

Rebecca's List

Written By

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INT. - KITCHEN (MORNING)

Rebecca, James, and Tiffany (their daughter) are beginning their day.

REBECCA

So who are you texting this early in the morning?

TIFFANY

A friend of mine. She wants to know if she can borrow my notes.

REBECCA

Didn't you e-mail her the notes last night.

JAMES

Unless it's something else.

TIFFANY

DAD! Stop it. God you always think I'm up to something.

REBECCA

You know James, you have been suspicious of her lately.

JAMES

I am kidding. Or do we need to be so serious all the time these days.

REBECCA

I can take a joke or two.

JAMES

Yeah, when was the last time you took a joke?

REBECCA

One of my blog readers....

JAMES

No, I'm talking about a human being you make contact with.

TIFFANY

Um...I feel an argument coming on. Gonna get ready for school.

JAMES

(talking to Tiffany as she walks away)

(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

We're not going to argue.

REBECCA

Yeah we were. Ever since I started this blog you've been on my ass. And frankly I don't know why.

JAMES

You know you don't get paid for those things. I mean, when was the last time you had a pay check?

REBECCA

Yours last week.

JAMES

I meant your OWN paycheck. When? When was the last time?

REBECCA

I can't recall. When we adopted Tiffany you agreed with me I would be a stay at home mom.

JAMES

We did? I agreed? Have you noticed what...

Rebecca's Phone rings

REBECCA

Why is Dr. Gordon calling me?

JAMES

Probably sensed you were about to get told the truth. I got to get to work. Seems like we can't have a decent discussion lately.

REBECCA

(answering her phone)

Dr. Gordon?

DR. GORDON

(O.C. On the phone)

Hello Rebecca. Did I catch you at a bad time?

REBECCA

No. What can I do for you?

DR. GORDON

I'm going to need you to come in

(MORE)

DR. GORDON (CONT'D)
today. Need to talk to you about
your physical from last week.

REBECCA
Sure. What time?

DR. GORDON
Two thirty. Or sooner if you can.

REBECCA
I can make two thirty. Why can't
you tell me over the phone?

DR. GORDON
It's best I tell you in person.

REBECCA
Okay. I'll see you then.

CUT TO:

INT. DR. GORDON'S OFFICE

Rebecca is sitting in Dr. Gordon's office waiting for him. She sees a picture of him and his family and wonders how her family is not like his. Dr. Gordon then steps in.

DR. GORDON
Thanks for coming in. Sorry I was
away when you came in. Apparently
children like sticking Legos in
their ear.

REBECCA
So I've heard. You told me this was
about the physical from last week.

DR. GORDON
Yes. Everything was looking good
until I noticed something.

REBECCA
What is it?

DR. GORDON
I noticed that you had a lump near
your breast. And I told you I was
just going to do a routine x ray on
it.

REBECCA
Yes. You always give me those
x-rays during the physical.

DR. GORDON

I don't know how to put this so going to give it to you straight...it was a tumor.

REBECCA

A tumor? You mean I might have cancer?

DR. GORDON

Might? You DO have cancer. Breast cancer to be exact. I looked at that x-ray from all angles and it shows signs of breast cancer.

REBECCA

If you knew it was this, why didn't you ask James to come with me?

DR. GORDON

Because I wanted to let you tell him. And knowing James right now trying..

REBECCA

Forget that. So what now?

DR. GORDON

Well still need to determine if it's benign or malignant. That's going to determine a time frame...

REBECCA

A time frame for how long I got to live?

DR. GORDON

Yes. I should know this afternoon or tomorrow. So to cover all bases I put together a schedule for you to do chemotherapy. Preventative measures so we can nip this in the bud.

REBECCA

You don't know how long I got to live?

DR. GORDON

Not right now. I will let you know. Go home and rest. And I will see you after your first chemo visit.

REBECCA

This is all preventative? I have never...

DR. GORDON

It is. This chemo will be used strictly for that unless something comes up. Think of it as just a regular preventative session.

REBECCA

What am I going to tell my family?

DR. GORDON

Just let them...

(just then Dr. Gordon is
paged to the ER)

I got to go. You stay strong for me.

Rebecca stays seated as Dr. Gordon leaves still in shock.

CUT TO:

EXT. - PARKING LOT (MOMENTS LATER) AFTERNOON

REBECCA IS IN HER CAR. She is sitting there still in shock about the news and contemplating what to tell her family. She begins to cry.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. - LIVING ROOM

Rebecca is sitting on the couch typing in her laptop. She is still a little shocked about the news she got. James and Tiffany come in pretty cheerful from the day.

JAMES

SO YOU TOLD THIS BOY YES?

TIFFANY

Dad, don't freak out. Yeah he likes me but nothing's going to happen.

REBECCA

What's not going to happen?

TIFFANY

Oh Dad is tripping balls because Scott asked me to study with him

(MORE)

TIFFANY (CONT'D)

and I said yes.

JAMES

Study my ass. And "tripping balls"?
You don't think I should "trip
balls" about this?

REBECCA

James relax. Doesn't sound to bad
for Scott to learn a thing or two
from Tiffany.

JAMES

WHAT?

REBECCA

I meant biology wise. As in biology
at school.

JAMES

So not ready for her to date.

TIFFANY

DAD IT'S NOT A DATE!!! OH MY GOD.

REBECCA

Tiffany sweetie go upstairs and go
study. Me and your dad have to
talk.

TIFFANY

Okay.

(looking at James with
teenage venom)

IT'S NOT A DATE.

TIFFANY walks away leaving James and Rebecca alone.

JAMES

MAN! I don't know what is going on
with her. Anyways what did you want
to talk about?

REBECCA

Went and seen Dr. Gordon and he
told me something I think may
change some things.

JAMES

You're pregnant aren't you?

REBECCA

I wish. It's something else.

(MORE)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

Something more serious.

JAMES

This don't sound good.

REBECCA

Well I guess for now it doesn't
but...James he told me I have
cancer.

JAMES

You got what?

REBECCA

Cancer. Breast cancer. He said he
still needs to determine if it's
terminal or not.

JAMES

(shocked)

The fuck? He hasn't figured that
out yet?

REBECCA

He's going to let me know here
soon. They still need to do tests.
In the meantime he told me...

JAMES

YOU HAVE CANCER! YOU PICKED A BAD
TIME TO GET IT!

REBECCA

What does that mean?

JAMES

Sorry that came out wrong. It's
just that works been a bitch.
Tiffany is starting to flirt with
anything with a dick. And now this.

REBECCA

AREN'T YOU FORGETTING THAT THERE IS
ALSO THE FACT WE HAVEN'T HAD A
CONVERSATION ABOUT ANYTHING WITHOUT
YOU ACTING LIKE AN ASS? Damn it
James why do you have to act like
this? Did you....

JAMES

I heard you. God I can't believe
what is going on these days. Seems

(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

like everything is coming apart for me.

REBECCA

(Extremely frustrated)

YOU? WHAT THE FUCK JAMES? I WAS TOLD I HAVE CANCER! YOU THINK YOUR WORLD MIGHT BE FALLING APART. THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE I WON'T LIVE TO SEE MY DAUGHTER GET MARRIED. AND THE WAY IT'S GOING...THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE I WON'T LIVE TO SEE THIS MARRIAGE GET BACK TO BEING WHAT IT WAS.

JAMES

I'm sorry. Honey I am. And don't think like that. Lots of women survive breast cancer.

REBECCA

AND SOME DON'T! Oh my god. I don't know what I'm gonna do. I mean...

JAMES

It's going to be okay.

James goes and comforts Rebecca. We pan the camera to see Tiffany standing near a door way. She's overheard the entire conversation and is in tears.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM (HOURS LATER)

Rebecca is sitting at the table with her lap top. She wants to write a blog but she just can't seem to muster to do it. James walks in looking for something to eat.

JAMES

You want something while I'm in here?

REBECCA

No I'm good. Sorry there was no dinner made tonight.

JAMES

Don't worry about it. You weren't thinking about dinner anyway.

REBECCA

Thanks for taking Tiffany out.

JAMES

Not a problem. But she seemed a little disturbed about something.

REBECCA

You don't think...

JAMES

Well if she did over hear us talk then no use in telling her. But it could also be about Scott.

REBECCA

Is that going to bug you?

JAMES

With what I heard today Scott is the least of my worries.

REBECCA

Spoken like a true doting father.

JAMES

Yep. You know I was thinking about your blogs.

REBECCA

Yeah. Trying to write one tonight and just can't seem to do it.

JAMES

Then don't write it. Look, I remember a blog you wrote about "bucket lists". You remember that one?

REBECCA

Wrote that a year ago. I wrote it not thinking I would use it. Just did it to inspire my readers.

JAMES

Well why don't you read that blog like one of your readers and then...you know.

REBECCA

I know what? Are you saying I should find the "bucket list" I wrote in my blog and work on it.

JAMES

It's an idea. And honestly it

(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

wouldn't hurt to do it.

REBECCA

You make it sound like I'm going to die from this.

JAMES

What if you do? I mean you want to leave this planet with regrets?

REBECCA

No I don't. But it sounds...

JAMES

Foolish? Dumb? I think now with what has been given to us...it sounds like a good idea. Just think about it.

REBECCA

Okay. But what about tonights....

JAMES

Forget writing a new blog. Just think about this. Please.

James walks out leaving Rebecca to think about what he said. She then decides to read the blog about "bucket lists" with the intent now to read it as a reader and not a writer.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN

EXT. - PARK: AFTERNOON

Rebecca set time to meet with her parents KARL and BARBARA. They go for a walk on a crisp Los Angeles afternoon.

BARBARA

Well what do we owe the honor of this?

KARL

Yeah. We hardly get a chance to see you sweetie.

REBECCA

Thanks for coming to meet me. It's been a little challenging as of late.

KARL

Oh yeah. Marriage still on the skids?

REBECCA

Yeah. But after what I learned I think we need to....

BARBARA

And how's Tiffany? Her grades still good or have boys finally distracted her?

REBECCA

She's good. But it's the boys that are distracted by her.

KARL

Oh man. I wonder what James thinks.

REBECCA

He's not happy about it. But there are more pressing things for him to worry about now. Well...actually everyone is a little worried.

BARBARA

Dear, having a rough patch in your marriage can be a little distracting.

REBECCA

I may have found something that can distract from that.

BARBARA

And what's that? What can be a bigger distraction than a marriage on the rock?

KARL

Maybe a Jack on Coke on the rocks!

REBECCA

How about me being diagnosed with breast cancer? How's that for a distraction?

KARL

Oh my...seriously?

BARBARA

Goodness dear are you sure it's

(MORE)

BARBARA (CONT'D)

breast cancer?

REBECCA

Yep. Dr. Gordon told me the other day. He still needs to determine if it a fatal or non fatal cancer. I never thought I would get it.

BARBARA

Well your sister Regina had a scare but nothing serious. I just can't believe this. Of all people to get it, it would be you I would have never thought of getting it.

KARL

Barb, cancer doesn't care about that. It just wants to strike. So have you told James?

REBECCA

Well yeah which is why the dating of our daughter and our marriage is secondary to this.

KARL

WAIT! I do not believe your marriage is secondary at all. Neither should you.

BARBARA

He's right. Especially at a time like this. And the way you talk "the dating of our daughter"? What kind of crap is that?

REBECCA

Okay that one part did come out weird about Tiffany. But it's just that James and I, we feel like our marriage is secondary these days with his work at the studio and my blog.

KARL

There may be the reason. You both feel like your marriage is secondary to everything else in this world. And maybe God put this on you to try to show you that your marriage is not secondary.

REBECCA

God has nothing to do with this.
Cancer has something to do with
this. What if the cancer came to do
what you said Karl?

BARBARA

You both are right in your own
special little way I am seeing.
Seems like this event is making you
think about what is important.

KARL

You always were a bit of a stickler
when it came to God.

REBECCA

DAD DON'T START WITH ME!!!

KARL

I won't but then look at what this
is doing to you and James. When was
the last time you guys had a
conversation that didn't result in
an argument?

REBECCA

Yesterday. When we were talking
about one of my blogs about bucket
lists.

KARL

See. Look at that. And wait, didn't
you write that blog a year ago?

REBECCA

Yeah so what's your point? I mean
it's not like you read them
anyways.

BARBARA

But I DO. And he's got a point. You
should work on that list. Even if
it has stupid shit on there like
"become a Laker Girl". I mean what
is a Laker Girl?

KARL

A cheerleader for the Los Angeles
Lakers. But that's beside the
point. Your mom has a great point.
Work on the list. Hell, work it

(MORE)

KARL (CONT'D)

with James. Who knows...maybe the marriage will start to manifest back to what was one was.

REBECCA

And that was when?

KARL

When you both knew you loved each other and nothing else.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK PORCH: AFTERNOON

While Rebecca was talking with her parents, James meets with his parents Gwen and Brock. They talk with him about Rebecca's diagnosis.

BROCK

So when did she get the news?

JAMES

She got it yesterday. They tell her it's breast cancer. Not sure if it's the fatal kind.

GWEN

Most breast cancers are usually not that fatal. But with cancer you never know. How have you been holding up?

JAMES

It's been okay I guess. And here I thought Tiffany dating would be the biggest of my worries.

BROCK

You should be worried. Tiffany isn't bad looking.

GWEN

BROCK!!! THAT IS YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT!

BROCK

What? I can't say a nice thing about my grand kid? James tell your mother Tiffany isn't bad looking!

JAMES

Um...no thanks. That is my daughter
(MORE)

JAMES (CONT'D)

after all. And do have to deal with my wife having cancer.

BROCK

Oh yeah that. So what now? You gonna leave her?

GWEN

BROCK I SWEAR...

BROCK

I'm kidding. Jesus H. Christ can anyone in this world take a damn joke anymore?

GWEN

Not when it comes from your mouth. You ass.

BROCK

DON'T YOU CALL ME "ASS" WOMAN OR I'LL.....

JAMES

GUYS GUYS GUYS!!! Stop. Wow, is this how my marriage is gonna look like in 20 years?

GWEN

No it won't. I can't believe of all people to get cancer it would be Rebecca. She seems so healthy and...

BROCK

Good looking.

GWEN

THAT'S IT! ONE MORE WORD OUT OF YOUR MOUTH AND.....

BROCK

AND WHAT? YOU GONNA HIT ME WITH A SHOE?

GWEN

YES!

BROCK

(thinks about it)

I think I'll keep my comments to

(MORE)

BROCK (CONT'D)

myself.

JAMES

You're still scared of her shoes
dad?

BROCK

Son, have you ever seen her use
that shoe as a weapon? I mean if
there was the need for the Army to
have a battalion of shoe users,
your mother would be a five star
general.

GWEN

Don't forget I can use other things
as well. Remember the remote?

Both James and Brock squirm humorously with the thought.

GWEN

So how is Rebecca?

JAMES

She's doing okay considering that
she was told she has cancer.

BROCK

Say, does she still write those
bloogs? Or Bligs? Or whatever the
hell they're called that your
mother reads?

JAMES

You mean "blogs" and from what mom
told me you reads those more than
she does.

BROCK

(knowing he's busted)

Okay. BLOGS! Anyway, now that it's
out in the open....THANK YOU
GWENDOLYN....she still write them
or type them or whatever?

JAMES

Yeah she does. But speaking of
that, I mentioned to her about a
blog she wrote about bucket lists.

GWEN

I read that one as did your

(MORE)

GWEN (CONT'D)

father...

BROCK

He knows now. No need to act like it's...

GWEN

I'll get my shoe. Anyway, I think it would be a good idea for her to work on it. I mean now considering her situation.

JAMES

I told her that but she just seems like it's a dumb idea.

BROCK

Not so dumb now isn't it? I mean, Hell, she could drop dead tomorrow....

GWEN

THAT'S IT! Not another word out of you Mister!

BROCK

FINE! I'll just sit here and stare at the both of you.

GWEN

GOOD. So maybe she needs a little more convincing.

JAMES

Like how?

Brock is about to drop some odd advise but is stopped by Gwen.

GWEN

Just keep letting her know that the list isn't so dumb. Keep really grinding the idea to her until she weakens.

BROCK

I was going to say that.

GWEN

Sure you were dear. So James, I say tell her whether she likes it or not the bucket list will be worked on.

JAMES

Yeah, I think I will do that.

BROCK

And while your at it, see if she want's to add things to that list.

JAMES

Like what?

BROCK

I don't know. Maybe go rob a 7-11 and spend the cash....

GWEN

WHAT DID I SAY? THAT'S IT!!!

Gwen goes after Brock. This is a good time for James to leave.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. RESTAURANT: EVENING

Few hours later James and Rebecca are having a dinner.

JAMES

This was not a bad idea to come out tonight.

REBECCA

Yeah, didn't feel like cooking.

JAMES

You don't feel like doing much of anything do you?

REBECCA

Sadly no. Was supposed to write my blog yesterday but we know how that day went.

JAMES

Yeah. That whole "being told you have cancer" deal.

REBECCA

Right? Anyway you think Tiffany is going to be fine at home alone?

JAMES

Yeah. My mom is watching her just in case.

REBECCA

I could have called my mom.

JAMES

You didn't have the chance. My mom was all over it like ugly on an ape.

REBECCA

(laughing)

You haven't used that since our honeymoon.

JAMES

It's been 8 years? I've had to have used it somewhere else.

REBECCA

Anyways. I talked to my parents today. Gave them the news.

JAMES

I spoke to mine too...if you can call it talking to them.

REBECCA

They said that I should do that bucket list we talked about from my blog.

JAMES

Mine said the same thing.

REBECCA

Really?

JAMES

Yeah. Learned my dad read it. Never thought he reads those but he does.

REBECCA

Wow. Anyway. So did your parents say I should work on it?

JAMES

Yeah they did before mom went after dad with her shoe. Did yours?

REBECCA

Yeah they did. But without my mom going after my dad with a shoe of course.

JAMES

Of course. So when do you want to start?

REBECCA

Not sure. I mean I still have to meet with Dr. Gordon and see if it's benign or not.

JAMES

Fuck him. I say let's start as soon as possible. I mean what's there to lose?

REBECCA

Good point. And I won't fuck Dr. Gordon. Not my type.

JAMES

I like this.

REBECCA

WHAT?

JAMES

Seeing my old Rebecca. Great sense of humor. Looking very beautiful. And talking to her without it being contentious.

REBECCA

I like something as well.

JAMES

What's that?

REBECCA

The old James. Who didn't give a crap about work and just relaxed and let the world do it's thing while he did his with me.

JAMES

That guy was a tool.

REBECCA

But he was a handsome tool.

JAMES

So are we in agreement? We rokd on the bucket list?

REBECCA

Yeah. We are in agreement. Let's do it.

JAMES

And we start almost immediately. No matter what Dr. Gordon says or does? Or no matter what this cancer does?

REBECCA

Fuck Dr. Gordon. Let's do this.

Rebecca and James clink there wine glasses and finish the evening.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK PORCH: EVENING

REBECCA is sitting at a deck table. She now has a hand written bucket list. She adds "SAVE MARRIAGE" to it.

FADE TO:

INT. WORK ROOM

REBECCA is now at her desk and about to write that blog she's been needing to work on. We see her type "I Have Cancer" for the title and types her blog away.

CUT TO:

INT. - KITCHEN (MORNING)

Rebecca and Tiffany are sitting at the table having breakfast. Tiffany starts to ask questions about Rebecca's condition.

REBECCA

You better hurry up and eat. Dad's going to ready to go and you better be.

TIFFANY

Okay. Mom, how does someone get cancer?

REBECCA

(Looking startled)

Well...that's a good question. Some people like to put bad chemicals in there body like cigarettes. Then a cancer gets into their body.

TIFFANY

So how did you get breast cancer?

REBECCA

I...I don't know that one sweetie. I want to say it's hereditary but I don't think anyone else on my side of the family.

TIFFANY

I read where is can go to other parts of the body. Is that gonna happen to you?

REBECCA

I hope not. But sadly that is what cancer does.

TIFFANY

It could you know. I heard Seth from P.E. say his uncle had cancer and it spread to his penis and..

REBECCA

OKAY! You got to get your butt in the car.

JAMES

(walks in. Chimes in)

I think we got time. So what about Seth's uncle?

TIFFANY

Well he said his cancer was spreading to his dick and...

REBECCA

ENOUGH! You guys have to get ready to go.

JAMES

No I think it's perfectly normal for a girl Tiffany's age to learn about cancer and about how it can go to dicks. Am I right little one?

TIFFANY

Uh..yeah. Mom...are you going to die?

REBECCA

I don't know that one either.

JAMES

Not if that chemo has anything to say about that.

TIFFANY

What's "chemo"?

REBECCA

Chemotherapy. It's where they work these chemicals in your body to fight the....

TIFFANY

But didn't you say cancer happens when chemicals go into your body?

REBECCA

I did, but these chemicals are good chemicals and....

JAMES

Tif, why don't you go and look it up. Seems like your mom doesn't know.

REBECCA

OH AND YOU DO? Okay "Dr." James, tell her what it is.

JAMES

I didn't mean it like that. But at least know what you are talking about before you answer her questions.

TIFFANY

Do you know dad?

JAMES

I wish I knew sweetie. But unlike certain people I'm not gonna bullshit you answer. If I don't know, then I don't.

TIFFANY

Okay.

REBECCA
WHAT THE FUCK DOES THAT MEAN?

TIFFANY
(under her breath)
Here they go fighting again.

REBECCA
We're not fighting, just having a
small disagreement.

TIFFANY
I'm going to Seth's.
(get up, turns back to
them)
You know you guys need to get it
together. I mean, mom won't be here
any longer so you....

JAMES
HEY! You heard what your mom said.
We're not fighting.

TIFFANY
Right. I'll see you guys later.

JAMES
Be home by five.

REBECCA
We need to change that. Tif, be
home by seven.

TIFFANY
Bye.

TIFFANY LEAVES. JAMES AND REBECCA ARE LEFT IN THE ROOM.

JAMES
What was that?

REBECCA
Oh for the love of...she's a
fifteen year old. She does not need
a curfew of a fifth grader.

JAMES
At least I give her a curfew.
Seven? Why don't you say "Hey
Tiffany, go spend the night with..."

REBECCA
I think I just trumped you and it
(MORE)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

pisses you off. It makes you mad that I can have a voice in this and when you don't get your way you get mad.

JAMES

Please! Really? I let you have a say in this. But when it comes to our daughter we need to be a little more cautious. You never know what the hell the kids are doing these days.

REBECCA

But sometimes we cannot over protect them. We have to let them have some sort of lead way James. Jesus, what next? You gonna say I can't skydive?

JAMES

WHAT? No....

REBECCA

Well. Then it's settled
(pulls out her written
bucket list)
Skydiving it is.

JAMES

Oh my god...you are something. But what about your chemo session today?

REBECCA

That's tomorrow. So when ever your ready.

JAMES

What? TODAY? You're doing it today?

REBECCA

YEAH! I made the appointment last night. They were about to put me on a list but told them I had cancer and bump me to today.

JAMES

Look at you. Are you using...

REBECCA

NO! I am NOT using my cancer to get
(MORE)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

things. We can't waste anymore time. We got to go.

JAMES

OH yeah. I can't believe this is gonna happen.

James and Rebecca get in the car.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRFIELD (MID AFTERNOON)

We see Rebecca in the air diving. She is having a blast. Meanwhile James is on the ground looking up and smiling. He goes to check off "Skydiving" off the list and sees "SAVE MARRIAGE". This changes his mood a bit. Rebecca come back.

JAMES

So how was it?

REBECCA

OH MY GOD! It was SPECTACULAR! The rush from that just...goodness. I want to do it again. You should do it with me. Come on what do you say?

JAMES

Oh no. You are not going to see me jump out of one of those.

REBECCA

What are you...chicken?

JAMES

I'M NOT CHICKEN! Besides, there is more on this list we need to work on.

REBECCA

Yeah I guess.

CUT TO:

Rebecca and James are in the car. Rebecca starts to show signs of fatigue.

JAMES

You look tired. That dive must have took it out of you.

REBECCA

Yeah I feel a little tired. Good thing I did this BEFORE chemo tomorrow. Or else.

JAMES

Look. I noticed something a little something from that list you have.

REBECCA

SHIT! Did I forget to add something.

JAMES

No but you did add something. "Save marriage" is on it. I don't remember seeing that on your blog.

REBECCA

James, please. I don't want to..

JAMES

You think our marriage is in trouble? Do you?

REBECCA

I don't know. I just added it because...

JAMES

You DO think we're in trouble. Why?

REBECCA

Because maybe it is. Maybe we need to look at ourselves and see what REALLY is there.

JAMES

And what's that? A "broken marriage"?

REBECCA

Yes James, maybe it is broken. You don't ever think of that. These days when we talk all we do is argue.

JAMES

Maybe that's because I'm doing my thing and you're doing whatever it is.

REBECCA

Like what James? I'm sorry if you want to...you know never mind. I just want to go home. Too tired to fight with you.

JAMES

I JSUT WANT YOU TO...

REBECCA

JAMES FOR GOD'S SAKE DROP IT!
Please, just take me home.

James knows he may have went a little too far and gets to car going.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. DR. GORDON'S OFFICE

Rebecca just finished her first chemotherapy session. Dr. Gordon is doing a brief check up.

DR. GORDON

So how are you feeling?

REBECCA

Very tired. And feel like coming down with something.

DR. GORDON

At first, chemo is going to do that. Overall this first session went well. You did better than some of my past patients.

REBECCA

Well I kept the thought of jumping out of that plane. Made me feel at peace.

DR. GORDON

Jump out of what? You went sky diving?

REBECCA

Yes and it was wonderful. I have a bucket list and that's on it.

DR. GORDON

That's great and all but now after
(MORE)

DR. GORDON (CONT'D)

seeing how someone does
chemotherapy I think it's best you
don't do anything too strenuous.
Don't over do it.

REBECCA

What? I mean I was active. Isn't
that the best way to go through
something like this.

DR. GORDON

Yes but you do not need to do
things that could jeopardize your
health.

REBECCA

I have fucking cancer. WHAT MORE
JEOPARDIZING CAN THAT BE?

DR. GORDON

I agree but I do not want you to
over do it. These sessions can take
a toll physically on someone and I
don't want you to...

REBECCA

LIVE LIFE? IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE
SAYING?

DR. GORDON

That's not what I'm saying. What
I'm saying is you can live a great
life without you trying to be a
stunt woman. Take my advise and
relax or don't take my advise and
die. Either way, these chemo
sessions are, from this one today,
going good. Do not ruin it by doing
these ridiculous things. I am
saying this to help you, not hurt
you.

Rebecca is sitting there very perturbed at what Dr. Gordon
just said.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM (EVEINING)

Jeff and Rebecca are getting ready for bed. We jump to

JAMES

He called you a STUNT WOMAN?

REBECCA

Yeah. Then he proceeded to make a joke out of me doing things on my list.

JAMES

I may have to say you do look very tired for just sitting there. What did they do?

REBECCA

I laid there and stuck me with these hoses and I laid there while they put the medicine in me. I laid there and thought about that jump. Made me relax.

JAMES

But Beck, it look like it tires you out. Maybe Dr. Gordon has a point.

REBECCA

He may. Or he may not.

JAMES

Let's get ready for....

REBECCA

James...can I ask you something. You know, ask you without us starting to argue.

JAMES

Sure. What is it?

REBECCA

I was just wondering about what Tiffany is going through. Seeing us fight most of the time and now me doing these chemo sessions. You think it would be a good idea to have her stay with one of my siblings?

JAMES

Stay with your family? Well...why do you feel she needs to do that?

REBECCA

She's fifteen. She does not need to see me go through this and from what she talked about she's probably scared my cancer going to hit my vagina.

JAMES

One, you are not her friends uncle which would mean you would have a penis. Two, who's to say it spreads? I mean you said the session went well today.

REBECCA

Yeah the first session. I just....

JAMES

Look I know how you feel. You don't want Tiffany to see you go through this and I agree she shouldn't. But she's old enough to know some but not all and she's handling it pretty good. You don't give that girl enough credit.

REBECCA

This coming from the man that is scared of her even saying "hello" to another boy? My word have you changed.

JAMES

Maybe this cancer thingy and you jumping out of that plane probably made me realize that Tiffany is growing up to be as smart and fearless as her mom.

REBECCA

That is the best thing you've said in a long time.

JAMES

But it's true. However if you still feel like having Tiffany stay with the relatives then I say talk to them first and see if they will let her stay with them.

REBECCA

Oh you know they love Tiffany.

JAMES

They love her when she visits.
Don't know about LIVING with them.
Especially Lanora. She's can be
quite the...

REBECCA

STOP! Let's end it right there. I
know how you feel about Lenora and
I agree. Let's get some sleep. I'll
talk to them tomorrow or whenever I
can get all three of my sibs
together.

JAMES

Sounds like a plan. Did the doctor
say anything about hanky panky?

REBECCA

Hanky Panky? (laughing) Really
didn't but I think I may have the
energy to get some of you.

JAMES

Look at us all agreeing. Love it.

Lights turn off and we hear in the background Rebecca and
James making out.

CUT TO:

INT. - KITCHEN (AFTERNOON)

Rebecca is at the kitchen table with her brother Robert and
her sisters Regina and Lenora. They discuss the possibility
of Tiffany living with one of them.

REBECCA

I want you all to know I would not
have asked you all to come together
like this if it wasn't really
important.

LENORA

We know you're dying so what is it?

ROBERT

DAMMIT LENORA! Can you show a
little sympathy for Becky. I mean
look at her.

REBECCA

Thanks Robby...I think.

REGINA

Just like the two of you to get into it without even know what you're getting into it about. Anyways what is it Becky?

REBECCA

Well first of all I want to say that this cancer is not going ot deter me from being a parent. I feel like Tiffany should not be seeing me go through all this chemotherapy and stuff. So I was wondering if she can stay with one of you for a while.

ROBERT

I'd love to have her stay with us. But I don't think I have any room for her. I mean I got my kids and not enough room as it is.

REGINA

I would say she could stay with me but I'm about to go on that marketing trip to Tokyo and I would not want to leave her here alone or even worse have her come with me aal the way around the world.

LENORA

She could stay with me. I mean we could go shopping and hang out on Sunset with me and get to know some really...

ROBERT

Oh dear god no. She's fifteen years old. What the hell is a fifteen year old gonna do on Sunset Boulevard?

REBECCA

I do NOT want to even know the answer to that one.

LENORA

YOU GUYS STOP! You make me sound like I'm gonna throw her into prostitution and shit. You guys really need to chill with me.

ROBERT

Well I wasn't the one in the family that got busted giving head to Pauly Shore in BROAD DAYLIGHT!!!

REGINA

Would the both of you shut up for a second. She just asked us to take her child.

REBECCA

(sarcastically)

Well that's a lovely way of putting it.

ROBERT

From what it sounds like we would all love to have Tiffany with us but we have priorities that may not be beneficial for her to be around.

REBECCA

AND SEEING ME DIE FROM CANCER IS? I don't want my little girl seeing me go through this.

LENORA

You don't want Tiffany see you fight cancer?

ROBERT

What was that?

LENORA

I mean if she was my daughter and I was going through this, I'd want my daughter to see me be a fighter than a chickenshit. Am I the only one in this family that doesn't mind a good fight?

REGINA

Yes you are. But you make a point Lenora. Never thought I'd say that at this point in life.

ROBERT

Lenora's right. You should show Tiffany to fight for what you love and to fight for who you love.

REBECCA

But what if I get too weak to fight? I mean what does that show Tiffany?

LENORA

If you put what Bobby said and add to what I am saying, you may not care if you are too tired to fight.

REGINA

Lenora is right...again.

ROBERT

We're fucked if LENORA is right.

REBECCA

Stop it. What am I thinking? You guys are right. I NEED to have Tiffany with me. Gives me someone to fight for. And a reason to fight.

LENORA

So I guess we are all in agreement that we don't want Tiffany.

REGINA

Other than how you said it, yeah I'm in agreement. You Robert?

ROBERT

Yeah. I think we're all in agreement. But the only, and most important, agreement comes from Becky. What do you say Rebecca?

REBECCA

I'm in agreement. Tiffany stays with me. Thanks guys.

ROBERT

No problem. I got to get going. Got to pick the kids up from school.

REGINA

Yeah, I need to get packing for Tokyo. Call us if you need anything else okay Becky.

REBECCA

Got it.

LENORA
 You guys don't want to hang with
 Becca?

ROBERT
 We have lives unlike..

REGINA
 Stop. Go.

Everyone goes out the door to the driveway.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRIVEWAY

LENORA
 OH HEY! I got to tell you this.

REBECCA
 What is it?

LENORA
 I read your blog about that bucket
 list.

REBECCA
 JESUS WHO ELSE HASN'T READ THAT?

LENORA
 Probably infants. Anyways, the
 Lakers are holding open auditions
 this weekend for Laker girls.

REBECCA
 Lenny, I don't have...wait...open
 auditions?

LENORA
 Yeah, any one who has somewhat of a
 dance background can go in and
 audition. You should do it.

REBECCA
 You think? I mean I haven't done
 any kind of dancing like that since
 high school.

LENORA
 What about that impromptu
 performance you did at Regina's
 wedding?

REBECCA

I would not call that...okay maybe we can. But this is different.

LENORA

Do it. What is there to lose? At least you can say you did it before...you know.

REBECCA

Yeah I know. How do I get the info for this weekend?

LENORA

I'll email it to you. So pumped to see how it goes.

REBECCA

Thank you. I always counted on you to get a stick out of my ass.

LENORA

Well my name starts with an 'L' so I've always been different.

REBECCA

Thanks again.

Rebecca and Lenora hug. Lenora leaves and Rebecca stands there with a renewed sense of purpose.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. - DANCEHALL

Rebecca is in the process of auditioning to be a Los Angeles Lakers cheerleader.

DANCE DIRECTOR

Please state your name and age.

REBECCA

My name is Rebecca and I am 38.

DANCE DIRECTOR

Okay, when ever you are ready.

Music starts and Rebecca begins to dance. She is dancing but the effects of the chemo are catching up.

DANCE DIRECTOR

I think we've seen enough. Thank you.

REBECCA

Thank you for letting me...

DANCE DIRECTOR

Thank you.

Rebecca starts to walk off in a defeated manner. She sees James standing there (who snuck in during the audition)

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM (EVEINING)

James and Rebecca get ready for bed. They look back on what happened at the dance hall.

JAMES

So you think you got it?

REBECCA

No. But it was great to say I did it.

JAMES

Are you not the least disappointed? I mean you would have made a great Laker girl.

REBECCA

Yeah if I wasn't feeling like shit. I don't know if this chemo is working.

JAMES

I think it is. I mean if it wasn't, you wouldn't have done what you did today.

REBECCA

True.

JAMES

Look at this, your list is almost done.

REBECCA

It's almost done but got a feeling I'll be too weak to finish it.

JAMES

Oh bullshit. You got a lot of life left in you. You are making it sound like...

REBECCA

That I'm dying? That's because I am. But I'm not really feeling bad about it anymore.

JAMES

Let's not talk about it. Tomorrow you got another session. I want you at your best.

(kisses her)

Goodnight.

REBECCA

Goodnight. And thanks for being there today. And for being with me through all of this.

JAMES

I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. DR. GORDON'S OFFICE

Rebecca goes through another chemo session. Dr. Gordon evaluates it.

DR. GORDON

Look like another good session.

REBECCA

Thanks. I didn't know if I was going to be able to make it through.

DR. GORDON

But you did. I got to say, you are really trying to fight this cancer.

REBECCA

Well I got reasons to fight this.

DR. GORDON

And that's great. You told me you had a bucket list right?

REBECCA

Yes. I am almost done with it. Why do you ask?

DR. GORDON

It's just...you see these sessions have been going good but not great.

REBECCA

Okay. So...

DR. GORDON

The cancer is malignant. Which means these chemotherapy sessions are good but..

REBECCA

But WHAT? Are you telling me they have not been working?

DR. GORDON

I'm afraid so. AND with this news I know how long you have until you die.

REBECCA

Until I die? So...how long?

DR. GORDON

You have a year. Maybe sooner, maybe longer depending on how long you want to fight.

REBECCA

But can't we fight with the therapy?

DR. GORDON

We could. But keep in mind any cancer that is malignant that uses chemotherapy just lessens the blow. Sort of like a boxer who's opponent will..

REBECCA

I don't want to hear that shit. I just want to know if it is best to keep doing chemo or no.

DR. GORDON

Rebecca...I am trying to tell you this stuff so....

REBECCA
 YES OR NO? SHOULD I DO THE CHEMO OR
 NO? JUST ANSWER MY DAMN QUESTION!

DR. GORDON
 I would say yes but....

REBECCA
 IT'S EITHER YES OR NO?

DR. GORDON
 I say yes. Now before you get into
 me again what I was going to say
 was...it's up to you.

REBECCA
 It's up to me?

DR. GORDON
 Yes. Your life is now in your
 hands. I am just here to help if
 you want to keep doing the chemo.

CUT TO:

EXT. - PARKING LOT (MOMENTS LATER)

Rebecca and James are sitting in the car. The news is now
 hitting them.

JAMES
 So what do you want to do now?

REBECCA
 Oh I don't know. Now that I know
 when I'll die let's go rob a bank
 or go fuck in the park in front of
 everyone.

JAMES
 I'm sorry. I just don't know what
 to do or say.

REBECCA
 I don't know what you could say
 either. Or maybe just don't say
 anything.

JAMES
 I have to say something to Tiffany.

REBECCA
 Let's just tell her out right. Not
 (MORE)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

sugar coat it. Give it to her head on.

JAMES

But gentle at least. I mean she is fifteen after all.

REBECCA

HOW ELSE ARE WE GOING TO TELL HER? WITH FUCKING PUPPETS OR WITH A GOD DAMN YOUTUBE VIDEO? HOW JAMES? JESUS CHRIST YOU....

JAMES

I'm sorry. I don't know how to handle this.

REBECCA

I think you know. I think I know how to handle this too. Fuck the chemo. Ain't doing it any longer. That'll save us some money.

JAMES

You sure? I mean it will keep you here longer.

REBECCA

But not for much longer. And besides, you have to figure out how you are going to handle a teenager by yourself.

JAMES

Oh fuck. I don't want to think about that now. Let's get you home.

REBECCA

Just when ARE you going to think about it? When I'm already dead? James, now that we know why don't we just cut our losses and plan for the future. A future that won't have me.

JAMES

Don't say that. Please don't. I just cannot...

REBECCA

WELL START NOW! Because it's going to happen. It may be a year from

(MORE)

REBECCA (CONT'D)

now or may be a month from now. But we got to face it now.

JAMES

I just don't want to.

REBECCA

Well I don't either but we have to. All of us.

CUT TO:

INT. - KITCHEN (MORNING)

It's a few days later and Rebecca is now really showing the signs of not doing chemotherapy.

TIFFANY

You want me to fix you anything for breakfast?

REBECCA

Oh sweetie that would be great.

TIFFANY

Okay. So I was thinking. Maybe it would be best if I stayed with Aunt Lenora.

REBECCA

Why? I mean she can't handle herself on a good day. How is she gonna handle you on a bad day?

TIFFANY

She can. And besides she's my favorite.

REBECCA

She's your favorite because she'll let you get away with trouble.

TIFFANY

That's not true. She knows people that could help with my acting career once I get out of high school.

REBECCA

I sure do hope I live to see you graduate. Speaking of school, you have an audition today don't you?

TIFFANY

Yeah. The lead in "Death Of A Salesman". Linda Loman, Willy's wife.

REBECCA

Oh I'm familiar with that. Tried out for that role my self in high school.

TIFFANY

Did you get the part?

REBECCA

NO. Wound up getting the role of Jenny. A secretary. I carried that all the way here until I learned you need more than stage work in a high school play to get television work.

TIFFANY

You tried to be an actress? Here in L.A.? Whoa.

REBECCA

Yeah. But then I met your father and then you came along and totally forgot about that life. I grew to love the one I have here.

TIFFANY

You have "be an actress" on your bucket list right?

REBECCA

Yeah but with what has been given to me now I don't think I should try.

TIFFANY

You should. They're auditioning for a movie being filmed here next summer.

REBECCA

Really? How do you know this?

TIFFANY

I read Backstage Online. They have all the news where auditions are. You should go for it.

We then see Jeff walking in. He overhears what's going on and stops to hear the rest of the conversation without entering.

REBECCA

You think I should? I mean I haven't tried to audition since I met your father.

TIFFANY

Maybe it will be like riding a bike. You know? When you haven't rode one in a long time but then you get back on and, poof, it's like you never really stopped.

REBECCA

I don't know. I mean...

TIFFANY

Mom stop. GO FOR IT! You auditioned to be a Laker girl so what makes this any different?

REBECCA

Good point. I'm not going in to get the part.

TIFFANY

I don't care if you get the part. Just go for it. Then you would have done the list and not worry about anything when you do die.

REBECCA

Oh sweetie. You sure do know how to motivate someone. I will say that there is one more thing on that list. But that's between me and your dad.

TIFFANY

What? Save marriage? Yeah, dad told me about that one.

REBECCA

Now why would he do that?

TIFFANY

Because you may not know this, but he acts like an asshole because he just cares in his weird way what

(MORE)

TIFFANY (CONT'D)

happens to us. But since we know you're going to pass away, he's been less of an asshole. But he..

REBECCA

You're father is not an asshole. But you're right. I guess that was something I forgot. How did you get so wise for your age?

TIFFANY

Well I got you and Aunt Lenora. Then there is....

REBECCA

Okay OKAY! I get it. So do you have that info for the audition?

TIFFANY

Backstage Online. Duh. Just look up "Destiny". That's the name of the film. It'll show you where to go and what to bring.

Goes over to hug her mom.

TIFFANY

I will say when you go you may need to get at least a little prettier than you already are.

REBECCA

Oh thanks. And so your saying I'm hideous looking?

TIFFANY

Well the chemo did mess you up a bit. But don't worry. A wig and simple make up and you'll be looking like the woman dad fell in love with.

REBECCA

You are just the best. You better get going.

TIFFANY

Yeah. Let me know how it goes.

REBECCA

I will. Love you.

TIFFANY

Love you too.

We pan to see James standing there. After hearing this conversation, he is in tears.

CUT TO:

INT. - HALLWAY

We see Rebecca in a wig getting ready to audition for the part her daughter told her about. She and another actress have a conversation.

REBECCA

Hi.

ACTRESS

Hello.

REBECCA

I'm reading for Sandra, the lead.
What are you reading for?

ACTRESS

I'm reading for Claire. She's a
cancer patient who's friends with
Sandra.

REBECCA

Oh. Well I know a thing about that.

ACTRESS

Really? You know someone like that.

REBECCA

Yeah I know them pretty well. I
have cancer and if you need any
advise as to...

Just then the director comes up

DIRECTOR

REBECCA MICHAELS! Is a "Rebecca
Michaels" here.

REBECCA

That's me.

DIRECTOR

Right this way.

At this point Rebecca has been lead to a spot in the room by

the director.

DIRECTOR

I see you haven't acted since high school?

REBECCA

Yes. While in college I met my husband and adopted a daughter.

DIRECTOR

That's nice. So whenever you are ready.

REBECCA

I was wondering. Can I change my character for the reading. I mean if it won't be a hassle I won't do it.

DIRECTOR

Well you are down to read for 'Sandra'. Did you have another character in mind?

REBECCA

Yes. It's 'Claire'. I feel like more like her than 'Sandra' these days.

DIRECTOR

And why's that?

REBECCA

Because of my cancer. I got breast cancer and...

DIRECTOR

No need to say any more.
(hands her 'Claire'
lines)
Whenever you are ready.

REBECCA

(reading the script)
"I am so glad we were able to meet Sandra. Who know when we'll last meet again."
(just then Rebecca begin
to cry and feel weak)

DIRECTOR
Is everything fine?

REBECCA
Oh yeah (wipes tears) Just thinking
about my own family reading this.

DIRECTOR
Okay. Here, read for 'Sandra' real
quick for me.

REBECCA
Sure. (begins reading)
"I am going to be the best actress
you have EVER seen. I don't need
you or your pity party to make me..

DIRECTOR
Stop right there. You did great. I
will let you know here in a couple
days.

REBECCA
Thank you.

CUT TO:

INT. - LIVING ROOM (MOMENTS LATER)

James is reading when Rebecca walks in. She looks very tired
but really victorious.

JAMES
So how did it go?

REBECCA
It wen well. I read for my part and
another role.

JAMES
What? That is great. I got you this
book you can read tonight before
going to bed.

REBECCA
(reading off book)
"What Cancer Cannot Do" Hmm...this
looks interesting.

JAMES
Yeah, been looking it over. From
what I see some good stories.

REBECCA
You didn't have to.

Rebecca cell phone rings.

REBECCA
Hello

DIRECTOR
(speaking through the
phone)
Rebecca I got some news for you.

REBECCA
Yes.

DIRECTOR
You got the part of Claire. Loved
it and with your experiences right
now it just seemed like a great fit
for you.

REBECCA
You serious? I got the part?

DIRECTOR
Yep. I am going to email you the
info as to where to go, when to
come on set, and also if you need
help filling out your voucher since
you're non union I'll have my AD
help you with that.

REBECCA
(TEARING UP)
Oh my god thank you. You don't know
what this means. Thank you again.

DIRECTOR
Not a problem. See you on set.

Rebecca ends the call. Turns to James.

REBECCA
I got the part. I GOT THE PART!

JAMES
You did? You got the lead?

REBECCA
No...Claire. She's the leads best
friend who has cancer.

JAMES

Oh my god this is awesome! I can't believe it.

TIFFANY

What's going on?

JAMES

You're mom got a part in a movie!

TIFFANY

What? Nice! Way to go mom.

REBECCA

I cannot believe it. I'm going to be in a movie.

The family starts to celebrate.

FADE OUT

INT. - JAMES' OFFICE

We jump ahead a few weeks later. James is working when he gets a phone call.

JAMES

Hello?

DR. GORDON

(speaking through the phone)
James, Dr. Gordon here. I think you need to get to the hospital right now. Something has happened with Rebecca.

JAMES

I'll be right there.

James hangs up and hurries to the hospital.

CUT TO

INT. - HOSPITAL HALLWAY

James come rushing in seeing Dr. Gordon and the Director talking.

JAMES

What's going on?

DR. GORDON

Nothing to be too concerned about. She just collapsed on set.

DIRECTOR

I brought her here right away. I am not taking any chances.

DR. GORDON

You did the right thing. I will call you when something changes.

DIRECTOR

Thank you. (looks at James) You must be James right?

JAMES

Yeah. What happened?

DIRECTOR

I'll let Dr. Gordon tell you. I got to get back on set.

JAMES

Doc, what the fuck is going on?
TELL ME!

DR. GORDON

From what I am being told she came to set and during a scene she just collapsed. She was not responsive when she came in. I just got her awake. James, I have a feeling this is it.

JAMES

What's it? Oh my god no...

DR. GORDON

James, I am recommending you call her family to...

JAMES

Say final goodbyes?

DR. GORDON

I'm afraid so.

CUT TO:

INT. - HOSPITAL ROOM

We see Rebecca laying there. James is cautious to approach but does. Rebecca is awake but barely.

JAMES

Hey gorgeous

REBECCA
Hey yourself. Who called you?

JAMES
Dr. Gordon. Honey, just relax. He told me to call the family.

REBECCA
That's because I told him to. James, I'm sorry for all of this.

JAMES
No, you don't apologize. And I should be apologizing. I'm gonna call everyone right now.

REBECCA
I will say this. I got the list done.

JAMES
Yeah you did. Proud of you babe.

REBECCA
Proud of you.

JAMES
Why me? I've done nothing to be proud of.

REBECCA
Yeah you did. You stuck by me through all of this. You still have the list on you?

JAMES
(scrambles through his pockets)
Yeah, here it is. Why?

REBECCA
You know what to check off next. I love you James. I always will.

JAMES
I love you too.

James tearfully crosses off "SAVE MARRAIGE"

END