ACT I

Scene One

*In the living room*

*Sophie is seated on the couch*

*Elsa paces around the room*

ELSA

So tell me… When are you due?

SOPHIE

I’m waiting to say until everyone else arrives.

ELSA

Auntie Elsa… Can the baby call me Auntie Elsa?

SOPHIE

Do you want to have children?

ELSA

Oh no… Oh no… Well yes, but no.

SOPHIE

Is that you want them, but [your husband] doesn’t?

ELSA  
Hmm… It’s more I want children in my life, I just don’t want them to be *my* children. The whole “maternal” thing has always been a mystery to me. But spoiling? I’m very good at spoiling things. My husband agrees.

SOPHIE

I’m thinking of asking Margaret to be the godmother.

ELSA

Do you think she’d accept?

SOPHIE

When it comes to taking responsibility, Margaret is the best, but she’s so career driven that I don’t know.

ELSA

Like you’re one to talk.

And now look at you… All pregnant!

SOPHIE

Which is why I know how big of a responsibility it would be! Well, sort of, the baby isn’t actually born yet, but everyone at work has already started asking me what I’m going to do about work, and it makes me feel like more of a liability than a boss the way they ask about it, especially since I’m actually thinking of –

ELSA

Why not Momo?

SOPHIE

Momo?

ELSA

Yeah, Momo.

SOPHIE

I think you’re the only one who keeps regular contact with her at this point.

You and Kino that is.

ELSA

I suppose at the end of the day, asking someone to be a godmother is nothing more than a formality.

SOPHIE

Sort of.

ELSA

A bit of a morbid one too. It’s like saying “If I die, please take care of my child and deal with all the debt they will bring.” Do you plan on dying?

SOPHIE

What? Of course not!

ELSA

Well you’re going to die anyways, so too bad.

SOPHIE

If anything is morbid, it’s you.

ELSA

I have your solution. Just put the kid in your will. That way you can leave it to whomever without having to ask them first.

SOPHIE

A child isn’t a lamp.

ELSA

I care about my lamps very deeply thank you very much! They’re Tiffany. I wouldn’t just leave them with anyone. Most certainly not. No. They’d have to go to someone who I know would cherish them.

SOPHIE

See, it’s an important decision!

ELSA

But you’ll still be dead, and nothing really matters to the dead.

SOPHIE

Morbid.

ELSA

Comforting.

SOPHIE

You need help Elsa.

ELSA

Me and the rest of the world.

*The doorbell rings*

Now I wonder who that could be… Want to make a bet?

SOPHIE

Making bets with you is a bad idea.

ELSA

No fun!

Et u

*The doorbell rings again*

Oops. Guess I shouldn’t keep them waiting!

*Elsa goes to greet the guests*

*Sophie is left alone in living room*

*She puts her hand on her stomach*

*She looks out the window*

ELSA

*(Off-screen)*

Margaret! Momo!

MARGARET

*(Off-screen)*

Took you long enough to answer the door.

ELSA

Sophie and I were having a nice chat.

MOMO

*(Off-screen)*

Sophie is here already?

ELSA

Of course, she’s always the first one.

Well come on in!

*Elsa, Momo, and Margaret enter walk into the living room*

*Momo hugs Sophie*

MOMO

Sophie, how are you feeling?

SOPHIE

Well! How have you been?

MARGARET

Wow this place is still so… Elsa.

ELSA

And what is that supposed to mean?

MOMO

Some of us like a little color in our lives.

MARGARET

But black and white are so much easier.

ELSA

And you’re still as Margaret as ever…

MARGARET

Does anyone know when Kino is getting here?

MOMO

The wind will blow her in this direction eventually.

ELSA

She said she would be here. Kino isn’t one for lying.

SOPHIE

I’m pretty excited for our day today. It’s been ages since we’ve all be able to meet up like this.

MARGARET

I made us reservations for lunch at [restaurant name]. We just need to make sure we’re there by 12:30.

ELSA

And then shopping!

MOMO

The art museum has [Artist’s Name] exhibit on right now that I’d like to see.

SOPHIE

Oh, that’s Kino’s favorite artist, isn’t it?

ELSA

A whole day of chitchat and laughing with my ladies. It’s going to be good to get out of the house.

MARGARET

Elsa, you’re the biggest socialite I know. Aren’t you always out of the house?

ELSA

Yes, yes, but it’s not the same. Not the same. How about I make some tea while we wait for Kino? We don’t have to catch the train for a while yet.

MARGARET

Do you have coffee?

ELSA

How about I make tea AND coffee while we wait for Kino?

SOPHIE

Sure, do you need help?

MOMO

You sit tight Sophie. I’ll help Elsa in the kitchen.

ELSA

I was going to say no, but if you insist….

[[STAY WITH MARGARET AND SOPHIE IN THE LIVING ROOM| SCENE TWO A]]

[[FOLLOW ELSA AND MOMO TO THE KITCHEN| SCENE TWO B]]

Scene Two B

*Elsa and Momo are in the kitchen making tea and coffee*

ELSA

The kettle is just in the cabinet next to the stove.

MOMO

Is this enough water?

ELSA

Just fill it all the way. That should be plenty.

The dress you’re wearing today is lovely by the way.

MOMO

Thanks, it’s one of my new designs.

ELSA

Where is the fabric from? I’ve never seen a pattern like that.

MOMO

It was a gift, so I don’t know. Probably from someplace faraway.

ELSA

Ah… One-of-a-kind.

MOMO

Have you learned to sew yet?

ELSA

Me? I’m much better at wearing clothes than making them.

MOMO

Maybe if you did more than safety pin them together…

ELSA

I completely forgot about that dress! It was so nice while it lasted. I got so many compliments that evening.

MOMO

Thankfully [your husband] was there to twirl you off the dance floor as it started falling apart.

ELSA

We were having too much fun to notice!

MOMO

Is [your husband] around today?

ELSA

Goodness no. He fled as soon he learned that women would be infiltrating his home this morning.

MOMO

Are we that horrible?

ELSA

Only the most!

MOMO

How horrible…

ELSA  
I think it’s funny. He probably right away.

MOMO

It’s not like he doesn’t know us.

ELSA

It’s because he does know us. The mystery is gone. And when the mystery is gone, we just become a burden of wants and needs. So poof, off they go.

MOMO

Hmm, that makes sense.

ELSA

It does?

MOMO

Were you expecting me to disagree with you?

ELSA

Most do.

MOMO

I had a really strange dream last night. We were all together, as we are now, and I needed to get something. So I told you all I’d be right back, and walked out of your house, and down this – not alleyway – but a paved path between the houses in your neighborhood, even though I know you don’t live in a neighborhood. The path was well lit, and lined with beautiful shrubs and plants, and I remember thinking how peaceful it was. That was when I noticed the ground was covered in these round objects… For some reason I couldn’t make them out, so I try to get closer. Behind a gate I see a cat eating one of this round things, and then the round things become clear. The cat is eating a dead baby owl. The ground is covered in dead baby owls. I’m walking through the bodies of dead baby owls. And the strangest thing is that I wasn’t horrified. I remember saying to myself “Well, that’s life.”

And then I woke up.

ELSA

I wonder what it means.

MOMO

Apparently owls mean wisdom in dreams, but I couldn’t find anything on dead owls, baby owls, or dead baby owls.

//ELSA

*The kettle cries*

Water’s ready! Let’s just load everything on a tray, and take it out to the living room, shall we?

MOMO

Sound good to me. //

//ELSA

I wonder if Margaret and Sophie are having a good chat in the living room…

MOMO

Probably better than dead baby owls.

ELSA

Probably//

[[GO SEE MARGARET AND SOPHIE IN THE LIVING ROOM| SCENE TWO A]]

*End of Scene*

Scene Two A

*Margaret and Sophie sit in the living room*

MARGARET

. . . . .

SOPHIE

. . . . .

MARGARET

. . . . .

SOPHIE

So how are you doing Margaret?

MARGARET

Same old, same old. Business stuff 24/7. You know how it is.

Or at least you did.

SOPHIE

I’m still working.

MARGARET

For now.

SOPHIE

. . . . .

MARGARET

. . . . .

SOPHIE

. . . . .

MARGARET

. . . . .

So what are you planning to do?

SOPHIE

I don’t know if I want to tell you now.

MARGARET

You’re not going to stop working, are you?!

SOPHIE

Why not?

MARGARET

Because… I… What am I supposed to do?

SOPHIE

You?

MARGARET

Sorry… That sounds really selfish.

SOPHIE

We work at different companies. It’s not like you’ll be affected by my “loss of productivity.”

MARGARET

But I will!

Dammit Sophie… Just dammit.

SOPHIE

. . . . .

MARGARET

. . . . .

SOPHIE

It’s my choice.

MARGARET

I know it’s your choice. No one could ever tell you what to do.

SOPHIE

So what’s the problem then?

MARGARET

God I’m such a horrible friend. I should be happy for you. I am happy for you. I swear above and beyond I am, but… Damn. You’re the reason I am who I am today. You’re like… My role model. It’s tough out there. For us. Really tough. But having you to go through it with made it more bearable. And now you’re quitting? Just like they expect you to… Maybe even want you to?

SOPHIE

It’s my choice.

MARGARET

I know dammit! But it’s a choice they don’t have to make, so even though it’s a choice, it still doesn’t seem fair…

SOPHIE

I could still work. I can still go back to work if I wanted.

MARGARET

. . . . .

I got passed up for a promotion. A big one. Last week.

SOPHIE

Margaret…

MARGARET

It’s made me think about a lot lately.

SOPHIE

. . . . .

MARGARET

It’s just not fair Sophie.

SOPHIE

No. It’s not.

//MARGARET

Jeeze, how long does it take to boil water?

[[Go to the Kitchen]]//

//SOPHIE

If I wasn’t pregnant, I’d say let’s break open Elsa’s liquor cabinet, but alas…

MARGARET  
I’ll just drink enough for the two of use for the next 9 months.

SOPHIE

Sounds like a deal.

ELSA

(*Off-Screen)*

Tea AND coffee!!!//

*End of Scene*

Scene Three

*Elsa, Sophie, Margaret and Momo sit in the living room. They’re finishing up their tea and coffee.*

ELSA

Alright. I have an idea…

MARGARET

Fantastic.

MOMO

Elsa ideas are the best ideas.

SOPHIE

Unless they get you arrested.

ELSA

That only happened once. Anyway, let’s play a game!

SOPHIE

Sounds safe enough.

ELSA

One of the games we used to play as kids. The one where I say the first line of a story, and then we go in a circle saying the next line until we finish.

MARGARET

That sounds… really lame. Why don’t we have a normal conversation like the mature women we now are?

*Elsa sticks out her tongue at Margaret*

Like most of us are.

MOMO

You don’t want to play, because you were never very good at storytelling.

MARGARET

Not true!

ELSA

Oh gosh Margaret, you have to be…. Creative!

MARGARET

I hate that word.

ELSA

Creative!

MARGARET

Stop it!

ELSA  
Creative!

MARGARET

Elsa, so help me god…

MOMO

Well I’m in.

SOPHIE

Me too.

ELSA

Margaret?

MARGARET

. . . . .

ELSA

Well I guess we’ll just play without you. And you’ll be sitting here feeling all left out, and we all know how much Margaret enjoys being left out…

MARGARET

Fine.

I’ll play.

ELSA

And I’ll start.

[[THEY PLAY A GAME]]

[[THE GAME DETERIORATES]]

ELSA

Then the princess realized why think when she could drown herself in champagne, because who cares! She's alone!

SOPHIE

Except she's not.

Perhaps the princess just needs a bit of agency...

*The doorbell rings*

MOMO

Kino’s here.

ELSA

I’ll go let her in.

*Elsa goes to the foyer.*

MARGARET

Ugh…

*Elsa enters with Kino*

ELSA

Look who finally arrived! The one and only… Kino!

KINO

Hey.

MARGARET

Thank God.

MOMO

Good to see you.

KINO

What have you guys been up too?

SOPHIE

We just played that story game we used to play as kids.

KINO

I loved that game. Sorry for getting here so late. It would’ve been fun to play again.

ELSA

We can play again later! But now… Let’s get our stuff together and GO!

KINO

Oh um… Elsa.

ELSA

We have just enough time to catch the train!

KINO

Not to be a downer…

ELSA

You really cut it close Kino.

KINO

But we probably shouldn’t go to the city today.

ELSA

Today is gonna be-

Wait, why?

KINO

A storm followed me here. All the roads were flooding behind me. It’ll probably hit here in a couple minutes.

ELSA

Haha… Kino you’re so funny.

SOPHIE

The forecast didn’t say anything about rain.

KINO

Forecasts are just predictions.

MARGARET

I feel like they would have known about a rainstorm capable of flooding streets.

KINO

Always trust your eyes more than someone’s predictions.

ELSA

But we have reservations…

KINO

I know…

ELSA

And we were going to go shopping…

KINO

You were going to go shopping.

ELSA

And Momo wanted to go see [your favorite artist’s] exhibit at the museum.

KINO

Oh. When does the exhibit close?

MOMO

In two weeks.

KINO

Hmm. I won’t be back by then.

MOMO

Are you leaving again already?

KINO

Yeah. Tomorrow.

MARGARET

Maybe the storm isn’t as bad as it seems. Why don’t we just go, get lunch, and if it’s that bad, come home early.

ELSA

Yeah if we leave now now now we can still catch the train!

Everyone get your things!

KINO

I’m telling you, any minute now.

ELSA

We can beat the storm.

KINO

You can’t beat Mother Nature.

ELSA

Watch me.

SOPHIE

I think we should listen to Kino.

MARGARET

No wanting to brave the storm?

MOMO

She’s pregnant.

MARGARET

Right.

KINO

Oh, when are you due?

ELSA

We can talk about that in the car!

KINO

Elsa, I’m telling you…

MOMO

Wouldn’t over lunch be better? The car is so impersonal…

MARGARET

Whoa look out the window…

ELSA

Car, restaurant, whatever! I want to go!!!

MARGARET

Elsa, shut up and look out the window!

*The room gets darker*

ELSA

Oh shi-

*A loud clap of thunder*

*The power goes out*

*End of Act I*