

## *Perfect timing*

It was a Friday afternoon in 2003. I was 25 and I had found the love of my life. Sofia and I went to the psychologist that afternoon. He said Sofia was suffering from a chronic mental illness known as obsessive compulsive disorder. Her behavior was definitely different from the women I had met before. When we had a date, she used to arrive 15 minutes earlier. She had to have lunch at the same time in the same restaurant every day. She used to sit down in the same chair every time she could. When the chair was taken at the restaurant, she felt that something was wrong and I learnt that those days were even more difficult than usual. We used to watch movies every Friday night. She loved classic movies. We used to watch *Psycho*, *Vertigo*, *The Birds*, and *The Man who knew too much* from Alfred Hitchcock, *It's wonderful life* starring by James Stewart, *Casablanca*, and *Gone with the wind*. Sofia always cried when Scarlett's father dies in *Gone with the Wind*. It happened the 27 times that we watched that movie. Once we had watched all the classic movies in Sofia's collection we started again from the beginning. Living with Sofia included a lot of routines. We had a schedule for everything and we loved living that way. Even though it seems too weird, I was glad to be part of her life and to be included in her daily routine.

By the time I was 25 I had already learnt the meaning of love, which includes sacrificing part of your life for the person you love without actually feeling it as a sacrifice. The Friday when we came back from the psychologist we watched the movie "The birds" directed by Alfred Hitchcock. It was part of the schedule, of course. Sofia used to say the line "What about the letter you wrote me, is that a lie, too?" at minute 40. I remember I was waiting her to say that line but she said "I'm leaving you" instead. All the routines that I loved doing stopped in that moment. She said she wanted to change her habits and be a different person. I loved her just the way she was and I didn't want anything different.

Last night I watched "The birds" with my wife. We have been married for eight years. My wife doesn't like classic movies but I still love watching them. I like "The birds" because that movie reminds me Sofia and I appreciate the time we spent together. I think I am a better person because of her. It is so weird to realize that a movie activates your brain to bring back all those memories and feelings. I love my wife more than anything in the world but somehow I like to watch that movie to remember an important moment of my life. Last night when we were watching the movie, just at minute 40, which has been attached to Sofia saying "I'm leaving you", my wife told me "I'm pregnant".