

"Hey."

"Hey."

"I was able to get quite a bit of stuff from the Wal-mart down the street. The National Guard set up shop there, and will likely be there for quite some time."

"Alright."

[Pause]

"You ok? How much sleep you get last night?"

"I don't know. Not alot."

"I figured as much. Which is why I got some Nyquil for you. It's not actual sleep meds, but it'll still help, hopefully.

"Thanks"

[Pause]

"How's she looking?"

[Pause]

"Not good, I'm guessing?"

"Her hair is falling out."

[Longer Pause]

"How far along is she?"

"It only started last night."

"Only?"

[Pause]

"You think you still have time."

“I have to try.”

“Try what? You’ve been trying for months, and have made hardly any progress in finding a treatment, let alone a cure.”

[Pause]

“You have been through some pretty nasty shit recently, and I won’t deny that this tops it all. But you need to face reality. You are out of time.”

“I HAVE TO TRY!”

“AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? HUH? ARE YOU GOING TO STAND HERE AND WATCH HER TURN INTO ONE OF THEM? IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?”

[Pause]

“It will be over quick. I’m not going to sugarcoat it, and say that it won’t hurt more than the deepest pits of hell. But if you don’t do it, your hell will look like a candle compared to hers.”

[Pause]

“I’ll head out, and look for more supplies. That way.....that way you can have some alone time with her. I’ll help you get her out of there when I get back”

“Thank you.”

[Exits]

[Time passes]

[Door opens]

"Daddy!"

"Hi pumpkin."

"Why are you crying, daddy?"

[Pause]

"It's because I hate seeing you sick."

"I'll get better. I promise."

"I...I know you will."

"Is mommy back yet?"

[Pause]

"Not yet."

"But she's been gone for so long."

"I know...but...you'll get to see her soon."

"Really? When?"

"I....I don't know. But it'll be soon. I promise."

[Pause]

"Are we gonna go home when mommy gets here?"

"You will....but I can't."

"But whyyyyyyyyyy?"

"Because I have to stay here, and make other sick people feel better."

"Ok. Promise me you'll make them feel better?"

"I promise. I'll make sure no one feels sick ever again."

[Pause]

"Um...mommy told me that...before she gets here...I should give you a surprise."

[Gasp] "Really? I love surprises!"

“I know you do. But...but to get it you have.....you have to cover your eyes....and sing a song for me.”

“What song?”

“Do you remember that song mommy would always sing to you?”

“Uh-huh.”

“You have to sing that one.”

“But I thought you didn’t like it?”

“Not when you sing it.”

“Ok. But you have to sing it with me!”

“I will. Cover your eyes now, ok?”

“Ok.”

[Covers eyes]

“Ready?”

[Nods]

♪Jesus loves me, this I know♪

♪Jesus loves me, this I know♪

♪For the bible tells me so♪

♪For the bible tells me so♪

♪Little ones to him belong♪

♪Little ones to him belong♪

♪They are weak, but he is strong♪

♪They are weak, but he is strong♪

♪Yeeeees, Jesus loves me♪

♪Yeeeees, Jesus loves me♪

♪Yeeeees, Jesus loves me♪[click]

♪Yeeeees, Jesus loves me♪

♪Yeeeeeeees, Jesus loves me♪[click]

♪Yeeeeeeees, Jesus loves me♪

♪For the Bible...tells me....I'm so sorry.”

♪For the Bible tells me sooooooooooooo.♪

[BANG]

[Silence]

[Sobbing]