

Future Present

by
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Current Revision
17 April 2014

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1 EXT. PARK TRACK -SUNSET 1

ANGIE HOWELL (27) is jogging. She is confused, crying, trying to work out the recent puzzles and complications in her short life.

FLASH BACK

2 VARIOUS TIMES AND PLACES - ANGIE'S PAST 2

MONTAGE:

Angie growing up: solving complex equations in university; head of class, receiving honors; riding horse; bowing as star in plays; performing recitals; dates with successful young men; Magazine articles about her career in researching brain trauma.

3 EXT. THE HOWELL'S HOME -MORNING 3

4 EXT. BACKYARD HOWELL'S HOME -MORNING 4

DANNY HOWELL (30) Angie Howell's older brother runs to Angie in the backyard.

5 EXT. THE HOWELL'S BACKYARD -DAY 5

DANNY has a mental disability. His emotional age is about five years old. He is crying. He shows Angie the scratches on his leg. Angie sits him down and helps him wash his legs.

ANGIE

What happened, Danny?

DANNY HOWELL

Jimbo hurt me.

ANGIE

Oh, come on now. I saw you rolling around in the bushes. Jimbo's just a little dog. Does it hurt very much, Danny?

DANNY HOWELL

Just a little, Angie. But look. My skin's gone. Gone, gone, gone.

ANGIE

It'll grow back.

Danny starts wailing again.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

What?

(CONTINUED)

DANNY HOWELL
How do I know it will be mine?

ANGIE
Whose else would it be?

DANNY HOWELL
I don't know. Where does it come from?

ANGIE
You have special cells that make new cells.

DANNY HOWELL
I do?

ANGIE
Of course. Everyone does.

DANNY HOWELL
Which ones are me?

ANGIE
They're all you, Danny.

Danny is scared.

ANGIE (CONT'D)
What?

DANNY HOWELL
What if I get someone else's?

Angie hugs Danny, laughing.

ANGIE
That's impossible. How can you be anyone else but Danny? You're my brother. No matter what happens, you're Danny Howell and I love you. Always.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP AS ANGIE MOVES HER FINGER ACROSS THE CUT ON DANNY'S LEG. IT SEALS AND HEALS.

ANGIE (CONT'D)
There. All better.

DANNY HOWELL
That's good. Can everybody do that?

Angie stands up and looks at her hand quizzically.

BACK TO:

6 EXT. PARK TRACK -MORNING 6

Angie is jogging and then stops in front of the BIOGEN building and looks up at it.

7 EXT. BIOGEN BUILDING -MORNING 7

8 INT. BIOGEN ENTRANCE -MORNING 8

She enters BioGen. The guard waves her through, smiling. She ascends flights of steps, walks down the hall and enters WILL BRADLEY's Research and Development lab.

9 INT. WILL'S R&D LAB -DAY 9

Will is looking in a microscope. There are electronic monitors along the wall. She takes a pin out of her hair and slowly moves it into view in the microscope.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP THROUGH MICROSCOPE OF HORRIBLE INVASIVE POINTY THING.

WILL BRADLEY

What the-!?

He backs away, sees Angie, laughs.

ANGIE

Hey.

She kisses him. He pulls her in close. She pulls him in closer. They snuggle. A monitor beeps. She breaks away to look around. They both see a monitor flashing and beeping.

CUTAWAY TO MONITOR

Will checks it.

WILL BRADLEY

That's odd. Did you run up?

ANGIE

All morning. Why?

Will looks puzzled at the monitor, then at Angie. He takes her hand and places it with his on her heart. We hear her heart and the monitor flashing and beeping synchronously.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Cut it out. You're scaring me.

Worried now, he enters the monitor code into the computer.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Will? What is it?

WILL BRADLEY

September 20, right?

(CONTINUED)

ANGIE

You know I'll be 28 tomorrow. Why?

Will turns to face Angie, sobered and stunned.

WILL BRADLEY

That's you.

Will points to the monitor, then to her heart. Angie is horrified.

WILL BRADLEY (CONT'D)

It must have started with the IVF.

ANGIE

My parents would never-

WILL BRADLEY

Your dad works for BioGen. He had to sign a waiver.

ANGIE

He wouldn't... Maybe because Danny...?

WILL BRADLEY

They're very confidential around here. You know that.

ANGIE

The transmitter...?

WILL BRADLEY

Did you ever go to the hospital for anything?

ANGIE

I had to have an operation for a bladder infection when I was 10...

They look at each other. Angie begins pacing.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

No! I am not... Then what am I? Who am I?

WILL BRADLEY

Angie, let's...

She stops and jabs her finger at him.

ANGIE

Shut up, Will. Are you part of this?

WILL BRADLEY

Me? Even if I was I couldn't tell you.

(CONTINUED)

ANGIE

Will, I really need to know. I need to know if I can trust you.

WILL BRADLEY

Oh, come on, Angie. You know I signed a non-disclosure for this job. I'd lose everything.

ANGIE

You'll lose me in a second if you don't tell me the truth!

He shakes his head. She returns to pacing, her anger and frustration building.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Where do you get off experimenting on people? I never gave you permission. No one asked me. You don't have a right to mess with my DNA. Okay - maybe I would have been like Danny... But I wasn't given a choice. I don't have a choice - I don't get to choose...

Unable to fully express herself, frustrated, she swipes her hand over the table causing glass to fall and break.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

What is BioGen? Really?

Angie sits down to the computer and begins hacking.

WILL BRADLEY

Angie- that's classified...

ANGIE

Will, I've got to know the truth!

WILL BRADLEY

You can't just go hacking around in confidential files! I'll lose my job!

ANGIE

Don't you want to know who you're really working for? What BioGen actually does?

WILL BRADLEY

We can find out legally. You can't do this, Angie!

As Will bends down to talk to her she grabs him behind the neck and flips him onto his back. She continues her data gathering.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

ANGIE

Sorry. I don't think I can trust
you any more.

DISSOLVE TO:

10 EXT. PARK -TWILIGHT

10

Angie is sitting beneath a tree. She takes out her
smartphone. She breathes and looks around her with longing,
joy, sorrow, eventually acceptance. She begins a video
recording...

ANGIE

Hi, Dad. I hacked into BioGen's
database. All genetically modified
products - and I'm one- have a
shelf life of 27 years. That's
their policy - just in case
something goes wrong. And also so
people will buy more...

EXT. RONALD HOWELL'S OFFICE AT BIOGEN -EVENING

11 INT. RONALD HOWELL'S OFFICE -EVENING

11

Angie's father RONALD HOWELL (56) is sitting at his desk at
BioGen. An envelope addressed "To Dad - hit PLAY" with "From
Angie" on it lies open. The video recording of Angie
continues...

ANGIE

...Dad, it's the rich - they want
immortality, eternal youth or
rejuvenation - I think they're
scared of death. But they're making
more of us... experiments. I'm not
the only one. There are others like
me. Please. You've got to tell
everyone about this - its the board
of directors and some of the
shareholders. I've put it all
together in the folder. I don't
know what else to do. I know you
didn't have anything to do with
this. Tomorrow I'll be shut off
like... Goodbye, Dad. Tell Danny
and Will and Mom I love them. Oh -
I wonder. I wonder what it really
means to be human. Goodbye, Dad.
Click on this link.

Ronald clicks on the link. He sees the picture we see of him.
He comes over to the camera, looking at us. He turns to his
desk, picks up his name plate and smashes it into the lens.

(CONTINUED)

11

CONTINUED:

7.
11

FLASH AND BLACK OUT

-END-

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