

Man and Moon

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

LUNA, (12)

AARON, (28)

## SETTINGS

The waiting room of a hospital's Oncology unit, present day.

## NOTES

'...' in dialogue can represent a pause, change in action or thought, or non-verbal communication.

AARON should be played by a transman or non-binary actor.

[TRANSITION]

FOURTH CHEMO

LUNA scratches her crotch.

AARON notices but tries not to.

LUNA

Periods suck.

AARON

...

LUNA

They SUCK.

Like first it's the bleeding thing. Like I am gushing, GUSHING. Blood.

But everyone acts like it's completely normal, nor even really cares...

As long as I have this disposable sponge catcher catching all my blood droppings.

Then the cramps

AND the having to sit in this

WET disposable sponge catcher and feel it all dribble and pool and squish up in between my legs because sitting and because gravity—

AARON

Tampons.

LUNA

What?

AARON

Tampons help that.

They make you... Feel cleaner.

LUNA

You use them?

AARON

Used to.

LUNA

I've never used one.

Your mom can show you how to Properly.

AARON

Probably...

LUNA

LUNA takes out a box of tampons and places them between herself and AARON.

...

AARON

...

LUNA

I can't go in with you.

AARON

...

LUNA

...

AARON

Okay.

LUNA

LUNA grabs the box and gets up.

SHE has a period stain on her pants.

When you...

AARON

AARON takes the box of tampons from LUNA.

HE opens the box, takes one out, and opens it.

HE forms a fist and points the tip of the applicator at the center.

AARON

Try to relax, and make sure you get the plastic part up enough, before you...  
You know?  
Otherwise it will feel like it's chaffing your insides and about to fall out.

LUNA

...

AARON finishes the demonstration and hands the box back to LUNA.

LUNA exits.

HE looks at the deconstructed tampon parts in his hand then goes to the trashcan.

AARON takes LUNA's book and leafs through it.

A page she tore falls out. HE keeps it.

HE pulls out his phone and takes a picture of the cover.

HE sets the book down.

HE checks his phone, walks to the door, walks back, sits, waits, checks his phone, looks at the door.

HE goes to the door and opens it just as LUNA enters.

SHE awkwardly waddles, SHE squats, SHE sits, and adjusts herself on her seat.

AARON

Good?

LUNA

... Good.

AARON

Good.

LUNA

Does it feel... The same? In you, as me?

AARON

Yeah.

LUNA

I didn't ask for this: to grow up and get breasts and—  
All that.

AARON

No one did.

LUNA

I don't feel different.

AARON

Because you aren't different.

LUNA

Aren't I though?  
Because of the bleeding.  
It makes me different now.

AARON

Doesn't have to.  
Doesn't have to mean anything. For me,  
It was like a monthly reminder of something I was never ready for.  
But eventually it just became  
Just something that would happen  
Over and over and over again. Now that  
Is this...

LUNA

Being a girl sucks.  
You're lucky... Sorta.

AARON

*You* get better at it, honest.

LUNA

You always felt different?

AARON

No, but I've always felt the *difference*.

LUNA

What does the difference feel like?

AARON

It...

It felt, or it *feels*, sometimes to me, like—

Like being... Like having cancer.

LUNA

How?

AARON

It...

I wouldn't have even known that I was different or whatever—

If somebody hadn't told me, that what I feel isn't normal. Or,

If people just didn't like... Notice. Or look at you weird.

It's just interesting what matters—

What people choose to give weight.

LUNA

Gravity gives everything weight.

So everything matters...

Everything IS MATTER.

AARON

And stars just are.

LUNA

Yeah... But not.

AARON

I thought you said?

LUNA

Well, like they still change from one to next.

AARON

How long does that take to change from one to next?

LUNA

A *long* time. Like billions and billions of years.

AARON

I guess if it were to feel like anything then it would feel like that.  
Like I'm a transitioning star period.  
That billions and billions of years.  
My whole life.

LUNA

Do you think I'll get cancer?

AARON

No.

LUNA

How do you know?

AARON

I don't. I just really hope you don't.

LUNA

What does it feel like?

AARON

Like anything.  
Growing is gradual.

LUNA

Then why is it scary?

AARON

Because we can't stop growing.

LUNA

...

AARON

...

LUNA

"Never any solutions, only what works in an instant."

AARON

Sure?



Pretty.

LUNA

...

AARON

....

LUNA

AARON

You don't usually like talking about it so much.

LUNA

I don't... But I still *think* about it.  
Can't help it exists.  
I wish we didn't grow.  
Isn't fair.

AARON

I know.

LUNA

It is better to talk about better things.

AARON

Right.

LUNA

For instance space.

AARON

Space is all good.

LUNA

Space is all good.  
What does your mom look like?

AARON

It's been a while since I've seen her.

LUNA

How long is a while?

AARON

A while.

LUNA

Well is she old or young?

AARON

Either way she'd still look older than the last time I saw her likely.

LUNA

...

AARON

I don't know Luna. That's it. I don't think about it more than that.

AARON starts to put in earphones—

LUNA

WHAT'S WRONG

AARON

Nothing, Luna.

LUNA

I wish you'd say more. I say lots of things. And I ask yo—

AARON

*You force—*

LUNA

...

AARON

You know that feeling that happens when you realize how alone you are?  
 Not sudden not THERE AND GONE alone I mean *realize*...  
 Like when you— You somehow— You manage to go an entire day without speaking.  
 Until you go some place finally after all this time of shifting silences—  
 Noises of living,  
 Soundtrack moments,  
 And then you hear your voice...  
 But suddenly it feels the thing furthest from your self?

LUNA

Not really...

AARON

That's okay.

LUNA

...

AARON

That's what's wrong.

LUNA

...

AARON

...

'Boys Don't Cry' by the Cure.

[TRANSITION]