AUDITION SIDE 4

Marianne He said that it's a grade one and he said that it's benign.

Roland Wait, he said that –

Marianne He said that, ordinarily, with a grade one he would expect to see a full recovery.

Roland Did he use the phrase 'full recovery'?

Marianne Exact quote.

Roland He said –

Marianne Ordinarily we would expect to see a full recovery.

Roland Fucking hell.

Marianne Yeah.

Roland What happens now?

Marianne They need to operate.

Roland But he definitely used the phrase 'full recovery'?

Marianne He did.

Beat.

Roland Are you all right?

Marianne Yeah.

Roland Are you sure?

Marianne Yeah.

Roland Are you hungry, do you want some bolognaise? Home-made.

Marianne Have we got any of the nice spaghetti?

Roland I love you.

Marianne It's called a glioblastoma multiforme.

Roland Right.

Marianne It's a grade four.

Roland Right.

Marianne It's at the front.

Roland Okay.

Marianne Which is why I've been having trouble –

Roland Speaking.

Marianne He said he thinks they should operate.

Roland Great.

Marianne He said he thinks that's what they should start with.

Roland Great.

Marianne And then he suggested radiotherapy.

Roland Okay.

Marianne But he said that if I'm too weak for radiotherapy –

Roland Too weak?

Marianne Yes.

Roland Okay, sorry.

Marianne He said that if I'm too weak for radiotherapy then chemo is probably better.

Roland Okay.

Marianne He . . . he said that . . .

Roland We can stop.

Marianne No, I'm okay.

Roland We could eat.

Marianne No, I'm fine.

Roland Honestly, we can stop, we can eat.

Marianne Think I'd rather. Think I'd rather just get –

Roland No, you're right –

Marianne Think I'd rather just get through it.

Roland Absolutely.

Marianne It's a year.

Roland A year?

Marianne Probably less.

Roland It's probably less than a year?

Marianne He didn't say that, but.

Roland They didn't say that?

Marianne I went online.

Roland But they didn't tell you that?

Marianne They said we should talk about all of that when we next meet, but when I got back to campus –

Roland Mary –

Marianne I know, I know. It's stupid. I shouldn't have done it. I went on a forum.

Roland A forum?

Marianne People had left all these dedications to all these people they had known that had died. There were pages and pages of them. Most of them were really wet and drippy. I got really fucking angry.

Roland Angry?

Marianne There's so much bullshit.

Roland You mean on the –

Marianne When someone dies.

Roland Right.

Marianne There's so much bullshit. 'When your time's up your time's up.'

Roland Right.

Marianne *'Time'*, I mean what on earth are they even talking about?

Roland Why don't we –

Marianne 'She was a real fighter.' Was she? Well, she obviously didn't do a very good fucking job, did she?

Roland All right.

Marianne Some of them had uploaded photos.

Roland We should eat.

Marianne There was a photograph of a woman with God knows how many tubes hanging out of her and she was surrounded by these garish fucking balloons.

Roland Some people like to give people balloons.

Marianne If you give me a balloon, I will fucking garotte you.

Roland Note to self.

Marianne And if you put a photo of me on a fucking forum, I will haunt the shit out of you.

Roland No forums.

Marianne goes to cry, but stops herself.

Okay. Let's eat. We should eat.