ER
"A Bloody Mess"

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FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY
ER
"A Bloody Mess"

CAST

GREENE
ROSS
BENTON
CARTER
HATHAWAY
JEANIE
WEAVER
DEL AMICO
CORDAY
SCOTT
ANSPAUGH
WRIGHT
OLIGARIO
MARQUEZ
JERRY
JARVIK
MORGENSTERN
ROMANO
SHIRLEY
HALEH
TAKATA
AUDIA
CARLA
CHASE

BETH
CLAIRE
HOLLY
ALYSSA
DAVE
KAREN
WON SOK JANG
LINDSEY JANG
NANCY
PROFESSOR
INGRAM
MRS. LOGAN
NURSE JOYCE
HOSPITAL
Snack Bar
Ambulance Entrance
Admit/Main Hallway
Trauma Two
Curtain Two
Admit Area
Surgical Locker Room
Area
Showers
Curtain Three
OR
Stairwell/Elevator
Lobby
Trauma One
Trauma Hallway
Exam One
Chairs
Exam Two/Clinic
Lounge
Medical School Anatomy
Lab
Exam Four/Isolation
Suture Room
Exam Four Hallway
ER Supply Room/Exam Three
Drug Lock-up
SICU

CHINESE RESTAURANT (CHICAGO)

INDOOR ROCK-CLIMBING GYM (CHICAGO)

CORDAY'S CONDO
Living Room
Foyer

KENNER NEUROLOGY CENTER
Hospital Room
FADE IN:

CHINESE RESTAURANT (CHICAGO) - 12:10 PM

Kitschy, inexpensive, packed with customers. JEANIE and SCOTT ANSPAUGH are finishing up lunch. Scott looks pale but in good spirits, and has a short peach-fuzz haircut.

SCOTT
So, it's the last inning -- my butt's like numb from sitting on the bench -- and Coach Hardin decides to put me in.

JEANIE
What position?

SCOTT
Right field -- of course. But since the other team had been hitting out of the park all afternoon, I figured I might get a shot at a fly ball, right?

JEANIE
Don't tell me --

SCOTT
Bam-bam-bam! Three strikeouts in a row. Total buzzkill.

JEANIE
At least you got to play. You should be proud of that.

The waiter arrives with the check and two fortune cookies.

SCOTT
So give it up already. Where are we going?

JEANIE
I told you, it's a surprise. (looks at watch) And we better get going. I have to be at work by four --

Jeanie reaches for the check, but Scott grabs it first.

(CONTINUED)
JEANIE
Scott, give me that.

SCOTT
No, this is my treat.

JEANIE
Don't be silly.

SCOTT
I know you have guys lined up around the block to buy you lunch, but let me.

Jeanie knows the truth, but decides to play along.

JEANIE
Thank you.

Scott takes some bills out of a wallet, drops them on the table, rises to go. Jeanie holds up a fortune cookie.

JEANIE
What about your fortune?

SCOTT
It's just a stupid piece of paper. Come on. Surprise me.

CUT TO:

HOSPITAL SNACK BAR

GREENE and ROSS carry loaded trays.

GREENE
You've got to love it when the ER gets slow around lunchtime.

ROSS
I'm glad you were free. I've been wanting to talk to you about something --

Greene spots BENTON at a table, feeding his ten-month-old son, REESE. CARTER sits with them, his head on the table, sound asleep. Greene and Ross join.

GREENE
What's with Carter?

BENTON
(shrugs)
Found him that way.

(CONTINUED)
ROSS
(to Reese)
How you doing, big guy?
(to Benton)
He's really filling out.

BENTON
Seventy-fifth percentile for a
full-term his age.

Benton wipes Reese off and begins to pack up his things.
Everything is very orderly and well-managed.

GREENE
Looks like you've got a handle on
the whole parenting routine.

BENTON
It's not so hard. I make a
schedule and stick to it.
(checks his watch)
In fact, our fifteen minutes of
quality time are up. It's daycare
for him and a fem-pop bypass for
me.

As Benton reaches down for the baby bag, Reese grabs a
handful of food from Carter's tray, smears it on Benton's
head. The men stifle laughs.

ROSS
With a pitstop at the showers.

BENTON
(annoyed)
Yeah. See you later.

Benton exits.

GREENE
Peter Benton, a father. You've
got to see it to believe it.

ROSS
So, listen, Mark, I've been doing
some thinking and --

Carter's PAGER GOES OFF. Carter doesn't budge.

GREENE
Carter... Carter... Carter.

Carter bolts upright, looks around disoriented.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

CARTER
Huh? What?

GREENE
Your pager.

CARTER
(checks pager)
The ER. Of course.

As Carter groggily stands, stuffs food into his pockets, Ross' PAGER GOES OFF.

ROSS
I knew a sit-down lunch was too good to be true...

GREENE
If you still want to talk, we could catch the Bulls-Cavaliers game tonight at McGee's. Haven't hit the town together in a while.

ROSS
Yeah, maybe.

GREENE
If you need to check with Carol first --

ROSS
I don't have to ask for permission, Mark.

As Ross rises to go, Greene's PAGER GOES OFF.

GREENE
Oh, man...

CUT TO:

INT. AMBULANCE ENTRANCE

Chaos. And blood -- everywhere. Clipboard in hand, CORDAY arrives to find WRIGHT helping college coed BETH BISIGNANO, 19, covered in blood from head-to-toe, into a wheelchair, while HATHAWAY and OLIGARIO support CLAIRE HAMILTON, 20, covered with patches of blood.

CORDAY
My God, looks like the Red Sea in here...

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY
Van full of college students hit a
tree.

WRIGHT
Didn't wait for
paramedics --
drove themselves in.

CORDAY
In this condition?

BETH
*(sobbing)*
I tried to swerve around
him --

CLaire
Please, don't let him
die!

CORDAY
Get me eight units HemoAid.

OLIGARIO
Hemo-what?

HATHAWAY
The blood substitute -- for Doctor
Corday's study.

WRIGHT
I'll get it.

CORDAY
Grab some consent forms, too.

As Wright exits, WEAVER and MARQUEZ catch up to them with
HOLLY BECKER, 17, bloodied, hyperventilating, on a
gurney. Corday follows after them.

ADMIT/MAIN HALLWAY

WEAVER
Jerry, where the hell is everyone?

JERRY peers inside a shoe box.

JERRY
I paged them all -- twice.

CORDAY
What's the bullet?

WEAVER
Seventeen-year-old, complaining of
neck pain, contusions and
abrasions --

HOLLY
Get -- this -- off -- of -- me!

(continued)
CONTINUED:

MARQUEZ
Try taking slow breaths, okay?

WEAVER
Check on the next one. Let's get her on an O2 rebreathing mask...

Corday hangs back as they push into Trauma One, then picks up DEL AMICO and JARVIK with ALYSSA CLARK, 20, conscious, bloodied, in C-collar and backboard.

CORDAY
What've you got?

DEL AMICO
Twenty-year-old passenger, no seat belt. Complaining of neck, left shoulder, chest and abdominal pain. Questionable LOC for several seconds --

Corday joins as they push into --

TRAUMA TWO

Corday helps with the transfer.

DEL AMICO
Ready... up and over.

They transfer Alyssa, then fly into action.

CORDAY
Is she hypovolemic?

DEL AMICO
(to Jarvik)
Recheck her vitals.

(then)
Need a cross-table, c-spine, chest and pelvis x-ray, CBC, and dip a urine.

CORDAY
Was the transport time under thirty minutes?

JARVIK
Must've been. Accident happened at Jackson and Loomis.

Del Amico listens to Alyssa's chest with her stethoscope.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DEL AMICO
Lungs are clear.

Wright arrives carrying bags of HemoAid and consent forms. *

WRIGHT
Got the HemoAid.

CORDAY
What's her name?

JARVIK
Alyssa Clark.

CORDAY
Miss Clark, I'm conducting a potentially lifesaving research project here in the ER. Tell me, do you object to the use of blood products?

ALYSSA
(weakly)
Have they been tested on animals?

CORDAY
Why yes, I believe they have --

Del Amico listens to Alyssa's abdomen.

DEL AMICO
Bowel sounds present.

ALYSSA
No -- no animal testing.

WRIGHT
Pulse 100, resps 20.

JARVIK
(confused)
And BP's normal.

DEL AMICO
Where is all this blood coming from?

CUT TO:

CURTAIN TWO

Hathaway and Oligario stare incredulously at Claire and Beth.

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY
Cow's blood...

CLAIRE
We got it from a slaughterhouse.

OLIGARIO
This is all cow's blood?

BETH
I told you it was a bad idea --

CLAIRE
We were on our way to protest the university’s use of cats in their research labs --

BETH
We thought buckets of blood would make an impression.

HATHAWAY
Well, it did.

Corday jogs from Trauma Two.

CORDAY
Did you know these girls were transporting --

HATHAWAY
We just heard.

Greene, Ross and Carter blow onto the scene, carrying parts of their lunch.

GREENE
What've we got?

Jerry, wearing gloves, approaches holding a dead squirrel by its tail.

JERRY
One squirrel, D.O.A.

Beth and Claire break into sobs again. OFF the men, looking at the squirrel and the bloody mess, confused.

SMASH CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES.

END OF TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

CURTAIN TWO - 12:42 PM

Hathaway removes the bloodstained sheets from one of the beds. A janitor mops up the bloody floor. Ross approaches.

ROSS
Reminds me of Carrie.
(off Hathaway's look)
The movie. Not the Attending.

HATHAWAY
Speaking of movies -- can we try to make the seven o'clock? I'll never last to the nine-twenty.

ROSS
I thought we were going tomorrow.

HATHAWAY
We said tonight. Why?

ROSS
Nothing. Mark wanted to watch the Bulls game.

HATHAWAY
It would be a chance to tell him about your decision.

ROSS
He and I can go out some other time...

They move into --

ADMIT AREA

Weaver approaches, ambushes Ross.

WEAVER
Doug, I just got a call from Neal Bernstein. He said your ER fellowship renewal papers were due two days ago.

ROSS
They were.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

WEAVER
This isn't something you can blow
off, Doug. If you want your
fellowship to continue --

ROSS
Maybe I don't want my fellowship
to continue.

Marquez approaches.

MARQUEZ
Got a kid in Exam Four with a
pencil eraser up his nose.

Ross begins to move off with Marquez.

WEAVER
We need to discuss this --

ROSS
We will.

MORGENSTERN (O.S.)
Hail, comrades.

Everyone turns to find DAVID MORGENSTERN, looking fit and
exuberant, carrying a huge basket of brownies. AD LIBS
of "Welcome back, good to see you," etc.

WEAVER
David, we weren't expecting you
back until next month.

MORGENSTERN
Missed you all too damn much.
(looks around)
Look at this place -- just as I
remembered it.

WEAVER
Actually, we have made a few
improvements.

Jerry eyes the brownies.

MORGENSTERN
Don't be shy, Jerry. Made them
with my own two hands. It is
Jerry, right?

Jerry nods as he jams a brownie into his mouth. Greene
enters, picks up a chart, sees Morgenstern.

(CONTINUED)
GREEENE
David, welcome back. It's been a while.

MORGENSTERN
One hundred and ninety seven days.

Greene holds out his hand, but Morgenstern gives him a hug instead.

MORGENSTERN
Looking trim, Mark.

GREEENE
Thanks. You look pretty great yourself.

MORGENSTERN
I know it sounds hackneyed, but that myocardial infarction was the best thing that ever happened to me.

WEAVER
I'd intended to prepare a summary report to bring you up-to-speed --

MORGENSTERN
We'll talk shop later, Kerry. I'm here to spend some time in the trenches -- get back in touch with the people who make this place tick. Mark, what've you got?

GREEENE
(looks at chart)
Thirty-two-year-old female, fever for five days.

MORGENSTERN
If there's one thing I learned from my brush with mortality, it's that every patient has a story. Let's go learn hers, shall we?
(looks around)
A joy to see you all.

Morgenstern and Greene exit. OFF Weaver.

CUT TO:
SURGICAL LOCKER ROOM - SHOWERS

Alone in the shower area, Benton ducks his food-splotched head under the water as he preps for his surgery.

BENTON
(reciting)
Anastomose from the femoral to the popliteal below the knee --

CORDAY (O.S.)
Peter? Is that you?

Benton stops, looks around self-consciously.

BENTON
Elizabeth? What are you doing here?

CORDAY (O.S.)
Just wanted to confirm our plans this evening to work on Rocket's lit review.

Benton quickly rinses himself off.

BENTON
Seven to nine-thirty, Biomed Library. I'll meet you there.

LOCKER AREA
Corday picks up a towel off the floor.

CORDAY
Maybe at nine-thirty-one, we could grab a bite to eat.

SHOWERS
Benton finishes rinsing off, turns OFF the SHOWER, goes to reach for his towel... Uh-oh. No towel.

BENTON
Look, I have an operation to get to, so if you don't mind --

CORDAY (O.S.)
Or we could work at my place and get some takeout.

Benton searches for something to cover himself with, but all he comes up with is a washcloth.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

BENTON

Elizabeth, I know you've been dying to see me naked, but --

A towel appears dangling around the corner.

BENTON
Thank you.

Benton snatches the towel, dries himself off.

CORDAY (O.S.)
So, what's your answer?

BENTON
(gives up)
Yeah, dinner. Fine. But I have to prep for a pancreatic pseudocyst afterwards, so --

Benton wraps the towel around his waist, moves into --

12

LOCKER ROOM

Corday is gone. OFF Benton, left holding the towel.

CUT TO:

13

AMBULANCE BAY ENTRANCE/MAIN HALLWAY

DAVE FEARN, early 30s, panicked, bursts through the ambulance doors holding up his wife, KAREN FEARN, late 20s, earthy, thin, sweating, vomiting into a bag.

DAVE
Please, someone help me!

Del Amico runs over, helps support Karen.

DEL AMICO
Need a gurney over here.
(to Dave)
What happened?

DAVE
My wife is pregnant. She passed out --

Oligario and Jarvik arrive with a gurney.

DEL AMICO
Okay, easy...
They lift Karen onto a gurney as she continues to vomit.

**DEL AMICO**

Jerry, what's open?

**JERRY**

Curtain Three.

They quickly maneuver the gurney down the crowded hallway.

**DEL AMICO**

How far along is she -- ?

**DAVE**

Karen's eighteen weeks. But she's been having a really rough time.

They enter --

**CURTAIN AREA THREE**

Del Amico, Oligario and Jarvik transfer Karen onto a bed. Jarvik replaces the vomit bag with an emesis basin.

**KAREN**

(weakly)

I'm fine --

**DAVE**

No, you're not. Stop lying.

**DEL AMICO**

Karen, I'm Doctor Del Amico. We're going to do some tests --

**KAREN**

Don't hurt my baby.

**DEL AMICO**

We're not going to do anything to your baby.

Del Amico checks Karen's skin and mouth.

**DEL AMICO**

Dry skin and mucous membranes. She's dehydrated. Start a line and bolus her 200 cc's saline.

**JARVIK**

BP 120/70.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DEL AMICO
Also get a CBC, chem 7 and a UA.

OLIGARIO
She's got no veins.

DEL AMICO
I'll do an IJ line.

Del Amico puts on gloves as Oligario drapes and swabs Karen's neck. Dave strokes his wife's head.

DAVE
You're gonna be okay now.

DEL AMICO
One percent xylo with epi.

As Del Amico is about to stick her, Karen convulses.

KAREN
Oh God --

Karen violently retches into the emesis basin.

DEL AMICO
It's alright, Karen. It's alright.

INDOOR ROCK-CLIMBING GYM (CHICAGO)

A cavernous space with man-made rock walls, colored hand and footholds, and ropes anchored into the ceiling. Jeanie nears the top of a climb as Scott belays her on the floor below. They both wear gym clothes, climbing shoes and harnesses.

SCOTT
Grab that red hold on your left, and you're there.

Jeanie reaches for the hold, pulls herself up, grabs another hold, touches the top of the ceiling.

SCOTT
Alright!

Jeanie gets into lowering position.

JEANIE
Ready to lower.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

SCOTT
Lowering.
Scott lowers Jeanie, who kicks off the wall with her feet as she descends. When she reaches the ground, they are both sweaty but exhilarated. They untie their rope knots.

SCOTT
Did you really only take two lessons?

JEANIE
My instructor said women are natural climbers. It's all in the hips.

SCOTT
I can't believe you did this...

JEANIE
You said you wanted to get in shape for Yosemite this summer.

Jeanie holds out her end of the rope -- it's his turn. Scott declines.

SCOTT
After that climb, I think you deserve a pop.

JEANIE
You chickening out on me?

Scott takes the rope, ties it into his harness. Jeanie does the same.

SCOTT
I just, you know, thought you might be thirsty.

JEANIE
Good try.

Scott faces the wall, takes a deep breath.

SCOTT
On belay?

Jeanie takes up the rope's slack, gets in braking position.

JEANIE
Belay on.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

SCOTT
Climbing.

JEANIE
Climb on.

Scott begins to climb up the wall using only green holds.

JEANIE
Good job, Scott. You make it look easy.

He makes it up about halfway, then stops, his legs shaking.

SCOTT
I can't...

JEANIE
You're doing great.

SCOTT
Let me down.

JEANIE
Look, there's a green handhold just above your left hand.

SCOTT
Let me down! I want to come down!

JEANIE
Okay. Lowering.

Jeanie slowly lets up the rope, lowering Scott. When he reaches the ground, he lays on the floor, sweating and out of breath.

JEANIE
I'm sorry, I shouldn't have pushed.

Scott winces in pain.

JEANIE
Did you hurt yourself?
(no reply)
We'll take a break.

SCOTT
No, take me to the hospital.

OFF Jeanie.
Greene looks through a thick three-ring binder while Jerry works on the computer.

**GREENE**
But McGee's has those devil wings.

**JERRY**
(shakes his head)
Hog Head McDunna's. Dollar ninety-nine all-u-can eat taco bar and there's live music after the game.

Corday approaches with a stack of folders.

**CORDAY**
Jerry, could you see that these protocol summaries make it into everyone's box?

**JERRY**
For you, Doctor Corday, it'd be a pleasure.

**GREENE**
Elizabeth, I was reviewing your study and noticed I'm the only faculty advisor listed.

**CORDAY**
Thanks again for helping me bring HemoAid to the ER.

**GREENE**
I assumed Doctor Romano was also involved.

**CORDAY**
He wanted to stay focused on the surgical applications of artificial blood.

**GREENE**
I'm surprised he let you move ahead on your own.

**CORDAY**
(beat)
The truth is, he doesn't know yet.

**GREENE**
(smiles)
Trying to break free?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

CORDAY
More like branching out. Do you
mind being the only advisor?

GREENE
No, as far as I'm concerned, the
study's all yours.

OFF Corday, relieved.

CUT TO:

CURTAIN AREA THREE

Del Amico checks Karen's IV as Dave watches. Jarvik
takes her vitals. Karen, haggard and weak, continues to
clutch an emesis basin.

DEL AMICO
Karen, have you been losing much
weight?

Karen tries to answer, but dry heaves instead.

DAVE
She lost almost six pounds last
week.

JARVIK
BP is 100/60.

KAREN
(weakly)
I want to go home.

DAVE
Please, honey, let them help you.
(to Del Amico)
Her OB's had her on a saltine
cracker diet. How is anyone
supposed to survive on that?

KAREN
(sits up; upset)
I can't lose this baby.

DAVE
She's already had three
miscarriages.

Karen suddenly passes out.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DAVE
(upset)
Karen!

DEL AMICO
Trendelenburg!

Jarvik cranks Karen's bed into a Trendelenburg position. After a few beats, Karen comes out of it.

KAREN
I'm okay. I'm okay.

DEL AMICO
Let's add multi-vites and put her on a monitor.

Dave pulls Del Amico aside.

DAVE
Why is this happening? She should be past morning sickness.

DEL AMICO
In some women, nausea and vomiting persist throughout their pregnancy.

DAVE
Nine months of this? She'll never make it --

DEL AMICO
Once her labs come back, we'll see what options we have --

DAVE
Look, I want you to do whatever it takes to save her.

DEL AMICO
I understand.

OFF Del Amico.

CUT TO:
Jeanie and Scott, wearing their climbing clothes beneath their coats, are met by ANSPAUGH, in scrubs, as they head toward Admit.

ANSPAUGH
Scott, how are you?

SCOTT
Been worse.

JEANIE
It's my fault. We were rockclimbing, and I pushed too hard --

SCOTT
No you didn't.

ANSPAUGH
Rockclimbing, eh? Planning to outshine me this summer?

JEANIE
I've paged Doug Ross.

ANSPAUGH
Good. I was just about to start a distal splenorenal shunt, but I can get someone to cover for me.

JEANIE
I don't think that's necessary. Scott just overdid it.

SCOTT
It's cool, Dad. Jeanie will keep me company.

ANSPAUGH
(beat)
Alright. But call me as soon as Doug's had a look at him.

JEANIE
Don't worry, I will.

OFF Jeanie, trying not to worry, herself.

CUT TO:

ROMANO and Benton perform a fem-pop bypass.

(CONTINUED)
ROMANO
I plan on kicking some serious butt at the investigator's quarterly. Dayton Memorial can't come close to my HemoAid transfusion rates.

BENTON
Congratulations. I'm releasing distally.

ROMANO
Looks dry. I hope you don't feel slighted that I brought Lizzie onto the study instead of you.

BENTON
Not at all.

ROMANO
Peter, I never noticed before what a good liar you are. What are the branches of the popliteal?

BENTON
Anterior tibial, posterior tibial, and the peroneal.

ROMANO
You're the man. Now's the best part. Release the proximal, and we'll watch the river run.

As Benton starts to sew, NURSE SHIRLEY ducks her head in.

SHIRLEY
Dr. Benton, the daycare center is on the phone.

Benton throws Romano a look, but he doesn't offer an out.

BENTON
Is it urgent?

SHIRLEY
They want you to come up.

BENTON
Tell them... ask them if...

ROMANO
Tell them he's coming. I'll finish up.

(CONTINUED)
Continued: (2)

Romano takes back the suture needle.

**ROMANO**

Priorities, Peter.
(to Nurse)
Four-oh Vicryl for the fascia...

* CUT TO: *

20

**STAIRWELL/ELEVATOR LOBBY**

Clipboard in hand, Corday runs through the lobby into --

21

**TRAUMA ONE**

Weaver, Morgenstern, Hathaway, Wright and Marquez work on WON SOK JANG, 70s, bloody, unconscious. Weaver inserts a chest tube.

**CORDAY**

Someone page me?

**WEAVER**

(introducing)
Doctor Corday, Doctor Morgenstern.
Multiple GSWs to the chest and abdomen --

**MORGENSTERN**

Store owner in his late 70's, shot with a low-caliber firearm.

**WEAVER**

BP 70 palp, pulse ox falling, 92 on 15 liters.

**MORGENSTERN**

Name's Won Sok Jang.

**CORDAY**

Transport time?

**HATHAWAY**

Twenty minutes.

Corday reviews her clipboard.

**CORDAY**

Did anybody come in with him -- a relative, anyone to consent?

(continued)
MARQUEZ
No.

WEAVER
Ten blade.

CORDAY
He's a good candidate for the study.
(to Marquez)
Get me four units HemoAid.

As Marquez exits, an ALARM sounds.

WRIGHT
He's getting cyanotic.

MORGENSTERN
Muffled heart sounds, neck vein distension. Probable pericardial tamponade.

CORDAY
Shall I...?

Morgenstern kicks into gear.

MORGENSTERN
I've got it. Pericardiocentesis tray. Stick an alligator clip on the V-one lead.

Hathaway splashes Betadine on the patient's chest, drapes him.

WRIGHT
BP's down to 40 palp.

Morgenstern takes a long-needled syringe, aims it at the base of the sternum.

MORGENSTERN
Worked hard his whole life, for this...

HATHAWAY
Pulse ox 88.

Morgenstern continues to stare at Jang, but doesn't move. Weaver and Corday notice.

WRIGHT
He's bradying down.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

WEAVER

David.

HATHAWAY

Rate's down to 30.

An ALARM begins to WAIL. Morgenstern remains frozen.

WEAVER

David?

Morgenstern gulps. He looks from his hand, to the syringe, to the sternum and can't move.

HATHAWAY

I'm losing a pulse.

MORGENSTERN

Um, I'm sorry, I -- there's something in my eye.

Morgenstern turns to Corday, hands over the syringe.

MORGENSTERN

Could you...?

Without a word, Morgenstern exits. Corday plunges the needle into Jang, advances it. Blood starts to fill the syringe.

CORDAY

Got it.

(annoyed)

Who the hell was that?

WEAVER

Our chief of Emergency Medicine.

OFF Weaver, concerned.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

22

ELEVATOR LOBBY/MAIN HALLWAY - 2:15 P.M.

Romano exits the elevator, moves into the main hallway where he collides with LINDSEY JANG, 40's.

ROMANO
Hey, bud, watch where you're --

LINDSEY JANG
(upset)
My father was shot -- I was told he's here.

ROMANO
Sorry to hear that.
(points)
Try the admit desk.

Romano continues on into the trauma hallway, where he sees Marquez running by with four bags of HemoAid.

ROMANO
Nurse, I got called about a rule-out appy--

MARQUEZ
Doctor Carter's in Exam Three.

Romano notices the bags of HemoAid in her hands.

ROMANO
What are you doing with those?

MARQUEZ
Taking them to Doctor Corday.

As Marquez moves on, we STAY ON Romano as he decides to follow into --

23

TRAUMA ONE

As ALARMS wail, Weaver performs CPR on Jang while Hathaway bags him. Corday grabs the HemoAid from Marquez, loads it into the rapid infuser. Romano enters.

ROMANO
Lizzie, what are you doing?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

CORDAY
(awkward)
Doctor Romano...

ROMANO
I didn't authorize the use of
HemoAid in the ER.

The ALARM STOPS.

WEAVER
He's got a rhythm.

HATHAWAY
Faint pulse.

WEAVER
Start dopamine, titrate to a
systolic of 100.

WRIGHT
I get 60/30.

CORDAY
Actually, I've been trying to tell
you -- I've moved ahead with an ER
study.

ROMANO
And who said you could?

CORDAY
Doctor Greene signed on as my
faculty advisor.

Romano takes in the news, stays composed.

ROMANO
I see.

CORDAY
I'd like to explain --

WEAVER
Let's repeat a crit.

ROMANO
I haven't moved my office.

Romano exits. Corday watches him go, then returns to her
work.

(CONTINUED)
Call the OR, tell them we're on our way.

CUT TO:

Del Amico talks to Karen about her lab results. Karen is weak, but has temporarily stopped vomiting.

KAREN
I feel a lot better now --

DEL AMICO
That's because we rehydrated you. But with hyperemesis gravidarum, the vomiting can continue throughout your pregnancy, or even get worse.

KAREN
I can handle it.

DEL AMICO
(reading chart)
Your labs indicate your kidneys aren't working well. And you have a low potassium level, which could cause cardiac arrhythmia.

KAREN
(getting upset)
I don't know what Dave said to you, but I'm not giving up this baby.

DEL AMICO
I'm not suggesting that, but there are drugs available which can reduce the nausea --

KAREN
My OB said drugs could put my baby at risk.

(CONTINUED)
DEL AMICO
There is that possibility. But endangering your health also puts your baby at risk.

KAREN
(beat)
My whole life, all I've ever wanted was to be a mom.
(weak smile)
I think it's something I'd be really good at, you know?

DEL AMICO
I'm sure you'll make a great mother. But physically, you might not be able to be one without some medical intervention.

KAREN
Would you take the drugs?

DEL AMICO
(beat)
Yes, I would.

Tears well in Karen's eyes.

KAREN
I can't. I'm sorry, I just can't.

DEL AMICO
(beat)
Think about it. If your condition worsens -- and I think it could -- your life could be at risk.

KAREN
I know.

DEL AMICO
The bottom line is: if you die, your baby dies.

OFF Karen as she nods, considering this.

CUT TO:

TRAUMA HALLWAY

Ross walks through, passes Greene at the lightboard.

(CONTINUED)
GREENE
Hey, Doug, you ever been to Hog Head McDunna's?

ROSS
Great taco bar, but I'll have to take a raincheck on tonight.

GREENE
You know Carol's welcome to come along...

HALEH approaches Ross.

HALEH
Doctor Anspaugh's on the phone for you.

ROSS
Thanks. (to Greene)
We still need to talk.

As Greene and Ross move off in opposite directions, two transports exit Trauma One with Jang on a gurney, head for the elevators. Corday, with clipboard, and Marquez follow.

CORDAY
I'll need a record of his vitals after each bag was hung.

MARQUEZ
You got it.

As Marquez moves off, Corday slows down as she sees Romano talking to Lindsey Jang. Romano looks up, sees Corday, approaches.

ROMANO
Doctor Corday, this is Lindsey Jang, your patient's son.

CORDAY
(surprised)
Mister Jang. I wasn't aware any relatives had arrived.

LINDSEY JANG
How's my father?

(CONTINUED)
CORDAY
His heart stopped, but we were
able to resuscitate him. He's
being taken to surgery --

LINDSEY JANG
Did it stop because you gave him
fake blood?

Corday shoots Romano a look.

CORDAY
No, in fact, he responded quite
well --

LINDSEY JANG
Who gave you permission to try
that?

ROMANO
Why don't I give you two some
privacy?

Corday watches Romano move off, then returns her
attention to Jang.

CORDAY
Mister Jang, we did use an
experimental blood product on your
father, but it was intended to
help him. Here's a packet
explaining the protocol being
used --

Corday removes a packet from her clipboard, holds it out.

LINDSEY JANG
(getting upset)
My father should've gotten real
blood.

CORDAY
He did. If you just look --

Jang slaps the packet away. Paper flies everywhere.

LINDSEY JANG
I don't care about your stupid
study.

Jang starts to walk off. Corday bends down to pick up
the strewn papers. Jang stops.

(CONTINUED)
LINDSEY JANG
If he dies, I'm holding you responsible.

He continues on. OFF Corday.

CUT TO:

EXAM ONE

While Scott lays in bed, Jeanie nervously checks her watch.

JEANIE
Your labs should've been back by now.

SCOTT
This is County, remember? I mean, you should see some of the P.A.s they have working here --

JEANIE
(smiles)
Very funny --

Jeanie turns, notices Scott wincing in pain.

JEANIE
Is it bad?

SCOTT
I'm always sore after climbing.

Ross enters with Scott's chart.

ROSS
Hey there, buddy. How're you feeling?

SCOTT
Little better.

ROSS
(to Jeanie)
Can I talk to you outside for a minute?

SCOTT
I want to hear.

Jeanie nods to Ross.

(CONTINUED)
ROSS
Scott, your labs indicate that you're pancytopenic, which means you have very low blood cell counts.

JEANIE
How low?

Ross hands over Scott's chart. Jeanie looks it over.

ROSS
(to Scott)
*We'll have to tap some of your bone marrow to see if it's producing cells. You'll also need transfusions, and we'll have to put you in an isolation room --*

JEANIE
Maybe we should talk outside --

Scott and Jeanie share a look. He knows it's bad news. Jeanie and Ross move out into --

ADMIT AREA

JEANIE
A bone marrow biopsy? He could have the flu.

ROSS
The flu wouldn't lower his white count.

JEANIE
His counts probably haven't come back yet from the chemo. It's only been a few weeks.

ROSS
Jeannie, he needs this biopsy.

JEANIE
I've seen Scott at his worst, and I'm sure Doctor Anspaugh would agree --

ROSS
I've already spoken with Anspaugh. He wants me to move forward.

(CONTINUED)
JEANIE
(beat)
I'll get Exam Four set up for
isolation.

Ross starts to move off.

JEANIE
About Scott's pain --

ROSS
I'll take care of that.

CUT TO:

MAIN HALLWAY/CHAIRS

TAKATA arrives for his shift as Hathaway checks the
clinic sign-in table.

HATHAWAY
(read from clipboard)
Nancy Logan.

TAKATA
Off with one hat, on with another.

HATHAWAY
ER nurse, clinic nurse, ER nurse,
clinic nurse...

TAKATA
More like super nurse.

In the b.g., we see NANCY LOGAN, 16, middle-class, nice
kid, hand her coat to a male, 40's, mild-mannered,
sitting next to her. Nancy approaches Hathaway.

NANCY
Hey, Nurse Hathaway.

HATHAWAY
Hi, Nancy. Does your dad want to
come back with us?

NANCY
No, that's okay.

As Hathaway and Nancy move toward Exam Two, Weaver passes
Greene as he heads down the hallway.

(CONTINUED)
WEAVER
Mark, have you seen David Morgenstern?

GREENE
No, and I'd rather not. He spent an hour talking to my tetanus patient about her antique bottle-cap collection.

WEAVER
He may have come back to work a little early.

She starts to move off.

WEAVER
Oh, and we need to discuss this Doug Ross situation at some point.

GREENE
What situation?

WEAVER
Sounds like he's not coming back next year.

OFF Greene, surprised.

CUT TO:

EXAM TWO/CLINIC

Nancy rolls up her sleeve while Hathaway reviews her chart.

HATHAWAY
Does your father know that you're here for birth control?

NANCY
Uh... not exactly. You won't tell him, will you?

HATHAWAY
Not if you don't want me to.

(beat)
Have you been having regular periods since your last Depo-Provera injection?

NANCY
Light.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

HATHAWAY
Weight gain, leg cramps or pain, visual changes?

Nancy shakes her head "no" as Hathaway prepares the shot, administers it.

HATHAWAY
Are you using condoms to prevent sexually transmitted disease?

NANCY
Sometimes my boyfriend forgets.

HATHAWAY
It's your responsibility, too.

NANCY
Yeah, I know.

Hathaway fills out a pad, hands Nancy a slip of paper.

HATHAWAY
Here's your follow-up reminder to come back in three months --

Hathaway reaches into a drawer, removes a handful of condoms, gives them to Nancy.

HATHAWAY
And here are some condoms. Use them, okay?

NANCY
Thanks. I will.

CUT TO:

HALLWAY/ELEVATOR LOBBY

Carter, looking exhausted, exits the men's room as Del Amico passes eating a brownie.

DEL AMICO
Hey, you never returned my call last night.

CARTER
Sorry. I need a new answering machine.

(CONTINUED)
DEL AMICO
You also need some sleep. You
look like the walking dead.

CARTER
Insomnia. Happens every now and
then.

DEL AMICO
Try this for a quick fix.

Del Amico tries to break her brownie in two, laughs as they try to salvage the crumbling pieces.

DAVE (O.S.)
Just wanted to say thanks for
nothing.

Del Amico turns, finds Dave Fearn, fuming.

DEL AMICO
(beat)
mister Fearn, I'm sorry, but
your wife doesn't want to take
the risk --

DAVE
Save it for your priest, okay?
You know, the minute I saw your
name, I should've asked for
someone else.

DEL AMICO
(confused)
My name?

DAVE
You're Catholic, right?

DEL AMICO
What does that have to do with
anything?

DAVE
Do you get extra points for
putting a baby's life ahead of my
wife's? Is that how it works?

Carter steps up to Fearn.

CARTER
Excuse me, sir --

Del Amico pushes Carter out of the way.

(CONTINUED)
GREENE
Elizabeth. Heard you found your first HemoAid candidate.

CORDAY
And lost him again -- no thanks to Doctor Romano.

GREENE
What’d he do?

CORDAY
(beat)
It's not important.

GREENE
What can I say? Romano's a jerk.

CORDAY
(laughs)
Actually, that was perfectly put.

GREENE
Don't let him get to you. And if you need backup, give a holler.

CORDAY
Thanks.

As Greene moves off, Corday spots Benton at the nurses' station, juggling Reese, a car seat and a phone.

CORDAY
Peter, what's wrong?

BENTON
I need to get Reese over to Carla's, but my damn car won't start. I've called for a taxi -- twice -- and I have a surgery scheduled --

CORDAY
I could take him for you. My car's here --

BENTON
(hesitates)
Uh, thanks, but I don't think that's a good idea.

CORDAY
I'm a good driver, Peter.
CONTINUED: (2)

BENTON
It's not that, it's just -- it might be kind of awkward, you know, with Carla...

CORDAY
Fine. You drive, and I'll keep this little one company.
(takes Reese from Benton)
Come here, sweetheart.

Benton checks his watch.

BENTON
We could just make it.

CUT TO:

MEDICAL SCHOOL ANATOMY LAB

As Weaver opens the door, she passes a PROFESSOR exiting.

PROFESSOR
Are you looking for a student?

WEAVER
Uh... no. I'm -- I see him.

Weaver passes a team of medical students working on a dead cadaver, finds Morgenstern working on his own cadaver with the chest cavity opened on the left side from a thoracotomy incision. He's got a pericardiocentesis needle and syringe, and is sticking it into the skin just below the sternum, watching it hit the heart by looking into the incision.

WEAVER
Bull's-eye.

MORGENSTERN (startled)
Kerry. It's not wise to sneak up on a man with a needle in his hand.

WEAVER
I wanted to check on your eye.

MORGENSTERN
Much better, thank you. Saline did the trick.

(CONTINUED)
Weaver watches Morgenstern draw fluid out of the heart.

MORGENSTERN
Figured after six months, it wouldn't hurt to brush up on my anatomy.

WEAVER
All of us could benefit from that on occasion.

MORGENSTERN
(beat)
Tell me something, Kerry -- do you ever think about patients when you're working on them? You know -- their hopes, their dreams?

WEAVER
Honestly? No.

MORGENSTERN
I never used to, but in that trauma room today... all I could think about was that old grocer's life, and how he was relying on me...

WEAVER
I don't know if you heard, but last month, I suffered a grand mal seizure during a HazMat incident --

MORGENSTERN
Ah, then you know...

WEAVER
Know what?

MORGENSTERN
About perspective -- looking at the big picture.

WEAVER
(carefully)
I know that the big picture can be humbling. Maybe even destructive to one's focus... and confidence.

Morgenstern considers this, opens his mouth, then decides against it.

(CONTINUED)
MORGENSTERN

Nonsense.
(indicates corpse)
Kerry Weaver, meet Jane DeLeo --
cook, mother of five, never
retired in spite of crippling
arthritis, outlived three of her
children, never left Chicago.

WEAVER
You know all that about this
cadaver?

MORGENSTERN
No, I made it up. But if I did
know, I'd be a better doctor.

OFF Weaver, deciding not to argue with that.

CUT TO:

EXAM FOUR/ISOLATION

Ross performs a painful bone-marrow biopsy on Scott,
drugged but conscious, lying on his stomach. Jeanie
faces him, uses a visualization technique as she holds
his hand.

JEANIE
You're almost there --

SCOTT
Crux of the climb.

JEANIE
(nodding)
Just a few hundred yards to go.
Your fingers search across the
blank rock until you find the
perfect handhold... do you feel
it?

SCOTT
I got it...

ROSS
I'm going to be inserting the
needle now, Scott.

JEANIE
All you have to do is just hold
on. Breathe. You're almost there
-- almost to the top.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Ross inserts a large core needle into Scott's hip and begins to turn it like a corkscrew. Scott screams out in pain, squeezes Jeanie's hand.

JEANIE
It's okay, Scott. I've got you.
Just hold on.

OFF Jeanie, trying to do the same.

CUT TO:

EXT. GAS STATION

Benton pumps gas into Corday's black Mustang convertible. Inside the car, Corday sits in the passenger seat while Reese sleeps in his car seat in back. Corday talks to Benton through her open window.

CORDAY
Do we really have time for this?

BENTON
You can't drive on empty.

CORDAY
But after that 'E' light comes on, I always have an entire day's worth of petrol left --

BENTON
I'm not running out of gas in the middle of Garfield Park.

Corday looks in back, covers Reese with a blanket.

CORDAY
(sotto)
For your sake, Reese, I hope you don't inherit your father's bullheadedness.

BENTON
When we get to Carla's restaurant, I'll probably have to double-park, so I'll take Reese inside and you can stay in the car.

Benton replaces the pump, gets back inside the car.

CORDAY
Are you still in love with her?
Carla?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

BENTON
No -- I mean, it was never love.

CORDAY
So you don't object to sport sex on principle --

BENTON
Elizabeth --

CORDAY
But you are worried about Carla seeing us together.

Benton STARTS the IGNITION.

BENTON
I don't know what you're talking about.

CORDAY
Is it because I'm white?

BENTON
Excuse me?

CORDAY
We spend a lot of time together, and there's an obvious chemistry, but there's also an obstacle. The only explanation I'm left with is that it's a racial problem --

Benton tangles with his seatbelt as he throws the car into reverse.

BENTON
(annoyed)
Elizabeth, I don't even know how to respond --

Bam! The car runs into something -- another car? Benton hits his head against the steering wheel. REESE wakes up, begins to WAIL. Benton checks on him, then on Corday.

BENTON
Damn. Where'd he come from? Are you okay? Reese?

CORDAY
(shaken)
We're fine --

(CONTINUED)
Benton is already out of the car. When he walks around to the back to check on the damage, he finds SALLY INGRAM, 45, petite, in a business suit, bloodied and groaning in pain, lying prone on the ground next to a parked car. A large shoulder bag lies next to her, soaked.

BENTON

Oh, my God. Elizabeth! Help!

OFF Benton, dropping beside the wounded woman.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

AMBULANCE BAY - 3:30 P.M.

Carter, Del Amico and Oligario meet an Ambulance. AUDIA jumps out of the driver's side.

CARTER
What've you got?

AUDIA
Auto versus pedestrian --

He opens the back door, revealing Corday with Ingram, backboard, C-collar, IV, oxygen by cannula, monitor, a splint on her left leg, conscious, belligerent.

CORDAY
BP's okay, 130/85 --

OLIGARIO
Doctor Corday?

CORDAY
Got in a bit of an accident.
(to Ingram)
We're here, Miss Ingram.

INGRAM
Finally.

Corday helps unload Ingram as Benton zooms into the Ambulance Bay driving Corday's Mustang.

DEL AMICO
You okay?

CORDAY
Yes. Doctor Benton was involved, too --

INGRAM
Involved? He ran into me!

CARTER
He had Reese with him?

DEL AMICO
I got it.

INGRAM
I was on my lunch break. I need to call my boss --

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Corday and Carter head inside with Ingram while Del Amico and Oligario move over to Benton, who frantically tries to remove the car seat from the back with Reese still in it. Benton has a small bloody gash on his forehead.

DEL AMICO
Here, let me --

BENTON
No, I got it.

Benton removes the car seat, with Reese calmly still strapped inside. They rush into --

ADMIT/MAN HALLWAY

Greene joins as they race down the Hallway.

BENTON
Pulse is 160, resps 32. He was crying after it happened, but he's getting somnolent --

GREENE
Peter, what happened?

BENTON
I backed into a pedestrian. Reese was in the backseat. He seemed okay -- I mean, he was strapped into his car seat --

GREENE
We'll check him out.

BENTON
Anna, would you take a look?

DEL AMICO
Of course.

BENTON
How's the pedestrian?

GREENE
Don't worry, she's in good hands.

FOLLOW Benton with Reese, Del Amico, and Greene and Oligario INTO --
DEL AMICO
He feels warm.

BENTON
He had a fever before --

Oligario begins to unstrap Reese.

OLIGARIO
(to Reese)
It's alright, sweetie --

BENTON
Don't! Don't move him until we CT his head, neck and abdomen.

Del Amico and Greene exchange a look.

GREENE
Peter, why don't I have a look at your head lac while Anna checks Reese out?

BENTON
I'm fine.

DEL AMICO
Go with him, Peter.

But instead, Benton sidesteps Greene and moves into --

TRAUMA TWO

Corday, Carter and Haleh work on Ingram. Benton starts to glove up as Greene follows.

CARTER
Let's get a CBC, type and cross for four, c-spinal, chest, pelvis and left femur, and dip a urine for blood.

INGRAM
I have to get to work --

CORDAY
Someone's calling your boss for you.

INGRAM
Harbilas & Kleiderman Law Offices.

Benton and Corday share a look.

(continued)
CONTINUED:

CORDAY
Yes, we got it.

BENTON
How is she?

CORDAY
Superficial lacs and multiple contusions and abrasions.

HALEH
Pulse ox 99.

Benton palpates her abdomen.

CORDAY
I checked her in the ambulance -- her abdomen's benign.

BENTON
Does this hurt?

INGRAM
(nods)
And it's your fault -- you were more worried about your sick kid than looking where you were going!

Benton throws Corday a nasty look.

CORDAY
I was explaining to her --

BENTON
(cutting her off)
Peritoneal lavage tray.

CARTER
I don't think that's necessary --

GREENE
(sotto; to Benton)
Peter, it's probably not a good idea for you to be here --

BENTON
Has the trauma team been paged?

CORDAY
Peter...

BENTON
(to Haleh)
Do it.

(continued)
Greene and Corday share a look as Haleh moves to the phone. Greene grabs Benton by the elbow.

**GREENE**

Come on.

Benton reluctantly lets Greene lead him into --

**SUTURE ROOM**

**BENTON**

(moves to leave)

I should check on Reese --

**GREENE**

Anna is taking care of him.

Greene sits Benton down, flashes a penlight into his eyes.

**GREENE**

Did you ever lose consciousness?

**BENTON**

No, I was barely moving --

Greene examines the cut.

**GREENE**

Doesn't need suturing.

**BENTON**

She came from out of nowhere -- must've been in my blind spot.

Greene places a bandage on Benton's forehead.

**GREENE**

Don't beat yourself up. It was an accident.

**BENTON**

(looks at watch)

Damn! I'm missing surgery.

Del Amico enters.

**D.A.**

Reese is fine, Peter.

**BENTON**

Did you get a CT?
CONTINUED:

DEL AMICO
Not necessary. Normal fundi and he's alert and interactive. Connie's giving him a bottle.

Benton spots Romano in the Trauma Hallway.

BENTON
Thanks, Anna...

Benton rushes into --

TRAUMA HALLWAY

BENTON
Doctor Romano --

ROMANO
Peter, where the hell have you been? Brin's been screaming bloody murder.

BENTON
I got in a car accident -- hit a pedestrian.

ROMANO
Why were you out on the town when you had surgery?

Before Benton can answer, Corday exits Trauma Two.

CORDAY
Doctor Romano, I'm afraid Peter may have brought you down here for nothing --

ROMANO
Surgical consult's for your victim?

(off Benton's look)
Well, let's go see what damage you've wrought.

Romano moves into Trauma Two.

CORDAY
Is Reese okay?

BENTON
What'd you tell that woman about me?

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

CORDAY
We were in the ambulance, she asked what happened.

BENTON
She works for a damn lawyer --

Jerry approaches, nods towards two uniformed cops.

JERRY
Doctor Benton, these two want to question you about the accident.

BENTON
(to Corday)
You do have insurance, right?

CORDAY
The forms are somewhere... I'll have to poke around at home --

BENTON
Elizabeth, it's the law -- you have to have it with you --

JERRY
I think they just want to take a report...

BENTON
Yeah, okay.

Benton turns his back on Corday, approaches the cops. OFF Corday.

CUT TO:

LOUNGE

Jeanie stands at her locker, pulling on her lab coat as Hathaway enters, pours herself some coffee.

HATHAWAY
Doug told me about Doctor Anspaugh's son. How's he doing?

JEANIE
He's holding up.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

HATHAWAY
I wanted to tell you -- I'm opening up the clinic so the staff can get tested as possible marrow donors. Jerry's already sent out an e-mail to the other floors, and Anna's making up some fliers --

JEANIE
That's a nice gesture, Carol, but --

HATHAWAY
I know it's unlikely we'll find a match, but people want to do something.

JEANIE
(upset)
No, it's premature. The biopsy results aren't even back. Give the kid a chance, for godsake!

Hathaway steps back. Jeanie leaves. OFF Hathaway.

CUT TO:

EXAM FOUR/ISOLATION
Ross shows Scott how to use a PCA device.

ROSS
The pump's computerized, so it'll release a fixed dosage of pain medication each time you press it. You're calling the shots.

SCOTT
Can I o.d. if I push it too much?

ROSS
No, it's programmed to lockout during set intervals, so that won't happen --

Greene stands in the Hallway, knocks at the door.

GREENE
Doug?

Ross exits into --
ROSS
I'm kind of in the middle of something.

GREENE
Donald Anspaugh just called. He has some concerns about putting Scott on PCA.

ROSS
He called you?

GREENE
He wanted to ask about the ER's policy. I told him we didn't have one since I wasn't aware that you were using PCA on kids.

ROSS
Uh-huh. Well, I am.

GREENE
I wish you'd told me.

ROSS
I didn't know I needed your permission.

GREENE
You should keep me informed.

ROSS
Would you have told me not to?

GREENE
Doug, I'm not asking you to answer to me, just to speak up.

ROSS
This is exactly why there should be a Pedes Attending...
  (then)
  I'll call Anspaugh back myself -- if that's okay with you.

Ross moves back into Exam Four. OFF Greene.

CUT TO:

MAIN HALLWAY

Benton watches as Carter and Two Transports move Sally Ingram into Curtain Area Three.

(CONTINUED)
Benton gets Carter's attention, pulls him into the Hall.

BENTON
What'd Romano say about her belly?

CARTER
He agreed with Doctor Corday --
it's benign.

BENTON
I want to see her labs.

CARTER
They're not back yet.

BENTON
You've got to stay on top of them.

CARTER
It's scary, isn't it? One second,
one wrong move... and your life
can change, just like that.

BENTON
(annoyed)
Does she have any other complaints?

CARTER
Just a mild headache.

BENTON
Send her up for a CT.

CARTER
CT?

Down the Hallway, Benton spots Corday talking to CARLA, who holds Reese.

BENTON
Just do it.

Benton jogs over to the two women.

CORDAY
He's been a real trooper.

CARLA
That's my good boy.
(sees Benton)
Peter, there you are.

(CONTINUED)
BENTON
It was a minor accident. Reese is fine.

CARLA
(re: his forehead)
What about you?

BENTON
It wasn't as bad as it sounds. I was getting gas --

CARLA
Yes, Elizabeth filled me in.

Benton looks to Corday.

CORDAY
Just the highlights.

CARLA
I should get Reese home. Thanks again for taking care of him.

CORDAY
You're very welcome. And you feel better now, Reese.

BENTON
Call me if he gets irritable or lethargic.

CARLA
I will, I will.

Benton leans over, gives Reese a kiss on the head as Carla exits with him.

CORDAY
She takes things in stride.

BENTON
Like what?

CORDAY
Really, Peter, you need to chill out.

BENTON
If only I'd waited for that taxi. Or taken the subway. Or gotten my stupid car fixed --

(CONTINUED)
CORDAY  
You mean, if only I hadn't gotten involved, is that it?

BENTON  
I didn't say that.

CORDAY  
You didn't have to.

Corday turns, walks away. OFF Benton.

CUT TO?

ADMIT AREA

From the Admit Desk, Weaver watches Morgenstern talking to a Young Boy and his Mother in Curtain Area One. Morgenstern ruffles the boy's hair, walks with Takata toward the Desk.

MORGENSTERN
Diagnosis -- too many bologna and cheese sandwiches and hours in front of video games.

TAKATA
Fleets enema?

MORGENSTERN
(nodding)
And the number for the nearest Cub Scout troop. Boys need activity -- stay fit, make friends, and have fun, all at the same time.

Weaver approaches as Morgenstern drops off his chart.

WEAVER
You came back --

MORGENSTERN
Why wouldn't I?

Wright ducks her head out of Exam One.

WRIGHT
Doctor Weaver, I'm losing a pulse on Plazik!

Weaver and Morgenstern rush into --
Paul Plazik, 50s, overweight, lies in bed, unconscious.

MORGENSTERN
What's his history?

WEAVER
Presented with pyloric stenosis secondary to chronic ulcer disease. Ate a big lunch, followed by bad heartburn.

MORGENSTERN
Did he take any meds?

WEAVER
(reading chart)
Bromo seltzer.

WRIGHT
He's bradying down.

MORGENSTERN
Probably vaso-vagal.

WEAVER
You think the CO2 from the bromo is distending in his stomach...?

Morgenstern grabs an NG tube and tries to insert it down Plazik's throat, but it won't go down.

MORGENSTERN
He may have esophageal strictures.

Morgenstern continues to struggle.

WEAVER
Here. Let me try. David...

He hands off to Weaver, but she has trouble as well.

WEAVER
Damn! I can't get it, either.

MORGENSTERN
Give me an eighteen-gauge needle and a syringe.

Wright hands over the items. Morgenstern pulls out the syringe's plunger and tosses it aside.

WEAVER
What are you doing?

(Continued)
CONTINUED:

MORGENSTERN
We have to decompress him or he'll explode.

Morgenstern aims the needle at Plazik's belly under the left ribs. He takes a deep breath.

WEAVER
Are you sure...

Morgenstern jams the needle into Plazik's belly. Suddenly, a WHOOSH of CO2 releases from Plazik's stomach. A beat.

WRIGHT
Pulse is coming back.

Morgenstern steps back, sweating.

WEAVER
(smiling)
Excellent work, Doctor.

OFF Morgenstern, relieved.

CUT TO:

ER SUPPLY ROOM (EXAM THREE)

Corday counts bags of HemoAid in refrigerator marked "Non-Food Supplies." Bins filled with medical supplies, and non-perishable food and drink items line the walls.

ROMANO (O.S.)
Lizzie, Lizzie, Lizzie...

Corday turns to find Romano standing in the doorway, watching her.

ROMANO
I had no idea it meant so much for you to have your own piece of the pie.

CORDAY
I didn't intend to go behind your back.

ROMANO
Never apologize for being ambitious. I just wish you'd spend your time on a study that was more respectable.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

CORDAY
Respectable?

ROSS
Foisting artificial blood on hapless John Does in the ER without their consent... it's a bit morally ambiguous, don't you think?

CORDAY
You're concerned about my soul...

ROMANO
Amongst other things. How would you like to become the Chicago-area coordinator for the HemoAid OR study?

CORDAY
Are you joking?

ROMANO
The drug company's expanding to more sites, asked me to oversee them. If you join me, you'll climb the ladder from worker bee to queen bee.

CORDAY
That's a generous offer. Is it contingent on me dropping my ER study?

ROMANO
Can't imagine you'd have time for both.

OFF Corday, faced with a decision.

CUT TO:

EXAM TWO/CLINIC

Hathaway labels a blood sample as Greene rolls down his sleeve.

HATHAWAY
Thanks for helping out, Mark.

GREENE
No, thank you. This bone marrow drive's a great idea.

They move into --
A half dozen healthcare workers wait in line for the bone marrow blood-letting.

HATHAWAY
I'm glad you and Doug are going out tonight. I know he's looking forward to it.

GREENE
He canceled on me.

HATHAWAY
You're kidding. I told him we could cancel...

Hathaway notices Nancy Logan with ABBEY LOGAN, 40s, conservative, at the Admit Desk. She approaches.

HATHAWAY
Nancy, is there a problem?

Nancy counts the floor tiles, doesn't look up.

MRS. LOGAN
Are you --
(reads Nancy's follow-up notice)

C. Hathaway, R.N.?

HATHAWAY
Yes.

MRS. LOGAN
I'm Nancy's mother, Abbey Logan. I found your clinic follow-up note along with these.

Mrs. Logan removes the condoms from her purse.

MRS. LOGAN
Nancy won't talk to me, so I thought you might.

HATHAWAY
Confidentiality laws prevent me from discussing Nancy's medical history.

MRS. LOGAN
(frustrated)
I just want to know what's going on with our daughter --

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY
Maybe I can answer some questions for Nancy, in private, that would make her more willing to discuss this.

MRS. LOGAN
Whatever you can do.

CUT TO:

DRUG LOCK-UP

Jeanie stares at the shelves, lost in thought.

ROSS
Scott's biopsy results came in.

Jeanie resumes looking for a medication, doesn't face him.

JEANIE
And...?

ROSS
The cancer's back.

Jeanie looks like she's been hit with a ton of bricks.

JEANIE
How bad?

ROSS
The lymphoma's in his bone marrow. That's why he's so anemic.

JEANIE
I told him... it was all behind him...

ROSS
Scott's made it through this before -- he can do it again.

JEANIE
But this means more chemo.

ROSS
And he'll have to stay isolated this time. There's a greater chance of infection.

Jeanie can barely react. She nods numbly.

(CONTINUED)
ROSS
I've already contacted the
National Bone Marrow Registry --
they'll conduct a search for
possible matches. And his father
or sister could match.

JEANIE
Does he know yet?

ROSS
I'm going to tell him now. His
dad's already with him, and I
thought you might want to be
there, too.

JEANIE
(beat)
No, they should have some time
alone. I'll stop by later.

ROSS
Okay. I'm sorry.

Ross exits. OFF Jeanie, devastated.

CUT TO:

OMITTED

EXAM ONE

Hathaway talks to Nancy.

HATHAWAY
Your parents obviously care about
you...

NANCY
Trust me, this would seriously
flip them out.

HATHAWAY
It might reassure them to hear
that you're being responsible
about birth control and S.T.D.s...

NANCY
But you won't tell them, right?

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY
I can't tell them. And I won't. But sometimes it makes things worse to shut people out who care. Your mother's concerned, your father brought you here earlier --

NANCY
(beat)
That wasn't my father.
(off Hathaway's look)
The man you saw me with earlier... he's my teacher.

Uh-oh. A beat as Hathaway takes this in.

HATHAWAY
Nancy... are you having sex with your teacher?

NANCY
It's not like he's forcing me to or anything. We love each other, you know? But we have to keep it quiet because if Jim's wife found out --

HATHAWAY
He's married?

NANCY
Yeah, but she's real unstable, his wife. He can't just tell her yet. We're waiting until I turn eighteen, then Jim's going to get a divorce.

HATHAWAY
Your teacher, Jim -- what is he -- forty years old?

NANCY
About that.

HATHAWAY
What he's doing is against the law.

NANCY
No, I love him and he loves me. It's totally simple.

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY

No, Nancy. It's not simple at all.

OFF Hathaway. Oh boy.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

CURTAIN AREA THREE - 5:20 P.M.

Benton, carrying a thick computer printout, approaches Sally Ingram, resting, sullen. Haleh checks her vitals.

BENTON
How are you feeling?

INGRAM
Better.

HALEH
(sotto; to Benton)
Should you be here?

INGRAM
I'd like to go home now.

Carter comes in.

BENTON
As soon as we're sure you're fine. Your CT came back negative, but your labs indicate an elevated amylase and lipase --

Carter
Doctor Benton?

BENTON
(points to printout) Carter, you missed something in Ms. Ingram's labs. These levels indicate pancreatic injury --

Carter
(points)
No, you missed something.

BENTON
(surprised)
Her B.A.L.?

Carter
Point-one-six.
(to Ingram)
Did you consume any alcoholic beverages during your lunch break?

Ingram sheepishly looks at Carter, who looks at Benton, who looks at Ingram.
Corday looks over the chart of Won Sok Jang, awake but groggy, on O2 mask, multiple IVAC pumps, heart monitor and pulse ox.

CORDAY
I'm pleased to say, Mister Jang, it looks like you made it through with flying colors.

LINDSEY JANG (O.S.)
He doesn't understand English very well.

Corday turns to find Lindsey Jang, holding a cup of coffee.

CORDAY
I just wanted to see how he was faring.

WON SOK JANG
(to Lindsey; in Cantonese)
Gong bay keuih teung, dawjeh keuih, gow ngoh tieu meng.

LINDSEY JANG
My father wants to thank you for helping save his life.

CORDAY
(nods to Mr. Jang)
You're very welcome.

LINDSEY JANG
I told him about your blood study, and even though I still have reservations, he'd like to know more about your study.

CORDAY
Certainly. With your help, of course.

Lindsey nods his consent and sits down next to Jang's bed.

CORDAY
Mister Jang, you were given an artificial blood product.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LINDSEY JANG
Babah, keuhi weui jahm see bay dee
ga hyt bay neih...

OFF Corday, trying to bridge the gap.

CUT TO:

EXT. AMBULANCE BAY

Weaver joins Morgenstern, still exhilarated from his big
save. She hands him a soda pop, drinks one herself.

WEAVER
It was a thrill to see you in
action again.

MORGENSTERN
We make a good team, you and I.

WEAVER
I'm sorry if I was presumptive
before --

MORGENSTERN
You're a conscientious person,
Kerry. It makes you a good
doctor. And a good manager.

Weaver takes the compliment -- and the opening.

WEAVER
I certainly tried to fill the void
while you were on leave...

MORGENSTERN
And surpassed me -- probably
because of your sincere interest
in all things administrative. I
never really gave a damn about the
bureaucracy before. Didn't
interest me back then.

WEAVER
And now?

MORGENSTERN
Now, everything interests me.

OFF Weaver, smiling, sorry to hear that.

CUT TO:
Carter sits down, rolls up his sleeve, while Del Amico takes a blood sample.

**CARTER**
I wonder how many people actually match for bone marrow?

**DEL AMICO**
Something like ten percent.

**CARTER**
Not very good odds, are they?

There's an uncomfortable pause, then:

**DEL AMICO**
How's Chase doing?

**CARTER**
It's still pretty early, but you know Chase...

**DEL AMICO**
When can I visit him?

**CARTER**
Kenner is pretty strict about visitors...

**DEL AMICO**
(doesn't push it)
I know. Just say hi for me.

Del Amico finishes with the draw.

**CARTER**
You bet. Your turn.

---

In the next bed, Hathaway draws Ross's blood.

**HATHAWAY**
The girl confided in me because she thought her secret was safe.

**ROSS**
Providing access to birth control is one thing. Sexual abuse is another.

(CONTINUED)
HATHAWAY
It could scare away other kids from
coming into the clinic. She was
doing the right thing by coming
here --

ROSS
This is one unique case.

HATHAWAY
Let's hope.
(beat)
I just... I gave her my word.

ROSS
This guy's a forty-year-old
teacher, married, having sex with
a minor. He's a predator.

Marquez ducks her head in the doorway.

MARQUEZ
Carol, a policewoman's here asking
for you -- says you got a crime to
report?

HATHAWAY
Yes, I do.

OFF Hathaway.

CUT TO:

ADMIT DESK
Corday passes Greene, signing off on charts. In the
b.g., the line of health care workers snakes out of Exam
Two/Clinic.

CORDAY
Good news. Mister Jang has
decided to remain in my study
after all.

GREENE
That's terrific. What about you?

CORDAY
I think I'll join him. It may not
be the smartest political move,
but it feels like the right thing
to do.

(CONTINUED)
As Corday continues on, we pick up Jeanie erasing her name off the patient board. Anspaugh approaches.

ANSPAUGH
(grateful)
Were you behind this marrow drive?
I'm very touched.

JEANIE
No, it was Carol Hathaway's idea.
(beat)
How'd Scott take the news?

ANSPAUGH
The boy continues to surprise me.
He's determined to beat this thing -- has a spirit I haven't seen before.
(beat)
I think he owes that to you.

JEANIE
I'm afraid all I did was give him false hope.

ANSPAUGH
You made him want to fight for his life, and I'm grateful to you for that.
(beat)
Have you told Scott about your own health status?

JEANIE
No, of course not.

ANSPAUGH
I didn't think so. But somehow, he knows. He instinctively respects you -- you're a kindred spirit. You've faced your own mortality -- perhaps he senses that.
(beat)
I know he's eager to see you.

OFF Jeanie.

CUT TO:

MAIN HALLWAY

Haleh and Benton, wearing his coat, fill in Oligario as they head toward Admit.

(CONTINUED)
OLIGARIO
So as she sobered up, she thought better of getting her boss involved?

HALEH
Her exact words were, 'I want to crawl under a rock and pretend like this never happened.'

BENTON
That makes two of us.

HALEH
You were lucky, hon.

CORDAY (O.S.)
I thought I'd missed you...

Benton turns, finds Corday catching up to them. Benton glances to Haleigh and Oligario, who quickly peel off.

BENTON
Elizabeth, I talked Doctor Brin into letting me assist on a thyroidectomy tomorrow morning, and I want to check on Reese on my way home, so I thought we should cancel tonight --

CORDAY
I assumed that. I need my car keys.

BENTON
Oh... right.

He reaches into his pocket, hands the keys over. Corday sees Hathaway and Del Amico.

CORDAY
Carol, Anna.

Corday leaves Benton behind, catches up to the two women. Benton watches a beat, then moves on.

CORDAY
You two have plans this evening?

HATHAWAY
I did, then I didn't, now I'm not sure.

(CONTINUED)
DEL AMICO
I'm free. Why?

CORDAY
What would you think about a girls' night at my place? I make a mean Cosmopolitan.

DEL AMICO
I'm there.

HATHAWAY
(beat)
Me, too.

CORDAY
Shall we say eight o'clock?

HATHAWAY
It's a date.

Hathaway moves over to Greene and Ross, both working at the desk.

HATHAWAY
I don't know what you two are doing, but I have plans. So, have fun.

Hathaway walks off. Greene and Ross look at each other, shrug.

ROSS
Together again.

CUT TO:

EXAM FOUR/ISOLATION

Jeanie sits next to Scott's bed, stroking his head, watching him sleep. A beat, then she gets up, walks to the door as if to leave, but doesn't make it. She leans against the wall and starts to cry, letting her sorrow spill out in stifled sobs. Scott opens his eyes.

SCOTT
Jeanie?

Jeanie turns away from him, tries to compose herself.

SCOTT
It's okay. I've made women cry before.

(CONTINUED)
Jeanie laughs, wipes her eyes as she turns to face him.

JEANIE
How are you feeling?

SCOTT
(re: PCA pump)
This helps.

Jeanie returns to her seat.

SCOTT
My dad said you could come to Yosemite with us -- if you wanted to, I mean.

JEANIE
Yeah, I'd like that. (beat)
The Bone Marrow Registry found eight people who preliminarily match your marrow type --

SCOTT
(smiles)
Eight -- that's my lucky number.

JEANIE
They still have to do further matching --

SCOTT
But it's a start, right?

Jeanie gives him a warm smile, squeezes his hand.

JEANIE
Yes, Scott. It's a start.

CUT TO:

CORDAY'S LIVING ROOM

High-rise condo, modern decor, very classy. Votive candles are lit everywhere, TORI AMOS' "Siren" PLAYS on the CD player. Hathaway and Del Amico sit on comfy, overstuffed chairs, their shoes kicked off, sipping Cosmopolitans while Corday whips up a second batch at the bar. They're all dressed in street clothes and have let their hair down -- literally and figuratively.

(CONTINUED)
DEL AMICO
Seven brothers, seven sisters-in-law, and twelve nieces and nephews
-- with number thirteen on the way.

Corday pours another round from a martini shaker.

CORDAY
I imagine you're considered the
family freak --

DEL AMICO
My Aunt Tessa bursts into tears
every time she sees me.

Corday sits down on the floor.

HATHAWAY
But both of your families must be
proud that you're doctors, right?

They shrug.

DEL AMICO
Oh, sure...

CORDAY
But you, Carol, have something I
very much envy -- a sex life.

DEL AMICO
I'll second that.

HATHAWAY
(smiling)
I have no complaints.

CORDAY
Come on --

DEL AMICO
Give us something more than that.

CORDAY
Let us live vicariously.

HATHAWAY
As long as you're not wearing a
wire --

The DOORBELL RINGS.

CORDAY
Hold that thought. Pizza's here.

(Continued)
Hathaway reaches for her purse.

HATHAWAY

Let me --

CORDAY

No, I've got it.

Corday grabs her wallet, moves into --

FOYER

The living room is obscured from view. Corday opens the door, is surprised to find Benton standing in the hallway holding a bag of takeout. She takes a step into the hall, shuts the door a bit.

CORDAY

Peter.

BENTON

I know I should've called first, but, well -- you were right.

CORDAY

I was?

BENTON

I do have some problems about dating a white woman.

CORDAY

You know, maybe now isn't --

BENTON

I think I always assumed I'd be with a sister --

HATHAWAY (O.S.)

Hey, you need some more --

The door swings open, revealing Hathaway and Del Amico. drinks in hand.

HATHAWAY

-- money?

BENTON

(embarrassed)

Oh. I didn't know you had company.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DEL AMICO

Hi, Peter.

HATHAWAY

'Bye, Peter.

Giggling, the women retreat into the apartment.

CORDAY

It was a spur of the moment kind of thing.

BENTON

Right. I better be --

Benton makes a quick exit. As he moves down the hallway, Corday calls out after him.

CORDAY

Peter --

He stops, turns.

CORDAY

I'd love to take a rain check. Now that you know where I live.

BENTON

(beat)

Yeah, sure.

CUT TO:

KENNER NEUROLOGY CENTER - HOSPITAL ROOM

A two-bed hospital room dressed up not to look like a hospital room. CHASE, wearing p.j.s, sits up in bed watching CNN, without volume. Carter enters carrying a gym bag, gives Chase a warm smile.

CARTER

Hey, cuz.

As Carter moves closer, we see that Chase's eyes have a faraway look, and his right side appears stiff.

CARTER

What're you watching?

Carter doesn't wait for a reply, looks himself.

(CONTINUED)
CARTER

CNN. Anything happening in the
world that I should know about?

Carter waits as Chase tries to formulate an answer, but
it comes out garbled.

CARTER

(beat)
I brought you something.

Carter sits down in a chair next to Chase's bed, removes
an oversized photography book from the gym bag, opens it
on Chase's lap.

CARTER

Walker Evans. It's a
retrospective of his work.

CHASE

Th... anks.

Chase continues to stare at the TV set as Carter leafs
through the book.

CARTER

It has that one photograph that I
know you love...

As Carter searches for the photo, NURSE JOYCE, mid-
thirties, upbeat, a meds tray in hand, enters.

NURSE JOYCE

Evening, John.

CARTER

Hi, Joyce.

NURSE JOYCE

Why, Chase, look at the book your
cousin brought you?

CARTER

How'd he do today?

As she talks, Nurse Joyce tidies up around Chase's bed,
tucks in his sheets, refills his water pitcher, etc.
Chase continues to stare at the TV.

NURSE JOYCE

You've had a great day, huh,
Chase? We took a walk outside.
You liked that, didn't you?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
NURSE JOYCE (CONT'D)
And you had a nice dinner, too --
turkey, and mashed potatoes and
gravy --

CHASE
Walk... er... *

Carter sits back and watches as Nurse Joyce feeds pills into Chase's mouth, hands him a cup of water.

NURSE JOYCE
Okay, Chase, let's swallow now.
Take a sip.

Chase slowly lifts the cup to his mouth, but as he goes to take a sip, he spills it down himself and onto the book. Carter jumps up to help.

NURSE JOYCE
Oh no, your book --

Carter pulls the book away, uses his coat to dry it off.

CHASE
Walk... er Ev... ans...

CARTER
It's okay. The book's fine.

Nurse Joyce pulls the p.j. shirt over Chase's head, then finds a fresh one in the dresser.

NURSE JOYCE
Not a perfect match, but it'll do.

Nurse Joyce moves to put the shirt on Chase.

CARTER
I got it.

NURSE JOYCE
I kept your sheets on the extra bed.

CARTER
Thanks.

Nurse Joyce exits as Carter sits down on Chase's bed, helps him into the p.j. shirt. Chase looks down at the buttons.

CARTER
You want to try?

(CONTINUED)
Chase doesn't move.

CARTER
That's okay. I'll do it.

Chase stares at Carter's hands as he buttons up the shirt while Carter sadly watches his cousin. OFF Carter, trying to cope with this sad, new reality.

FADE OUT.

THE END