

THE WILDERNESS

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A great, expansive wilderness.

Adam *is digging a hole with his hands.*

Eve *sits beside him.*

Both are wearing fig leaves.

Silence.

Eve *(Sighs.)*

Adam *(Hears it.)*

Silence.

Eve *(Sighs.)*

Adam *(Hears it.)*

Adam *pauses his digging.*

Silence.

Adam *resumes digging.*

Another longer silence.

Eve *(Sighs.)*

Adam What.

Eve *(Glares at him.)*

Adam *(Glares at her.)*

Eve I'm just breathing. Can't I breathe?

Adam You're not breathing. You're going *(He mimics her sigh.)*

Eve I don't see the difference.

Adam *goes back to digging.*

He studies his hole. It's not very big.

Eve What are you digging?

Adam A hole.

Silence.

Eve For what?

Silence.

Adam *had not thought about this.*

Adam I don't know yet. I'm just supposed to.

Silence.

Eve *sighs.*

Adam You know, if you want to help...

Eve Sorry, I can't.

Adam *(Glares at her.)* Oh... too busy.

Eve I am, in fact.

Adam ...doing what?

Eve Birthing the human race.

Adam *glares at her, annoyed.*

Then stares quizzically.

Adam How?

Silence.

Eve *had not thought about this.*

Eve I don't know yet. I'm just supposed to.

Adam *stares at her quizzically, then goes back to his digging.*

Silence.

Eve *sighs.*

Adam You know, if I'm bothering you, there are a lot of other places you can go to.

Eve I can't go anywhere. I have to stay *here*. With *you*.

Adam Says who?

Eve God.

Silence.

Adam Right.

Eve Not that I want to.

Silence.

Eve sighs.

Adam Okay, seriously. What is it.

Eve ...I just hate it here.

Adam Hmm. Gee. I hate it here too.

Eve Stop.

Adam But we can't go back, can we? Because there's a giant gate now with a fire angel out front. Guess who got that going?

Eve Stop it.

Adam Literally, the *one thing*. The *one thing* God tells us not to do, and you go off and do it.

Eve You ate it too.

Adam (*Patronizing:*) I did not *know* it was from that tree, *darling*, I thought it was from that other tree with the colorful leaves.

Eve You knew *full* well that colorful tree didn't have fruit. Don't blame me for this.

Adam sighs.

Adam No. I don't blame you. I blame whatever messed up game God decided to birth us into. Only a few days in creation and He place the entire moral universe on our shoulders, I mean *come on*—where was the foresight?

Eve So you're not mad at me.

Adam No, I'm still mad at you. I'm mad at you, and God. *And* these stupid rocks. *And* this stupid itchy fig leaf covering. *And* the fact that we're gonna be here in this wilderness forever without any sort of idea of why we're here or what we're supposed to do. (*He picks up a rock and throws it.*) He curses the ground and then tells me to make food out of it.

Silence.

Eve My curse is worse.

Adam Oh, please.

Eve You wanna hear about it?

Adam You're gonna tell me anyway.

Eve First of all, I'm in pain everywhere. Hot flashes, cramps, I'm literally *bleeding from a hole*. And, unlike you, I for *whatever* reason have an even deeper sense of shame and self-loathing that makes me wear these stupid itchy leaves on my chest too.

Adam Great.

Eve But to top it all off, I have to live with the fact that I'm forever cursed to have this insatiable "desire for my husband, for he shall rule over me."

Adam ...do you?

Eve *(She glares at him. Annoyed:)* ...Yes.

Adam Hmm.

Eve I hate it though.

Adam Sucks.

Eve sighs.

Eve I miss being my own person. Getting to name the animals. Long walks in the garden. Bathing in the river under the morning sun. I don't know who I am anymore.

Adam Again, you can leave if you want. We have this entire wilderness. Go "discover yourself", or whatever.

Eve sighs.

Eve ...I can't. It feels like I... like I need you for something. I don't know what. It feels like this... *burning*. On the inside. It's consuming.

Adam Sounds painful.

Eve It is.

Silence.

Adam Well. Have fun with that.

Adam goes back to digging.

Eve glares at him.

Adam What.

Eve I just don't appreciate your flippancy.

Adam Okay.

Eve After everything we just went through. I just think it's incredibly rude.

Adam Okay.

Adam goes back to digging.

Eve You hate me. You resent me.

Adam I don't hate you.

Eve You want me to leave.

Adam I don't want you to leave.

Eve You just want to dig your stupid little hole in your stupid little wilderness and feel all in control of your stupid little life.

Adam At least I'm actually doing something productive? Unlike you, doing nothing but waiting for something to happen to you.

Eve I *am* doing something. I'm preparing to birth the entire human race.

Adam You don't even know how to do that.

Eve Well, maybe with some *time* I'll figure it out? It's kind of an impossible task, you know.

Adam Really? Sounds like a lot of bitching over there.

Eve Ooh, all this macho emotionless man energy, trying to impress everyone.

Adam Who the hell is there to impress?? You and I are the ONLY PEOPLE OUT HERE.

Eve You just think you're hot shit because God made me out of your rib. You think you own me, don't you?

Adam I *do* resent that I don't have a full ribcage because of you.

Eve Like I had a choice?? If God were going to make me, I would've asked him to make me out of something I don't know, a little nicer than your rib—

Adam Maybe if He hadn't made you out of my rib, you wouldn't have gone on to break the ONLY RULE we had in the garden.

Eve Okay, well maybe if God had better sense when he made you, we wouldn't have a bunch of spiky mouse creatures named "Hedge-Hogs" for all eternity.

Adam It looks like a tiny hog—

Eve It looks *nothing* like a hog, and you know it. I kept saying we needed to stay *consistent*, but *no*, who cares what the woman thinks!

Adam Wow, coming right out of the gate playing the victim card. Classy.

Eve Classy, my ass. I've been stuck staring at you dickin' around in the desert for the last few months when all I want to do is eat a giant pineapple and sit under a waterfall.

Adam BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT ANYMORE BECAUSE OF YOU.

Eve YOU WERE CULPABLE.

Adam I DIDN'T KNOW IT AT THE TIME.

Eve BUT YOU STILL TOOK A BITE.

Adam I *KNOW*.

Adam *throws down the rock. He sits down, and sighs.*
Silence.

Adam I miss the garden too. I miss the river that wound by that grassy knoll. I miss the willow tree that hung over our bed. I miss seeing the stars glisten over the water. (*Silence.*)
I miss you.

Eve (*Looks at him.*)

Adam But you're not the same anymore. I can't even look at you. When I look at you now, I only see banishment. Banishment and pain. *(He looks back at his hole. Then sighs.)* I forget what it was like to love you. I forget what you looked like.

Eve I forget too.

Silence.

They look at each other.

Adam Do you want to remember?

Eve I don't know.

Adam I don't know either.

Eve It might hurt if we did.

Adam It would.

Eve Might make us feel things.

Adam I'm afraid of that.

Eve If we remembered, we may not be able to forget again.

Adam I know.

Silence.

She removes her fig leaves.

He stares at her.

He removes his fig leaves.

She stares at him.

Silence.

Adam What do you feel?

Eve ...pain.

They both stare, enraptured, slowly inching towards each other.

Blackout.