

MONSTER:
THE JEFFREY DAHMER STORY

Some women actually enjoy pregnancy

3 actors
(Woman/Man/Man)

Drama

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1960.

JOYCE and LIONEL are waiting their first child. They are at the doctor.

DOCTOR

So you're how many weeks now?

JOYCE

26.

DOCTOR

Ok, so you're well into your last trimester. Good. The moodiness. The nervousness. Uhm? Look, you want to think of this as the time where you can relax, just think about the joy that's about to enter your lives when this baby comes. Uhm? Now, I see you've been put on lots of medications. I see some hormones here. Tell me which drugs are you currently taking?

JOYCE

I'm -

LIONEL

That's why we're here today, Doctor. It's the medications. She's taking Equanil for anxiety. That's supposed to be as needed, but she's gone through refill after refill. Another doctor gave her sleeping pills.

JOYCE

It's important I sleep, Lionel.

LIONEL

Laxatives, Valium. He's given her morphine.

JOYCE

Three times he's given me morphine.

LIONEL

She's had injections of barbiturates.

JOYCE

If they relax me, that means I should be taking them.

LIONEL

My concern is the fetus. I - I fear for the child. You know, you hear about all those thalidomide babies in England.

JOYCE

I'm not taking thalidomide.

LIONEL

Don't interrupt me.

Beat.

LIONEL

You are taking 26 pills a day.

JOYCE

I'm taking the pills that the doctors have given me, Lionel. I'm doing what they tell me to do. All I want is to feel better, and I have you angry with me and every doctor makes me feel I'm doing something wrong, and I don't know what it is that I'm doing wrong.

DOCTOR

Ok. Ok. I understand. Your hormones are all over the place. You're confused. Your world is going to be turned upside down.

JOYCE

I don't feel confused.

LIONEL

Joyce -

JOYCE

I just want to know what it is that's actually happening. I mean, chemically, that would make me feel this way.

DOCTOR

I don't want you to worry about any of that, okay? All you need to know is that it's normal and it'll pass. And it would be best if you could try to deal with it without relying on medication.

JOYCE

I just want this to be over so I can get on with my life. Some women actually enjoy pregnancy. I know that. I feel so guilty that I don't.

DOCTOR

It'll be over soon enough.

LIONEL takes JOYCE's hand but she refuses him.