Dan 1

DAN

That was great, wasn't it? It was great. Oh Christ, I'm late.

DIANA

That'll teach you to take a whole ten minutes.

DAN

Sorry, what?

DIANA

I said, isn't it a beautiful day?

DAN

Okay. Sure. I mean, it's cloudy, and raining, and really cold for September, but beautiful.

DIANA

Makes you want to dive in with both feet, doesn't it?

DAN

Absolutely.

(Diana goes. Dan speaks to us.)

I never know what she's talking about.

Dan 2

DAN

Marry me.

DIANA

What?

DAN

Marry me, Let's have a family. I know, we're too young, but we're not, I'm almost twenty-two, and how do you know this isn't a sign saying we belong together?

DIANA

How do you know it's not a sign saying get new rubbers?

DAN

Because I know it's not. I love you, and this baby—

DIANA

Dan. This is crazy.

[redacted]

DAN & HENRY

(together)

Maybe it is.

Dan 3

DAN

What about the new meds?

DIANA

We have the happiest septic tank on the block.

DAN

You—Jesus, Di. They were working.

DIANA

They weren't, really.

DAN

We'll get a new round, we'll call Doctor Fine—

DIANA

No.

DAN

Diana, look, I know this is hard.

(MUSIC CHANGES)

#9 – You Don't Know

DIANA

You know. Really? What, exactly, do you know?

DAN

I know you're hurting. I am, too.



Dan 4

(Natalie, with backpack, has just arrived home from school.)

NATALIE

Four times a week? That's a lot, isn't it?

DAN

It's what the doctor recommended.

NATALIE

(after a pause)

This is never going to get better, is it?

(Gabe joins them, listening.)

He's never going away.

DAN

I don't know, Natalie.

NATALIE

This is one of those moments when you could just be a typical parent and lie and say yes.

DAN

Yes.

NATALIE

Thanks. That's comforting.

(Dan is silent at first, and Natalie turns to go...)

[redacted]

(...but he follows her with:)

DAN

You know, Natalie...

[redacted]

DAN

It's not all about your comfort.

[redacted]

DAN

It's about helping your mother.

[redacted]

NATALIE

As always.

Dan 5

(DOCTOR MADDEN)

ECT is indicated.

(Dan joins him, at the hospital.)

DAN

Wow. I mean—they still do that?

DOCTOR MADDEN

We do, yes. It's the standard in cases like this. She's got a long history of drug therapy and resistance, she's acutely suicidal—it's really our best option.

DAN

That's kind of terrifying.

DOCTOR MADDEN

It's not. The electricity involved is barely enough to light a hundred-watt bulb.

DAN

(wry)

Oh, if it's just a hundred-watt bulb...

DOCTOR MADDEN

It's safer than crossing the street, and the short-term success rate is over eighty percent.

DAN

I thought she was better...

DOCTOR MADDEN

Sometimes patients recover just enough strength to follow through on suicidal impulses, but not enough strength to resist them.

DAN

Well, that seems very...fucked.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Yes.

(hands Dan a clipboard)

Legally, we need her consent. Hospital policy is we need yours, too.

DAN

I don't think she's gonna go for this.

DOCTOR MADDEN

Mister Goodman, we can administer the ECT and you can bring her home in ten days. Or we can keep her sedated for forty-eight hours, then discharge her and wait for her to try again. Look—go home. Take the night. We'll talk to her in the morning.

(MUSIC CHANGES.