

D.N.R.

Written by

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INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - WAITING ROOM - DAY

SOPHIA, 27-35, sits on edge of a comfortable armchair, leg bouncing, staring at the clock on the wall.

She glances at the door to the counselor's room, then the main entrance door.

SOPHIA  
(under breath)  
Where is she?

She pulls a cell out of her pocket, then briefly checks the screen. She stares at the clock.

BRYNN, 30-38, enters through main entrance door.

Sophia stands as Brynn approaches, putting the cell in her pocket. Sophia steps towards her with open arms. Brynn stops a few steps away from Sophia, then gives a small wave. Sophia drops her arms and smiles.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)  
I'm glad you're here. I almost  
thought you weren't coming.

Brynn crosses her arms and shrugs.

BRYNN  
I only came to show you that this  
isn't going to work. I'll do this  
session, then I want a divorce.

Sophia widens her eyes and opens her mouth.

SOPHIA  
But, Brynn --

DEB, 45-55, opens her door, smiling.

DEB  
-- Sophia and Brynn? Come on in.

Deb holds the door. Brynn walks inside.

Sophia stands frozen for a beat, then walks in.

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DEB'S OFFICE - DAY

The beige office walls encapsulate a coffee table with a tissue box, a couch, and an armchair.

Brynn sits on one end of the couch, leaning back with crossed arms. Sophia perches next to Brynn, hands folded in her lap.

Deb sits in the armchair, holding a notepad and pen.

Silence.

DEB

Sophia, I know we covered this on the phone, but I'd like you to state why you came here today. Then, Brynn, I'd like to hear the same from you.

Sophia shifts in her seat. Brynn rolls her eyes.

SOPHIA

Okay, well... I'm here because I feel like our marriage is in trouble and I'd like to fix it. I'm just not ready to give up.

Deb scribbles a quick note.

DEB

Alright, and Brynn?

Brynn shrugs. Sophia turns towards Brynn and watches her.

BRYNN

I'm here because Sophia wanted us to come.

DEB

And do you feel the same as her? That your marriage is in trouble?

Sophia leans towards Brynn a little bit.

BRYNN

Yes.

DEB

And do you share Sophia's desire to fix it?

BRYNN

I don't think it's fixable.

Sophia sways away from Brynn, looking out the nearest window.

A pause. Brynn sucks in a breath, then sharply exhales. She rubs the back of her neck.

BRYNN (CONT'D)

Honestly, I'm here to *prove* to Sophia that this won't work.

Brynn glances at Sophia, then looks back at Deb.

BRYNN (CONT'D)

I told her just before we came in that I'll do this one session, but then I'd like to discuss divorce.

Deb scribbles a note on her notepad and nods.

DEB

I see. And, Brynn, do you think...

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DEB'S OFFICE - DAY - LATER

Sophia and Brynn sit on opposite ends of the couch. Brynn sits with her arms and legs crossed. Sophia clutches a tissue in her fist, hunched over. The tissue box sits next to Sophia, resting on her thigh.

SOPHIA

I feel so selfish for saying that but it's true!

Sophia dabs at her tears with the tissue.

Brynn scoffs and shakes her head, looking at Sophia.

BRYNN

You knew about my job from the beginning. You knew how time-consuming a doctor's schedule is. You're not being fair!

Deb leans slightly back in her seat, notepad and pen poised.

DEB

Brynn, you're not letting Sophia express her emotions. Please continue, Sophia.

Brynn presses her lips into a tight line, looking at Deb.

Sophia looks at Deb with wide eyes, shaking her head.

SOPHIA

Oh! No, I finished. I feel like we don't spend time together, and that makes me feel lonely and unloved.

Deb nods. She slightly tilts her head, looking at Brynn.

DEB

Brynn? How does that make you feel?

Brynn shifts, uncrossing her legs and relaxing her arms.

BRYNN

Like a huge asshole.

Brynn faces Sophia. Sophia turns toward Brynn.

BRYNN (CONT'D)

I didn't realize you were feeling that way. I do love you, you know.

SOPHIA

I love you, too.

Sophia and Brynn exchange small smiles.

Deb scribbles furiously on her notepad.

DEB

That was great, guys. See, if you keep that up, you'll unblock your communication in no time.

SOPHIA

(to Brynn)

Does this change your mind? About the sessions? I feel like --

BRYNN

-- No. No way.

Sophia watches as Brynn walks to the window, staring out.

Deb slightly tilts her head, watching Brynn.

DEB

Why is that, Brynn? Why have you already made up your mind?

Brynn shrugs.

BRYNN

I just don't think we work anymore.

SOPHIA

Why? We just made great progress --

Brynn slams her hands on the window sill. Sophia startles at the sound.

BRYNN

We had one decent conversation.  
That's not enough to save a  
marriage.

Deb lowers the notepad and pen to her lap. She nods.

DEB

You're right, Brynn. It's not  
enough. But if you two continue --

Brynn shakes her head.

BRYNN

-- It's just not a good idea, okay?

DEB

Why not?

Brynn whirls around, facing Deb and Sophia. Brynn  
gesticulates wildly, throwing her arms out.

BRYNN

Because it's not!

DEB

But why?

BRYNN

Because I cheated, okay? I cheated  
on Sophia! It was stupid, and a  
mistake, but it happened.

Brynn let her arms fall to her sides. She looks at Sophia.

SOPHIA

You... What?

Silence. Sophia stares at Brynn.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Who? When? *Why?*

Sophia cries and collapses back against the couch, pressing  
one hand over her mouth. Brynn sits next to Sophia.

BRYNN

I'm sorry. I don't know if...  
(to Deb)  
Should I answer her? Give details?

DEB

I'd advise you give the basics:  
who, when, where, and how long.

Brynn reaches out, grabbing Sophia's hand. Sophia pulls away. Sophia wraps her arms around herself. She looks at her lap, furiously blinking away tears.

BRYNN

It was with Gen, at Anthony's Memorial Day party. You had stayed home sick. And... it was just once, Sophia, when I was lonely, I swear.

Sophia squeezes shut her eyes, clenches her fists in her lap, then looks at Brynn.

SOPHIA

Why should I believe you?

BRYNN

Because I'm your wife.

Sophia shakes her head, exhaling sharply.

SOPHIA

That's just not enough right now.

Brynn opens her mouth, then closes it. She looks at Deb. Sophia looks out the window, stare unfocused.

Deb tilts her head.

DEB

Brynn, have you changed your mind? Do want to work on your marriage?

BRYNN

I mean... can I do that? I thought that infidelity was something couples couldn't come back from.

Deb quickly writes something down, then looks towards Brynn and nods.

DEB

Well, that's true for some couples. But others can rebuild their relationships, even after one or both people cheat.

BRYNN

What's the difference between those who can and those who can't? How can we know which ones we are?

DEB

The difference was that some couples were willing to put in work and effort, and others weren't. So, you have to ask yourself: are you willing to commit to fixing your relationship?

Brynn turns to Sophia. Sophia turns towards Brynn.

BRYNN

I am. I know I've been against this whole thing, but that was only because I didn't know people came back from... what I did.

Brynn grabs Sophia's limp hands.

BRYNN (CONT'D)

I love you, Sophia. I'll do whatever is necessary to fix us.

A pause. Sophia pulls her hands from Brynn's hold.

SOPHIA

Brynn, I --

iPhone alarm interrupts Sophia. Brynn and Sophia look at Deb.

DEB

Oh!

Deb pulls an iPhone out of her pocket, then taps the screen. The iPhone alarm stops. Deb places the iPhone, notepad, and pen on the side table.

DEB (CONT'D)

That's our time. We made a lot of progress today. Were you thinking of scheduling another session?

BRYNN

Yes, of course. Let me check my calendar- I'm not sure when my next day off is.

Brynn pulls out a cell, then taps the screen. Sophia puts a hand on Brynn's arm.

SOPHIA

Wait. I'm glad you changed your mind, Brynn, but mine changed, too.

Brynn looks at Sophia with wide eyes. Sophia stands.



SOPHIA (CONT'D)

Deb, thank you so much. This really helped, but we won't be returning. I don't think we can be fixed.

Brynn grabs Sophia's sleeve.

BRYNN

Wait, Soph, what do mean? She just said that things could be fixed if we both put in the work.

Sophia turns to Brynn, yanking her sleeve back.

SOPHIA

I guess I should rephrase: I no longer want things to be fixed.

Brynn opens her mouth. Sophia shakes her head. Brynn closes her mouth.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

When I was lonely, I was sad, but didn't say anything out of consideration for you and your job. When you were lonely, you decided to screw some other woman.

Deb watches with wide eyes. She writes something down.

Sophia sighs.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

I just can't forgive that.

Sophia walks over, then opens the door. She turns back.

SOPHIA (CONT'D)

I'm going to find a hotel for now, and have a lawyer bring you the papers. Goodbye, Brynn.

Sophia exits.

A frozen Brynn remains on the couch.