

GIVE AND RECIEVE

SCENE WRITTEN BY: CARLY PANDZA

DRAFT:5.12.20  
LA, CA, 90031  
CARLY@CARLYPANDZA.COM  
WGA REGISTRATION NUMBER: 2055813

INT. ABORTION CLINIC - DAY

JANE(30) is an angry, sad runaway. ANN(36) is a perfect woman.

ANN  
Beautiful day, isn't it?

JANE  
Just peachy.

ANN  
I'm Ann.

Anne sticks out her hand to shake Jane's. Jane stares at it.

JANE  
I'm sick.

ANN  
Oh sorry. It's been going around.

JANE  
Yup. I'm double lucky I guess.

ANN  
How so?

JANE  
Come on. Do I need to spell it out?  
Sarcasm. Ever heard of it?

ANN  
What's unlucky about being  
pregnant? Giving birth is a gift.

JANE  
Oh my God. Listen lady, I'm really  
not in the mood so can you just  
leave me alone?

ANN  
Listen can we start over? I had no  
right to-

JANE  
Judge?

ANN  
Yes.

JANE  
I'm used to it.

ANN

I'm not here to have an abortion.  
Don't you want to know why I'm  
here?

JANE

Listen if you're one of those right  
to lifers that wants to yell at me  
or shame me or whatever for the  
choice I'm making you can just fuck  
off.

ANN

I have no idea how you got yourself  
into this situation and I'm not  
judging you-

JANE

Then what are you doing?

ANN

Offering a sort of trade. It would  
be completely legal. We'd draw up-

JANE

What do you want? Just be straight.

ANN

I'm infertile.

JANE

And you want a baby?

ANN

Yes. Very much so.

JANE

My baby?

ANN

Possibly. We'd have to talk a  
little more. Make sure it's a fit.

JANE

What exactly is in it for me?

ANN

I would pay for everything and pay  
you for your services.

JANE

Jesus.

ANN

I-

JANE

You people think that's all I want.  
You look at someone poor and think  
that's all we dream about?

ANN

I-I, I'm sorry, I never-

JANE

Yeah I get it. You never thought.  
You never do. No one does.  
Everyone's just in their own little  
world. Dealing with their own shit.  
Well news-flash you aren't the only  
one on this planet and you aren't  
the only one dealing with not  
having what you want.

Ann slowly and softly starts to CRY.

JANE (CONT'D)

Don't do that. Please.

Jane awkwardly consoles her. Ann hugs her. Jane pulls away  
but Ann has a grip.

JANE (CONT'D)

Please let me go.

Ann keeps crying.

JANE (CONT'D)

Let go.

Ann cries harder.

JANE (CONT'D)

LET GO!

This startles Ann and everyone in the office. Ann lets go.

JANE (CONT'D)

Just leave me alone, ok?

ANN

Is this what you really want to do?  
I really am just asking.

JANE

No of course not. When has any woman wanted to kill off the possibility of a human life? Most of the people who offer alternatives don't live my life. They sit up in their ivory fucking tower. They have full access to birth control and therapy and—listen lady I don't want your sympathy. I'm not here to play the victim in some Shakespearean drama ok but I'm sick of people casting the first stone that have no idea the world I come from and don't even bother to find out.

ANN

I know I've been one of those people. And I'm going to stop pretending that I know about your life. I can only guess and make assumptions. Or listen if you are open to tell me. But if you give me a chance would you be willing to hear me out at least?

JANE

No matter what I choose will you stay here with me and drive me home?

ANN

Yes.

JANE

Ok.

ANN

Ok. Ok. I've been trying to get pregnant for a long time. There is no one else. I don't have a husband or a boyfriend or anything like that. Not from lack of trying or anything believe me. I've gotten donors. I've tried in-vitro. I've tried hiring someone to be the oven with my bun. I thought maybe instead of having another woman doing something she'd regret we could find a situation that benefits both of us.

(MORE)

ANN (CONT'D)

I know this sounds stupid, and I know as women we are more than our biology and being caregivers but my dream my entire life has been to be a mother and to start a family. I feel like with all this talk about Feminism I feel like I'm not even allowed to say that out loud anymore. Like it makes me less of a woman. I'm fed up with people judging my dreams and my choices and what I want in my life because it's MY life. I just feel more alone than I've ever felt before. I know everyone thinks this is a bad idea but I want a family and if that doesn't look like the way other people think it should well not to be rude but...screw them.

JANE

So what does this look like?

ANN

You would carry your baby to term. I would pay for everything, food, doctors visits, housing, anything you need and I would pay you a lump sum at the end for using your body.

JANE

So you're buying my baby then?

ANN

NO, of course not. This is completely legal. It's like being a surrogate but different or it's like adoption but more expensive.

JANE

Chill out lady I'm just kidding. I have a few conditions.

ANN

Oh ok. What are they?

JANE

I expect to be able to come see her whenever I want as she grows up. You can tell her I'm whoever you want but I want to see her.

ANN

Ok.

JANE

And you have to promise me you'll tell her who her real mother is once she turns 18.

ANN

But I-I mean you can't possibly...

JANE

I never knew who my real mother was. I'm not saying if I had I would have tried to find her but I think maybe if I knew I wouldn't feel so fucked up and lost

ANN

Ok.

JANE

Ok. One more thing...

ANN

What else could you possibly want?! I'm sorry. I didn't anticipate that-

JANE

I'd ask for what I want? It's funny how many people assume that I won't. They think I'm desperate and will take anything. Well this is the first step for me in having the life I know I deserve.

ANN

I understand. What else?

JANE

When she finds out you cannot make me the bad guy. You cannot tell some sob story about how I didn't want her or how I abandoned her.

ANN

Ok. There's still a matter of how much, the contract and we still need to review your health history -

JANE

I know but I said yes. We'll work all that other stuff out later.  
(standing, to Ann)  
You're driving me home right?

Ann gathers her things and they leave together.