

MEGAN

Maybe nothing's changed

Silence. Allen thinks about that for a moment. Then...

ALLEN

Call me when you know who's operating
on the other guy.

Allen steps back inside as...

25

INT. HUNTER MEDICAL, ER EXAM ROOM - DAY

25

BLOOD is drawn into a SYRINGE as...

ZOE (O.S.)

Doesn't a nurse usually do this?

Summers is with Zoe - who's working hard to seem like
she's not upset. But she is. Very.

SUMMERS

Mr. Kanaskie asked if I'd take care
of you. You're a student?

ZOE

In between degrees. Temp Full Time
here right now.

SUMMERS

"Temp Full Time". Does anyone actually
know what that means?

ZOE

No benefits.

SUMMERS

Ooookay. When was your last STD test,
Zoe?

ZOE

Um, homecoming weekend, final year
of my BA. So four years ago?

SUMMERS

I'm going to recommend a course of
anti-retrovirals. At least until the
results come back.

(glances at screen)

How do you know the Chief of Staff?

ZOE

Who?

A/6

SUMMERS

You're already in the system. Dr. Conner has ordered an X-ray of your knee?

ZOE

I fell off my bike this morning, he helped me. Dr. Summers, does that boy have AIDS? I mean, the needle I got stuck with came from him, so?

SUMMERS

We don't know. He hasn't been tested.

ZOE

Oh. So how long before --?

SUMMERS

Hep C and B in a week. HIV will take longer - six months.

A punch to the gut.

ZOE

I thought they had instant tests --?

SUMMERS

If the virus has already been in your system. Something new like this --

ZOE

Can't you just test the kid now?

SUMMERS

His mother refused. No consent, no test. I'm sorry.

ZOE

Refused? Does she know? About me?

SUMMERS

Zoe, the chances of transmission are very small.

ZOE

Why would she do that?

SUMMERS

Just take your meds. And if you're going to have sex, use protection, and... inform your partner that you may have been exposed to a sexually transmitted disease.

5/6

ZOE

Without actually having sex.

Yell or cry? Zoe wants to do both. She fight tears as...

SUMMERS

After your X-ray, go home. Call a friend. Have a glass of wine --

ZOE

Can't. I need the hours.

SUMMERS

You're distracted. We don't want you making any other mistakes.

ZOE

I DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE.

SUMMERS

Zoe --

ZOE

I DIDN'T LEAVE AN INFECTED NEEDLE LYING AROUND. WHO DID? WHY IS NOBODY ASKING THAT?

SUMMERS

Zoe. We're all on the same team here.

Silence. Then Summers hands Zoe her script.

ZOE

I should sue.

Zoe, upset, leaves the room as...

26 INT. HUNTER MEDICAL, THE FISHBOWL - DAY

26

MEREDITH, a big gal and tough looking, talks to a fatigued FEMALE CLERK (40s)...

FEMALE CLERK

Narrow it down, sweetheart. A name?

MEREDITH

Elliott Reynolds. He was attacked in a bar fight? With a knife.

FEMALE CLERK

Relation?

MEREDITH

Girlfriend.

6/6