

Forever Unspoken

By

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INT. A BATHROOM - DAY

In the centre of the room is a large free standing bathtub. A MAN sits in the tub, naked, with shaving foam on his face. It is apparent that he is suffering from some disability.

A WOMAN sits on the edge of the tub holding a razor.

WOMAN (VO)

Every day the same. The same me.
The same you. But now a different
you. My husband but not the one I
married.

Woman begins to shave the Man, with soft, gentle strokes. She cleans the razor with water from the tub.

MAN (VO)

So demeaning. I'm supposed to take
care of you.

WOMAN (VO)

We used to joke that I was turning
into your mother.

MAN (VO)

Now I'm little more than a baby.

WOMAN (VO)

That accident turned all jokes to
bitter ironies. I remember I used
to complain about having to do
everything around the house.

MAN (VO)

I can't even thank-you for
everything you do. Can't help.
Can't even offer to help.

WOMAN (VO)

Sometimes when you are asleep I
stand out in the garden. That is my
time. I stand there and I think.

MAN (VO)

God only knows how grateful I am
that you do these things for me. I
think what my life would be like
now if you weren't here. Some
stranger shaving me, clothing me,
feeding me. I think what might have
been and it terrifies me.

(CONTINUED)

WOMAN (VO)

Would we still be husband and wife
if things were different?

(beat)

No. I can't answer that question.

MAN (VO)

If I could, I would tell her that
she doesn't have to stay.

WOMAN (VO)

Will he ever get better?

MAN (VO)

That's what I should do. But in
reality I would beg her to stay.
She's my wife. I don't want some
stranger touching me.

WOMAN (VO)

If he does, what then? What if he
never gets better? What if I meet
someone else?

MAN (VO)

I wish I could tell her.

WOMAN (VO)

But how could I leave him. No-one
knows how he likes his food cooked,
what his favourite shows are. I
don't want some stranger touching
him.

She puts down the razor and picks up the sponge to clear
away the shavings and foam from his face.

MAN (VO)

I remember when we first met.

WOMAN (VO)

He's still that same handsome man I
knew. Somewhere is the man I
married.

MAN (VO)

And now things are so different.
From husband and wife to patient
and carer in the blink of an eye.

WOMAN (VO)

But is he hidden forever? Speak to
me.

(CONTINUED)

MAN (VO)

If I only I could tell her.

WOMAN (VO)

What of you is there left behind
those eyes?

His eyes start to water.

MAN (VO)

Tell her how much this means to me.
How much she means to me. If only I
could say...

WOMAN (VO)

What words are forever unspoken?

Tears roll gently down his cheek, splashing into the bath.

MAN (VO)

I love you.

She puts down the sponge and gently wipes the tears from his
face with her hands.

WOMAN (V.O.)

I know.

FADE OUT.

THE END.