I did daddy. I found him."

"Mrs. West?" The doctor smiles politely as I sit up, startled.

"Um, yes?"

"You're having a little girl, congratulations!"

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