

INT. MARY COOPER'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Amy sits on the couch amidst children's toy clutter looking up at her sister, MARY COOPER. Mary is picking up toys from the floor and coffee table. Loud noises come from two kids playing in another room. Mary makes room for a seat on the edge of the table across from Amy. She cradles the armful of toys she's acquired.

MARY  
So, my big sister's finally going to have a baby. Who'd a thunk it?

AMY  
Certainly not me. At least I didn't plan it anyway.

Amy picks up a doll next to her and absently strokes it's hair.

MARY  
So maybe now, that schmuck boyfriend of yours will do the honorable thing.

Amy's eyes widen and she turns to stare at the doll. Mary reaches out to comfort her.

MARY  
(continuing)  
Oh, baby. You really are taking this hard. Aren't you? I'm here for you.

Amy puts the doll down and looks Mary in the eye again.

AMY  
I don't know what to do. It's horrible timing.

MARY  
It's always horrible timing, sister. You think Brad and Britainy were scheduled?

AMY  
I don't have time for this. I've got a career.

MARY  
So, you make a few adjustments. There will always be something. The older you get the harder it'll be. If you're going to have kids, might as well jump right in.

AMY  
I'm not sure I want this.

MARY  
Are you serious? I know we never talked about this, but, if that's the way you feel...

AMY  
But, I don't know how I feel. I've never considered it, not really, anyway. I've always been too busy working, being the reporter. Keeping my feelings at bay so I could report the story.

MARY  
You can still do that.

AMY  
I'm doing a series on abortion clinics, for god's sake. How do I stay objective?

MARY  
So, you let some of your own feelings creep into your story. That's not a crime. It makes you more human.

AMY  
What do you think I should do?

MARY  
Oh, no. I'm not falling into that one. You've got to make you own choices. Whatever they are, I'll support them, but, they've got to be yours. Besides, I still haven't made up my mind.

AMY  
I thought you'd be pro-kids, with your two and all.

MARY  
You'd think that. I wish I could tell you that you'd never regret it, that it's all worth it. But, to tell you the truth, sometimes it isn't. Sometimes I wonder what my life would have been like without them. That's hateful, isn't it?

AMY  
No.

MARY  
Yes, it is. But, it's the truth.  
Sometimes, I don't even like them.

The children make a louder ruckus.

MARY  
(continuing)  
Keep quiet back there!

The noises lessen a bit.

MARY  
(continuing)  
See what I mean?

A small voice comes from the other room.

BRITAINY (O.S.)  
Mom! Mom!

Mary is mad, now.

MARY  
What IS it?

BRITAINY (O.S.)  
I love you.

Mary breaks into tears. Amy moves to put her arm around her.

MARY  
Forget what I said. Sometimes it  
is worth it.

AMY  
Mary, if I haven't told you  
lately, I think you're a great mom.

MARY  
Thanks, Sis. Are you going to be  
okay?

Amy nods. Mary stands, wiping her tears with a rag doll she has in her hand and goes to check on her kids.

MARY  
(continuing)  
Now, what are you two up to making  
so much noise?

Amy is left alone. She sits back on the couch and thinks. She picks up the remote for the TV and turns it on, absently turning the channel to her station. She refocuses when she realizes they're doing a live break-in again. Pete Zachary is doing a stand-up in front of a line of police cars with their lights flashing. In the background, is Mercy Clinic.

PETE (ON VIDEO)

...and we've been told that the bomb squad has been able to defuse this one in time. The police will make a final sweep of the building before giving the all clear, but, it looks like this bombing was thwarted with no casualties, just a bunch of shaken nerves.

The Mercy Clinic Director has said that once the police give the building the okay, he expects to have the clinic back up and running in a few days.

Reporting live from the Mercy Clinic, this is Pete Zachary, Channel Four News.

Mary comes back in as the TV returns to a CG of "Live Report" then returns to network cartoons.

MARY

Wasn't Mercy where you did those interviews yesterday? My god, if you'd have-

She stops herself from thinking it. Amy stands, gets ready to leave.

AMY

I wasn't the only one there yesterday. Mary, I've got to get back to the station. I'll call later.

Amy exits. Mary watches after her, even after she's left. She absently picks up the doll Amy had and starts stroking its hair.