

Dialogue sample, LUCINDA'S BED by Mia McCullough Copyright ©2010
Cast 1 Woman, 2 Men
Unit Set

Scene 7

PREGNANCY AND THE PLUMBER

LUCINDA lies on her left side, facing the audience. Her top leg is flopped over a pillow. She is very pregnant and very displeased. The photos in the frames are the same pictures of beautiful, faraway places from Scene 3, but with Adam and Lucinda in the foreground looking happy. ADAM ENTERS with a cooler and sets it in front of LUCINDA.

ADAM

Assorted snacks, sandwiches, and beverages.

LUCINDA

Great. What about the plumber.

ADAM

He says he's almost done. I already paid him.

LUCINDA

It better not drip. If I hear one more drip....

ADAM

It won't drip.

LUCINDA

Can you turn the TV on its side? It's making me nauseous to watch like this.

ADAM

No. You can't. It's bad for the TV.

LUCINDA

Well, this is bad for my neck. What's more important?

ADAM

If you lay it on its side it will break.

LUCINDA

Fuck.

ADAM

Call me if you need anything.

He bends down to kiss her, going in for a peck, but she grabs his head and kisses him full force. It takes some effort for him to pull away.

ADAM CONT'D

Lucinda. I have to go.

LUCINDA

Come on. Please.

ADAM

No.

LUCINDA

Please.

ADAM

The doctor said—

LUCINDA

The doctor didn't say anything about sex.

ADAM

She didn't */need* to.

LUCINDA

/Orgasms are good for the baby.

ADAM

Stop!

LUCINDA

The endorphins!

ADAM

The plumber is in the bathroom.

LUCINDA

I DON'T CARE! He can join us! Please, anything. Any bit of release from this unending—

ADAM

I'm really not comfortable...

LUCINDA

You're not comfortable?! I have to lie on my left side for the next four weeks and you're not comfortable.

ADAM

I don't want to hurt you.

LUCINDA

You won't.

ADAM

Or the baby.

LUCINDA

You won't.

ADAM

I have to go.

LUCINDA

I hate you.

ADAM

You don't mean that.

LUCINDA

Oh yes I do.

ADAM

I love you. I'll call when I get to the office.

Silence. ADAM EXITS.

LUCINDA

Fucker.

She opens the cooler with a slam.

LUCINDA CONT'D

Can't even pack a decent lunch. **Where's my popsicle you asshole?!**

MONSTER PLUMBER peeks his head in.

MONSTER PLUMBER

Are you all right?

LUCINDA

I'm fine. When can I get in my bathroom.

MONSTER PLUMBER

You can get up for that?

LUCINDA

It's the only thing I can get up for.

MONSTER PLUMBER

Almost done.

MONSTER PLUMBER EXITS. She tries the remote, changes channels, tries to lift her head so the TV isn't sideways. It's no use. She turns off the TV. She looks toward the bathroom. After a moment she reaches under the covers and begins to masturbate.

MONSTER PLUMBER ENTERS with his box of tools.

MONSTER PLUMBER

I'm done.

LUCINDA

Yeah, well, I'm not.

MONSTER PLUMBER

(realizing)

Oh. Sorry. You have a good day.

LUCINDA

Are you married?

Beat.

MONSTER PLUMBER

Yeah.

LUCINDA

Kids?

MONSTER PLUMBER

Three.

LUCINDA

Did you have sex with your wife when she was pregnant?

MONSTER PLUMBER

Sure.

LUCINDA

Third trimester?

MONSTER PLUMBER

When she wanted.

LUCINDA

When. She. Wanted.

Will you have sex with me?

Long pause.

MONSTER PLUMBER

You're high-risk.

LUCINDA

I'm not going to hold you responsible.

MONSTER PLUMBER

Looked like you were doing okay on your own there.

LUCINDA

I'll pay you, if that's what you want.

MONSTER PLUMBER

No, I.... Pregnant women don't really turn me on.

LUCINDA

What about your wife.

MONSTER PLUMBER

I thought about models.

LUCINDA

So think about models now.

MONSTER PLUMBER

Look, I...

LUCINDA

There's no "I." Let's not make this about you. Think of it as community service.

(beat)
Please.

Pause.

MONSTER PLUMBER
I'll let you give me a blow-job if you want, but that's where I draw the line.

LUCINDA
A blow job!
(She hurls juice boxes at him.)
You fucking asshole.

MONSTER
(backing out)
Look, just so you know, in case you're overcome with guilt later:
You're bluffing.

LUCINDA
Excuse me?

MONSTER
You wouldn't go through with it. I can tell. It's not the kind of person you are.

MONSTER PLUMBER
Good luck with the baby.

HE EXITS.

LUCINDA
Don't tell me what kind of person I am! You don't know me.
Could you get me a popsicle?
(beat)
Fuck.

LIGHTS FADE.

Scene 8

MONSTER BABY

LIGHTS UP on LUCINDA and ADAM in bed. Between them lies MONSTER BABY. The picture frames hold family photos, professional baby pictures. The bedding is ruffled, stained, a mess, littered with spitty rags. MONSTER BABY nuzzles up to sleeping LUCINDA. He kicks ADAM, hard.

ADAM

Ow! Goddammit.

LUCINDA

What's the matter?

ADAM

He kicked me again.

LUCINDA

He's not doing it on purpose.

ADAM

He's still keeping me awake. Look at all the room he takes up. He's huge.

LUCINDA

He's six months old.

ADAM

This bed isn't big enough for the three of us, Lucinda.

LUCINDA

We've been over this: when your breasts start producing milk you can do the middle of the night feedings wherever you want.

ADAM

I would gladly wake up and give him a bottle/

LUCINDA

// No bottles.

ADAM

/if it meant sleeping through the rest of the night without getting my kidneys bruised.

LUCINDA

No formula.

ADAM

You could pump. Other women pump.

LUCINDA

Other women don't have my milk production, Adam. He would wake up crying, I'd let down, you would give him a bottle while I leak all over the bed, have to get up, shower, change the sheets, what's the point? Can't you see that this is so much simpler?

ADAM

When is the last time we had sex?

LUCINDA

Don't change the subject.

ADAM

I'm not. How long has it been?

LUCINDA

I don't know, Adam.

ADAM

Three months. Three months ago.

LUCINDA

I don't know what you want me to do. It hurts. And you haven't initiated-

ADAM

How can I?

LUCINDA

There are other times, other parts of the house.

ADAM

You want me to take you on the kitchen table?

LUCINDA

Maybe.

ADAM

This is my bed.

LUCINDA

This is *our* bed.

ADAM

Sex and sleep are supposed to happen in the bed.

LUCINDA

Maybe your definition is a little narrow.

ADAM

I own half this bed.

MONSTER BABY stirs, cries.

LUCINDA

Great, now he's up.

ADAM

All of it, technically.

LUCINDA

Are you seriously throwing that in my face? Right now? Would you like me to go write you a check?

MONSTER BABY WAILS.

ADAM

No.
I don't like being usurped.

LUCINDA

Would you like to build a wall? Split the bed down the middle?

ADAM

It's a thought.

LUCINDA

We're a family. He's supposed to be a bridge between us, not a barrier.

ADAM

My point, exactly.

LUCINDA

Honey, it's okay. It's all right. I know you're hungry.

ADAM

I'm going to sleep downstairs. You two have a nice time.

LUCINDA flops her head down as ADAM
LEAVES. MONSTER BABY looks up at
ADAM and waves goodbye. He wails.

LUCINDA

Okay, okay, latch on.

She pulls up her shirt as the
LIGHTS FADE.