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written by

Bailey Tyler

2019 Borad Hill farms Road Moon Township, PA 15108  
412-398-7290  
bailey.g.tyler@gmail.com

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

A nurse comes into the room carrying a plate of food. There are two patients in the room. One is asleep. She walks over to the other patient who is awake and places the plate in front of her.

NURSE

Meal time.

ANNA

It's pointless.

NURSE

Your doctor thinks that it will be best if we start giving you more freedom. We already moved you to a treatment center. Now I'm not going to be in here while you eat, but I'm going to have to keep checking in on you to make sure you eat something.

ANNA

Really? I didn't have breakfast today.

NURSE

The doctor thinks it'll give you a sense of self control. I'll be back in a bit to check on your progress.

The nurse leaves the room, leaving Anna alone to eat her meal. Anna stares at the plate contemplating. Then she turns to the other person in the room who is sleeping.

ANNA

27. That's the amount of peas that I have to eat before that nurse will stop checking in on me and take this plate out of my face. 27 green calorie filled eyes staring up at me. It's like they are taunting me.

the nurse pops her head through the door.

NURSE

How's it going in here?

ANNA

great.

Anna picks up her fork and the nurse, seemingly satisfied, leaves. Anna then begins to push the peas around the plate. She then stabs just one and slowly brings it to her mouth and chews it excessively.

ANNA (CONT'D)

26. I know there are more than 26 peas on my plate. That's just the number I have figured out is just enough that they are satisfied with how much you ate. Its different at every hospital. The last one was 34. I made the mistake that time of Eating the first day I was admitted. you figure these things out pretty quickly when you're in a hospital this often. This is my 3rd time in 5 months.

She looks down at her plate and picks up her fork again. She stabs one more pea. The nurse peaks her head in again as Anna is bringing the pea to her mouth. Neither of them acknowledges they have seen the other. The nurse leaves.

ANNA

25. God what a waste of time. There are so many other things I could be doing other than eating. I could be on a walk, or hanging out with my friends or watching live music. Living life. But I'm stuck here forced to take the time out of my day to put unwanted calories into my body after I've already wasted 2 perfectly good days being forced to lie in this bed.

She looks down at her plate and pushes a few of the peas around. She finally decides on one and stabs it. she holds the pea up to look at it.

ANNA

A human can go weeks without food. I don't see why its such a big deal that I don't eat every day. I make sure to stay hydrated. I don't want to die.

She slowly moves the pea to her mouth and begins to chew very slowly.

ANA

24.

The nurse knocks lightly before she enters the room.

NURSE

You have a phone call.

ANNA  
Who is it?

NURSE  
Your brother.

ANNA  
Oh.

NURSE  
He seems very worried.

The nurse does not wait for a response, instead she hands the phone to Anna and then quickly leaves.

ANNA  
Hello?

SAM  
Shit Anna, I heard you were in the hospital again. This isn't funny or cute anymore.

ANNA  
Nice to hear from you too Sam. I'm fine, really. I'm out of the hospital already. they moved me to a treatment center.

SAM  
Fine? Really? I heard the doctor said you were down to only 12% body fat.

ANNA  
Lower then 10% is when it is critical. I have this under control. I don't know why everyone keeps treating me like I don't.

SAM  
If this is control it sure is a funny way of showing it. You are wasting your life away.

The nurse pops her head in again and stars at Anna. Reluctantly Anna picks up another pea and brings it to her mouth.

ANNA  
23.

SAM  
What was that?

ANNA

I'm not the one wasting my life  
away. I'm not the one stuck in  
prison for 7 years.

SAM

I've only got 6 left.

ANNA

you were sentenced to 7 years. Do you know how much things  
will change and evolve in that time? You are not going to be  
around for any of it. I'm not letting that happen to myself.  
I've got to live life. I'm going to get every second of  
experience out of it that I can, because you certainly can't.  
you messed up and you lost years. I'm not going to let the  
same thing happen to me. I won't let myself lose even a  
second.

SAM (CONT'D)

What? By not eating and saving  
yourself a few minutes everyday and  
then getting stuck in the hospital  
for days on end. Yeah, that sure is  
working for you. You're living  
every moment to its fullest.

ANNA

This isn't my choice being stuck in  
a hospital. You made your choice  
and look where that got you.

The nurse enters the room.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Look. I've got to go okay.

SAM

Promise me you will get better?

ANNA

I'm not about to lose any of time  
like you did.

She hangs up the phone. The nurse approaches her from the  
doorway and takes the phone.

NURSE

Oh Anna, you've barely touched your  
peas. I'll be back in a few  
moments. If you haven't finished  
them by then we're going to have to  
hook you up to the tube.

The nurse doesn't wait for Anna's response. She stays just long enough to see Anna put one more tiny pea to her mouth.

ANNA

22. They are all so condescending.  
As if I'm still a baby who can't  
take care of myself. I know my  
limits. I've done the research. Why  
won't they believe me when I say I  
know what I'm doing.

Anna moves some more peas around her plate and carefully selects and stabs one.

ANNA (CONT'D)

I just can't do it. I already ate  
too much. My stomach feels like  
it's going to explode. I need to  
get out of here. I need to live. I  
don't see the point in them all  
fussing over me like I'm a little  
kid. I am okay.

As she says this she try to lift the pea that she had stabbed to her mouth. It is too heavy for her and she cannot do it. she falls unconscious and the fork with the pea drops to the floor.