

Danny

REVISED

79.

11/13

"Amish Grace"

IDA
I'm sorry but I cannot go to the hospital with you. Mary Beth's funeral is tomorrow. I have much to do--

Ida turns and walks. Rachel sadly watches her go.

INT. AMY'S CAR/EXT. RURAL ROAD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Amy sits, uncomfortable, as Rachel gets back in the car.

RACHEL
She's having a difficult time... She set such store by Mary Beth...

AMY
I don't blame her... You can go with her if you want. I'll understand.

RACHEL
No. I need to get to the hospital. And I'm most grateful for the ride.

Amy nods, grateful for the kindness, but she is clearly weighed down by guilt as she heavily lifts her arm to put the car in gear. She pulls back onto the road.

EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - DAY

Jill and Danny stand outside the van, looking at a map.

JILL
Well, I guess we could just go start knocking on doors. See if anyone wants to talk.

Danny doesn't look thrilled with this idea.

JILL
You think Leonard's barking up the wrong tree.

DANNY
Pretty much.

JILL
Well you gotta admit, he has a point. We can't know for sure unless we look into it.

Danny nods. A few beats pass.

DANNY

Did I ever tell you about my college roommate? Brian?

JILL

What about him?

DANNY

He was from Pittsburgh. Used to drive home for holidays and what have you. He was an alternative type of guy, liked to take country roads instead of the highway. Well one day, just before Christmas, Brian was driving home, and it was cold, way below freezing. And he was rounding a curve, hit a patch of black ice, and went sliding into an Amish buggy. The impact killed the Amish guy inside. He was young, only eighteen or something like that...

JILL

Oh my God. How awful.

DANNY

Yeah, Brian was wrecked. Completely wrecked. I saw him the day after in the hospital, he was talking about suicide... But here's the thing. The parents of the guy who died? They went to see Brian in the hospital, too. And they invited him to their house for dinner.

Jill looks at him in surprise. Amazing.

DANNY

Last time I talked to him, he said he still goes to see them every once in awhile. He said they saved his life, made it so he could forgive himself.

Jill is impressed with this story.

JILL

You should tell Leonard. Maybe he'd let us wrap up this story.

DANNY

Or, he'd tell me I'm too subjective and make me go count his Emmys again.

They laugh a little at that, then Danny notices--
An Amish woman walking by at a fast clip. 'It is Ida.

DANNY
Is that who I think it is?

Jill turns to look. Then turns back to Danny in surprise.

JILL
Ida Graber...

She puts a finger up to tell Danny to wait, then hurries toward the road to meet Ida.

Ida slows, comes to a stop as she sees Jill approach.

JILL
Ida? Are you all right?... Can we give you a ride?

Ida stands there a long moment, breathing hard from her walk, clearly fighting tears.

IDA
Not today... But the day after tomorrow?
Could you give me a ride then?

JILL
Uh, yeah... I'm sure we could do that.
Where do you need to go?

IDA
To Philadelphia... I cannot bear to stay here any longer. I have to leave this place... I have to leave.

Jill opens her mouth, but doesn't really know what to say to that.

IDA
Will you do it? I don't know anyone else to ask...

Jill holds up a finger.

JILL
Um, hold on, just let me talk to...

She steps over to Danny, talks low.

Continue...

JILL
She wants us to drive her to Philadelphia, day after tomorrow... Do you think we should?

DANNY
In the van? No. Leonard would say that's us becoming part of the story.

A torn Jill looks back to Ida, standing uncomfortably, looking around nervously.

JILL
But she's so upset. I want to help her...

DANNY
So drive her in your own car.

Jill nods, making up her mind. She takes a few steps back toward Ida.

~~SIDE
I'll pick you up at your house on Friday morning.~~

Ida looks at her with heartfelt thanks, and nods.

Then, she turns and walks on, leaving Jill wondering what she's getting herself into.

END OF ACT SIX