Stolen

by

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INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY RECEPTION

MAY is an elderly Aboriginal woman waiting to be seen by a doctor with her daughter JUNEE. MAY is breathing heavily with her hand on her chest. JUNEE is comforting her mother and becoming agitated at the seemingly long wait.

       JUNEE

Don’t worry mum, I roused em up good and proper. The doctor should be here soon.

JUNEE glares at a nurse.

       JUNEE (CONT)

If we was white they’d be busting themselves to get ya looked at..

       MAY

I don’t like hospitals Junee. Can we go home.

       JUNEE

No good being at home with a crook heart!

       MAY

When I was a kid we weren’t allowed into these places. Let’s go home.

       JUNEE

Don’t stress! I’m here with you!

A NURSE approaches May.

       NURSE

Mrs. Darby?

May nods.

       JUNEE

About bloody time!

       NURSE

I’ll arrange a wheelchair for you.
INT. EMERGENCY EXAMINATION ROOM

MAY is laying on a bed with JUNEE standing by her side. The DOCTOR enters the room.

DOCTOR

Now May, I’m going to need to examine you. We’ll do an ECG and that will give us a clear picture of what is going on with your heart.

NURSE prepare the leads.

DOCTOR

It doesn’t hurt and it’ll only take a minute. We’ll need to attach these little pads to your chest.

The NURSE sets about preparing MAY for the ECG. The DOCTOR takes JUNEE aside.

JUNEE

You’re not kicking me out of here!

DOCTOR

The best thing for your mother, is to let us get on with our job and let her speak for herself. If you can do that, then I’m happy for you to stay.

JUNEE

Okay, but I’ll be watching!

TRANSITION OF TIME PASSING

INT. EXAMINATION ROOM

The NURSE packs away the leads as the DOCTOR reads the ECG. MAY is not longer breathing heavily.

JUNEE

What does it say?

DOCTOR

There’s nothing wrong with your heart May.

JUNEE
What!
  DOCTOR

But you have all the symptoms of an anxiety attack.

  JUNEE

Anxiety?

  DOCTOR

Sometimes they come on for no apparent reason or there may have been something that triggered it.

  JUNEE

She’s not worried about nothing.

  MAY

It was them photo’s Junee

  JUNEE

You seem em before.

  MAY

It made me think about all those years I missed out on being with mum.

  JUNEE

What do you mean?

  MAY

They took me from her when I was six and I never seen her again till just before she passed away.

  JUNEE is stunned by the revelation.

  JUNEE

Why didn’t you tell me this before?

  MAY

I didn’t want you to feel all my hurt when you was growing up.
JUNEE
You should have told me.

MAY
I thought I could block it out but lately all that hurt’s been coming back, especially at night.

JUNEE
Oh mum!

JUNEE hugs her mum.

MAY
I’ll be alright.

The DOCTOR waits a beat before she speaks.

DOCTOR
It is good to talk about it, especially with your family.

NURSE hands MAY some pamphlets

NURSE
Here’s some information about counselling services if you need them.

JUNEE
Thanks nurse.... I’m sorry for rousing you up.

NURSE
You did the right thing by bringing her here straight away.

MAY
You know doctor, you got me thinking now. I’m gonna sit all me kids and grannies down and tell em a little bit about those days. Then they’ll understand why that prime minister apologised to us in parliament.

DOCTOR
I think that would be a good thing to do for you and your family.

JUNEE
Too right mum! And this time I’ll keep my mouth shut!

They all laugh.

THE END