

REGINA

~~Swimming in toys and high on sugar.~~

PASTOR MARK

~~Sounds like a great party. Haven't seen you at church in a while. Everything alright?~~

REGINA

~~With Amanda, yes. With Hal...~~

~~She gestures/makes a face "not so good."~~

PASTOR MARK

~~You know I offer couples counseling, and I've been told I'm pretty good at it.~~

REGINA

~~I think we're beyond that now.~~

PASTOR MARK

~~It's never too late. With God's help.~~

REGINA

~~I'll keep that in mind.~~

PASTOR MARK

~~Well, my door's —~~

REGINA

~~Always open.~~

~~Pastor Mark's phone RINGS again. He retreats to his car.~~

PASTOR MARK

~~We've got six hundred families at church, and, somehow they all have my number. Hello?!...No, Sarah, I don't know the original Greek for that passage off the top of my head. Maybe because I don't speak Koine Greek!~~

INT. REGINA'S HOUSE/AMANDA'S ROOM - EVENING

That night. Regina and Amanda play as Regina attempts to put her to bed. Amanda is still wearing her princess crown and holds a "magic wand" in her hand.

START

AMANDA

I'm gonna turn you into a bug!

REGINA

Noooooh!

AMANDA

Weeee, ZING!

REGINA

Aaaaaaah! I'm a bug!

Regina dramatically crumbles onto the covers doing her best bug impression. They LAUGH.

REGINA (CONT'D)

...Okay, now, Miss Party-girl, it's time for bed.

AMANDA

But I wanna play with my new toys.

REGINA

Your new toys are exhausted.

AMANDA

No, they're not.

REGINA

Let's ask Mr. Bear. Are you tired Mr. Bear?

(as Mr. Bear)

I am so pooped! Amanda wore me out!

AMANDA

(laughing)

That's not bear!

REGINA

But if Bear could talk, that's what he'd say. Now, I'm gonna take this crown ...and this wand...so you can go off to dreamland. Kiss-kiss.

They kiss. Regina tucks Amanda in.

AMANDA

...You know what I'm gonna dream about?

REGINA

What?

AMANDA

My brother.

Regina is taken aback.

REGINA

...You don't have a brother, sweetie.

AMANDA

Yes, I do.

REGINA

You know...it's okay to dream and pretend.

AMANDA

He isn't pretend. He's real. And he lives...with God.

STOP**STOP**~~INT. REGINA'S HOUSE/HALLWAY CONTINUOUS~~~~Regina exits Amanda's room, pausing in the hallway.~~~~Letting her guard down, we see how Amanda's revelation has completely floored her.~~~~Suppressing these feelings, she masks them as she continues on towards the kitchen.~~~~INT. REGINA'S HOUSE/KITCHEN EVENING~~~~Hal is cleaning up from the party. Regina enters.~~~~HAL~~~~She went down without a fight?~~~~REGINA~~~~Minor skirmish...Thanks for cleaning up.~~~~HAL~~~~No problem....I gotta head out soon. Got a meeting in the morning.~~~~REGINA~~~~Why can't you just be honest?~~~~HAL~~~~...What do you want from me?~~~~REGINA~~~~How 'bout the things you promised when we married?~~~~HAL~~~~You think you've done a better job?~~~~REGINA~~~~At least I've tried to be honest.~~