

WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU ABOUT BABIES

Written by

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INT. A SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

Sunlight shines into the foyer. Children SCREAM in delight in the distance. The doorbell RINGS.

APRIL, 30s, cheery and helpful, always on top of her mom game swings the front door open. CONNOR, 20s, Wikipedia education, excited dad-to-be, and MEGAN, 20s, catty, very pregnant, wearing a comfortable maternity dress, stand on the porch.

CONNOR

April, hi! Get over here, you.

Connor gives a platonic hug to April.

APRIL

I'm happy you two made it.

(to Connor)

Ali is so excited to see you.

April gestures them into the house and gives Megan a gentle squeeze around the shoulders.

APRIL (CONT'D)

And how you doing, Mama? You look
bout ready to pop!

Megan chuckles.

MEGAN

I'm ready for this baby to get
here. That's for sure.

April laughs.

Suddenly, the sound of distant wings FLAPPING. Megan, the only one who notices the sound, scans the room.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

(quietly)

Do you guys hear --

A loud BANG startles them all. Megan let's out a louder than appropriate yelp. The FLAPPING stops.

Connor consoles Megan. She laughs, playing it off.

Beyond the foyer, past the living room, is a set of sliding glass doors. In the back yard, a children's seventh birthday party progresses.

The door slides open and in walks ALI, 30s, big laugh, always in his comfort zone.

ALI

Sorry honey, it was just a whiffle ball. No fucking way it could break this glass --

(spots Connor)

Oh shit, yes! Connor! My ace among kings! Get over here and give ya boy some love.

Connor and Ali meet in the living room and are all smiles as they hug each other.

APRIL

Ahem. You two can keep hugging, I'm gonna show Megan the baby clothes.

She guides Megan away. Ali has a brotherly arm around Connor's shoulders.

ALI

I can't believe you're gonna be a dad! It's so fucking cool, man. You're gonna love it.

CONNOR

I'd just love for it to get here already. Poor Megan's not having any fun.

ALI

Which means you aren't having any fun. Speaking of which, come on out back. Let's get you a beer.

EXT. THE BACKYARD - DAY

A big oak tree casts a deep shadow over the entire yard.

A number seven balloon floats above a card table covered in a pile of presents and gift bags. Healthy snacks, a bowl of fruit punch, and stacks of cups decorate a second table.

PARTY GUESTS, adults and children, populate the yard. Kids play on a tire swing hanging from the big oak. Connor and Ali hold their beers and watch the kid's play.

ALI

You'd be surprised what nobody tells you about babies. There's some things that just aren't covered by a video on YouTube. That's all I'm saying.

CONNOR

I've watched every pediatrician recommended video and read every pediatrician recommended article. I highly doubt you could tell me anything I don't know abo --

ALI

Babies get boners.

CONNOR

I'm sorry, what?

ALI

Yup. You'll be changing a diaper and boing! Baby boner. You gotta be careful too. Otherwise, kid'll piss right in his own face. Happened more than once to Xander.

Connor gags.

ALI (CONT'D)

You think that's bad. I can't even say what a baby girl has going on.

Ali shudders.

INT. KID'S BEDROOM - SAME

Crayon drawings mark the walls and toys litter the floor. April and Megan sit and go through baby clothes.

APRIL

Poop vaginas.

MEGAN

Oh, god!

Megan gags.

APRIL

Mainly, when they poop in a diaper. You gotta make sure you clean all the poop out of every fold and crevice. I kept cotton swabs in my diaper bag just for that.

MEGAN

You can't be serious.

FLAPPING. Getting closer. Getting louder. Megan glances around. Through the curtained window, a shadow passes.

The FLAPPING stops.

APRIL

Oh, I'm serious. You don't want to give her a yeast infection. Or worse, a staph infection.

Megan looks pale. She sways a little.

MEGAN

Can we maybe stop talking about this for now?

APRIL

Oh sure, honey. Hope I didn't scare you. There's a lot they don't tell you about babies.

A knock at the door. Ali pokes his head in.

ALI

Time for the cake.

EXT. THE BACKYARD - LATER

No party guests remain. Open presents cover the gift table. Connor pushes Megan on the tire swing. Ali and April stand nearby, drinks in hand.

XANDER, 7, birthday boy, mouth stained by frosting and punch, walks up. He holds a brand new whiffle ball bat. Xander looks at Megan's round belly and points to it with the bat.

XANDER

So, how do the babies get inside a mama's belly? Tell me the truth.

ALI

The Stork puts them there.

APRIL

Mhm. It's true.

Xander eyes his parents suspiciously. They smile.

XANDER

Whatever. I think you're lying.

ALI

I'm not lying. Now fuck off. Adults are talking.

Xander shakes his head and dashes off.

CONNOR

Dude.

ALI

What?

CONNOR

Why would you lie to him like that?

MEGAN

Yeah, children need to be prepared for the real world. We plan on not lying to our child about anything.

Ali laughs his big laugh. April joins him.

ALI

Just making sure, this is your first baby, right?

Megan and Connor nod.

APRIL

And when are you due again?

MEGAN

I'm six days overdue.

Ali barks out a laugh.

ALI

Won't be long then.

MEGAN

What do you mean?

CONNOR

Long for what?

A THWACK and a young girl SCREAMS.

Across the yard, Xander, whiffle ball bat in hand, stands over his toddler sister, ARIEL, 3, who sits and cries.

Ali gives a coy smile and walks off. April follows, giggling.

ALI (O.S.)

Boy, come here so I can hit you!

CONNOR

Don't listen to them. We're prepared for anything.

Megan clutches the ropes of the tire swing, knuckles white with tension.

CONNOR (CONT'D)
Hun, are you okay?

MEGAN
It's here.

CONNOR
What's here? The baby?

MEGAN
Look!

Megan's finger trembles. She points to the roof of the house.

Standing atop the roof, a five-foot-tall white STORK.

The stork turns its head. An image of Megan in the tire swing reflects in its eye.

The stork raises its head, then it rapidly opens and closes its bill, making a loud KNOCKING sound, like distant gunfire.

Connor jumps and Megan squeaks at the sudden noise.

Fluid splashes on the ground beneath Megan.

CONNOR
Meg, did your water just break?

Megan, eyes locked on the stork, nods.

The stork leaps off the roof and glides down to the lawn, FLAPPING its wings for a moment before landing.

Ali and April notice the stork. Excitement lights up their faces. April picks up Ariel. Ali pulls Xander close.

Conner looks at them pleadingly.

Xander tosses the whiffle ball bat toward Connor.

The bat lands on the lawn behind the stork.

The stork stalks forward one long-legged step at a time.

MEGAN
(Whispering)
Get it away. Make it go away.

Connor puts on a brave face. He waves his arms, trying to scare the bird.

The stork moves forward.

Connor rushes it.

The stork jump-flaps and lands on Connor's shoulders, knocking Connor onto his back. The stork stands on Connor's chest with one foot triumphantly.

Ali and April gasp.

APRIL
Should we help them?

ALI
Nah. They'll figure it out. We did.

Megan, struggles to get out of the tire swing. Her scrunched up maternity dress leaves her legs and underwear exposed.

MEGAN
Connor help me. My ass is stuck!

Connor scrambles out from under the stork's foot. His eyes dart to the whiffle ball bat on the lawn.

Between Megan's legs, over the hill of her belly, the stork turns its head to the side. Its emotionless eye examines Megan like she were sitting in a gynecological chair.

Connor raises the whiffle ball bat.

CONNOR
Get away from her, you bird!

Unfazed, the stork rears its head back. It plunges its long bill between Megan's legs.

Megans screams.

The stork twists its head and yanks. FABRIC TEARS.

Connor dashes forward with his best barbaric yawp.

The stork jerks its head back.

Torn, wet panties hit Connor in the face. He yanks them off.

The stork hits Connor hard in the stomach, sending him flying. Connor lands on the lawn and gasps for breath as he clutches his stomach.

The stork turns to Megan as she struggles to get out of the tire swing.

Connor moans. He crawls across the lawn toward the stork.

The stork stands over Megan. It eyeballs her.

MEGAN

Oh, now what?

The stork pushes the tip of its bill down between Megan's awkwardly spread legs. Megan's belly and dress block the tip from view.

MEGAN (CONT'D)

What. The. Fu--

Megan screws up her face in discomfort.

The stork opens its bill slightly. A wet, sloppy GURGLE escapes the bird's mouth. The stork's throat quivers and swells as it regurgitates.

From the ground, Connor limply swings the whiffle ball bat at the stork's leg, causing zero percent damage.

Fluid splashes out of the sides of the stork's bill onto Megan's legs. An opaque skin-bag oozes and SQUELCHES down the length of its bill.

Something presses against the membrane from the inside -- a small human hand.

The skin-bag moves past the horizon of Megan's belly line. Megan groans like she were having a strong contraction.

Xander looks on, eyes wide, mouth agape. Ali elbows him.

ALI

Told you I wasn't lying.

With one final juicy FART noise, the stork removes its bill from Megan.

It raises its head and KNOCKS its bill together. It turns, steps on Connor, then leaps into the air and flies away. Loud FLAPPING fades slowly into the distance.

Ali and April watch Connor help Megan out of the tire swing. Ali, one arm around April, gives her shoulder a squeeze.

ALI (CONT'D)

The miracle of life, so beautiful.

APRIL

It truly is a miracle.

INT. HOSPITAL MATERNITY ROOM - DAY

Megan holds a swaddled newborn to her chest as she lays in a hospital bed. Connor, beaming with pride, sits in a chair near the bed.

A KNOCK on the door perks the couple up. They look at each other quizzically. Connor shrugs.

CONNOR

Come in.

The door CREAKS open. The stork walks in. Tentative, it waves a wing.

Connor bolts to his feet.

Megan squeaks and holds the baby closer.

Awkward silence hangs in the air. The baby COOS.

Connor looks at Megan, who looks at Connor. Their concerned expressions turn to smiles. Connor waves to the stork.

CONNOR (CONT'D)

Get over here, big guy!

The stork perks up and moves to the end of the bed. Connor meets it there and puts one arm around the stork.

CONNOR (CONT'D)

You made a great delivery today.

MEGAN

Thank you.

The baby GIGGLES. Megan looks at her child and smiles.

Connor smiles. The stork puts its wing around Connor. All three admire the miracle of life in Megan's arms.