

Love Child
by
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INT. - DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Two women, Sarah and Alicia, are sitting in a doctor's office together. The title and opening credits can be seen over various things in the doctor's office, like a plastic uterus, stirrups, plastic babies, a sonagram. The doctor eventually enters, ending the credits, with a medical chart folder in hand.

DOCTOR NED
Hello ladies, my name is Doctor Ned. (to Alicia) You must be Sarah.

ALICIA
Actually, I'm Alicia.

DOCTOR NED
Oh, my apologies, nice to meet you.

They shake hands before Doctor Ned and Sarah shake hands.

SARAH
I'm Sarah.

DOCTOR NED
Nice to meet you both.

The doctor looks over the chart in his hands.

DOCTOR NED (CONT'D)
So, I see here in your chart that you've come to me for help starting a family.

ALICIA
Yes, we've been trying for a while.

SARAH
Sperm donors, surrogacy, even adoption. Each time we've come up empty.

DOCTOR NED
Sounds like you've been pretty thorough. There are a few things we can try. What made you think of me?

ALICIA
Well...

SARAH
We've heard the stories about this place. About the types of procedures you have here. That you're working on an experimental new procedure. We'd like to be considered for the experiment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOCTOR NED

I see. (beat) You understand that the procedure is still in the testing phase. We've had a few successes but more often than not it ends in failure. That can take its toll on a relationship. Even the successful ones can find it difficult. Are you ready for that? Is your relationship?

ALICIA

We've made it through all the other ones, we'll get through this one.

Doctor Ned looks over Sarah and Alicia's chart again.

SARAH

What my wife said.

DOCTOR NED

Well, from what I can see, I'd say you're in the 99th percentile. On the surface you appear to be ideal candidates for our trials.

ALICIA

You think so?

DOCTOR NED

You've been married how long?

SARAH

Five years.

ALICIA

Six years next month.

DOCTOR NED

And you're both in perfect health at the moment?

SARAH

Yup.

ALICIA

Absolutely.

DOCTOR NED

I'll need you to do some blood work for genetic compatibility, but assuming there's no red flags there, I don't see any reason why we can't go right ahead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALICIA
Really?

DOCTOR NED
Yes.

Alicia hugs Doctor Ned.

ALICIA
Oh my god, thank you doctor.

Doctor Ned accepts the hug but quickly pulls away.

SARAH
Thank you doctor.

Sarah shakes hands with Doctor Ned.

DOCTOR NED
All right, let's order that blood work
shall we?

Sarah and Alicia look at each other before holding hands
firmly.

INT. SARAH AND ALICIA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Sarah and Alicia are sitting on the couch together. Alicia is
lying against Sarah, snuggling.

ALICIA
A baby.

SARAH
I know.

ALICIA
Think about it Sarah. An actual baby.

SARAH
It almost seems unreal doesn't it?

ALICIA
I just hope that the test results come
back the way we want them to tomorrow.

SARAH
Why wouldn't they?

ALICIA
I don't know, but all the other tests
we've had to take came back okay and it
didn't work then.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH
This time will be different.

ALICIA
You really think so?

SARAH
It has to be.

Alicia snuggles up to Sarah more. Sarah kisses Alicia on the head.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Sarah and Alicia are in Doctor Ned's office waiting for him. Doctor Ned enters. He's carrying a medical chart file folder with him.

DOCTOR NED
How are we doing today?

ALICIA
Nervous?

DOCTOR NED
What do you have to be nervous about?
(beat) The test results came back. You're perfect genetic candidates.

SARAH
Seriously?

DOCTOR NED
You're an exact match for each other.

ALICIA
So... we can have a baby?

DOCTOR NED
You can have a baby.

Sarah and Alicia celebrate for a moment.

DOCTOR NED (CONT'D)
Now, you both understand what the procedure entails? You've read the literature I gave you?

ALICIA
Yes, I've talked to my shareholders and I'm taking a year off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

But I'll still be working. I've talked it over with my bosses and they're fine with it.

DOCTOR NED

And you're both willing to be literally inseparable from each other for the full 9 months?

SARAH AND ALICIA

Yes.

DOCTOR NED

All right then, let's make a baby.

Doctor Ned opens the office door.

DOCTOR NED (CONT'D)

Leanne, can you bring me the bonding material for the new subjects? (beat)
Thank you.

A few more beats pass before the nurse, Leanne, comes in with several medically sealed items. They are several pieces of different colored rope, a short double sided needle and some syringes with different colored liquid in them. The colored rope and the liquid are different shades of the same color. Leanne preps Sarah and Alicia.

INT. SARAH AND ALICIA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Sarah and Alicia are snuggling on the couch together. The colored ropes are tied around one of each of their hands which are firmly gripping each other. Alicia raises her tied hand, never separating it.

ALICIA

Nine months of this with you? I couldn't imagine anything better.

SARAH

Me neither.

Alicia kisses their tied hands.

INT. MONTAGE - VARIOUS

Sarah and Alicia are at a night party together. Their hands are tied together. The party attendants, friends of Sarah and Alicia, are happy for them. They are gushing over the tied hands of Sarah and Alicia like it's a wedding ring.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sarah and Alicia are sitting on a bench together at a park during the day. Their hands are tied together. Sarah has her free hand on Alicia's stomach which is starting to show.

Sarah and Alicia are eating together at their breakfast table. Their hands are tied together. They keep making eyes at each other. Alicia is wearing maternity clothes.

Sarah and Alicia meet some friends together on the street. Their hands are tied together. Their friends are touching Alicia's stomach which has grown even more.

Sarah and Alicia are riding the elevator together. Their hands are tied together. People in the elevator are looking at them strangely.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - SIX MONTHS LATER

Sarah and Alicia are sitting across from each other holding hands. Sarah has a coffee cup in front of her but Alicia does not. Their hands are tied together. Alicia is uncomfortable in her seat.

SARAH

Do you...?

ALICIA

Yup. You feel it too?

SARAH

Like clockwork.

ALICIA

I'm sorry.

SARAH

(tired)

It's what I signed up for.

ALICIA

I know, but I don't think either of us thought it would be this hard, did you?

Sarah and Alicia look at each other silently.

SARAH

(tired)

We'll figure out how to get through it.
That's what we do.

Sarah and Alicia struggle to get up from the table.

INT. MONTAGE

Sarah and Alicia are in an office together. Sarah is working. Their hands are tied together. Despite being dressed for work, Sarah hasn't properly combed her hair or put on make up and her clothes are wrinkled. Alicia is in maternity clothes.

Sarah and Alicia are in the bathroom together. Alicia is throwing up with morning sickness. Sarah throws up shortly after Alicia does. Their hands are tied together. Neither of them are well dressed.

Sarah and Alicia are eating breakfast together. Alicia reaches for something just out of her reach and it knocks over Sarah's glass of orange juice. Their hands are tied together. Sarah and Alicia both look frustrated at each other.

Sarah and Alicia are sitting on the couch together with as much distance as they can get from each other. Their hands are tied together. Neither of them are looking their best.

INT. SARAH AND ALICIA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Sarah and Alicia are fighting.

SARAH

I can't do it anymore.

ALICIA

What?

SARAH

This. All this time we're spending together. I... I thought I could handle it but it's too much.

ALICIA

You think it's been a breeze for me? Look at me, I'm as big as a house. Everything hurts. And I thought the morning sickness would never end.

SARAH

Oh I know. I've felt it all. The aches and pains, throwing up at all hours of the night. That's why I say it's too much.

Alicia is about to respond when she grabs her stomach.

ALICIA

Ow!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH

What?

Alicia starts to lean forward in pain.

ALICIA

Ow!

SARAH

What's wrong?

ALICIA

Ow!

Alicia leans forward even more.

SARAH

What's wrong?

ALICIA

I don't know, it's just... Ow!

SARAH

I'll call 911.

Sarah pulls out her cell phone.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Alicia is lying on a hospital bed in the emergency room. Sarah is in a chair right next to Alicia. A nurse is checking vitals. Their hands are tied together.

SARAH

What's going on? Nurse? Can you tell us something?

NURSE

The doctor will be here in a minute.

Doctor Ned enters the partition they are in.

DOCTOR NED

(calm and measured)

Thank you nurse, I'll take it from here.

ALICIA

What's going on doctor?

SARAH

Is the baby all right?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOCTOR NED
(calm and measured)
The baby is fine. There were a few spikes
but they seem to have leveled off.

ALICIA
Oh thank god.

DOCTOR NED
You said the pain started when you were
fighting?

SARAH
Yes.

Doctor Ned looks over the chart, studying it intently.

DOCTOR NED
That's to be expected. As I told you when
you became candidates, in most of the
successful cases, the relationship
between the bonded is a major key to
making it work. The fight upset the
process.

SARAH
I know. (to Alicia) I'm sorry baby.

ALICIA
I'm sorry too.

DOCTOR NED
You're going to have to keep a level head
in this last trimester.

ALICIA
We know doctor. We're sorry.

SARAH
We'll be more careful.

Alicia feels her stomach.

ALICIA
Oh, did you feel that?

SARAH
No, what?

ALICIA
Doctor?

Doctor Ned examines Alicia's stomach.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALICIA (CONT'D)
Oh, there it is again.

SARAH
Is there something wrong?

DOCTOR NED
Only if you don't like soccer. The little
one seems to be kicking up a storm.

Sarah feels Alicia's stomach with their tied hand, feeling
the baby kick.

INT. SARAH AND ALICIA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Sarah and Alicia are sitting next to each other silently.
They look at each other for a moment. Sarah leans back on the
couch and after a few moments, Alicia lies on top of her.

INT. MATERNITY ROOM - DAY

Alicia is in full labour now with Sarah and the doctors and
nurses around her. Sarah and Alicia's hands are tied
together.

SARAH
(stressed)
You can do this baby. Just push.

DOCTOR NED
(excited)
One more push should do it.

Alicia pushes as hard as she can. A baby starts to cry.

DOCTOR NED (CONT'D)
It's a boy.

The baby continues to cry. An umbilical cord is cut. Sarah
and Alicia look at each other, relieved.

SARAH
You did it baby.

Alicia just smiles, exhausted. Doctor Ned comes up with a
pair of scissors.

DOCTOR NED
We can take it off now ladies.

Sarah and Alicia look at each other before putting their tied
hands out to Doctor Ned. The tie that's connecting them is
cut. They seem disturbed by having their hands back.

INT. SARAH AND ALICIA'S APARTMENT - THREE WEEKS LATER

Sarah and Alicia are standing over a crib together as the sounds of a baby can be heard. Alicia reaches out and takes Sarah's hand with the same hands that were connected.

THE END