

## JEN & ELLIE

I can't keep riding this train, thought Jen, with the clickyclack vibrations, all I think about is throwing up or peeing. I threw up every day this week between the train and my car. The others are clearing out fast tonight. No seatbelt for me and Ellie. I'll just sit here until they're all gone. Time alone with Ellie on such a beautifully snowy night. Magical! As usual, I do all the talking.

"What the fuck! You scared me, asshole," screamed Jen at him. "What are you doing here? The TRO says 300 feet, not three feet. What do you want? Anagghh..... Stop punching me? Are you trying to hurt Ellie? What, what, I can't understand you. My stomach hurts now. Why are you kissing me, stop rubbing my belly!," said Jen. His beery breath is sickening, thought Jen. "Get out, get away," screamed Jen. Gone, left the door open. Why did he have gloves on, it's not that cold, he never wears gloves anyway? What was in his right hand when he punched me? It looked familiar, but odd. Why did it catch the light?

I'm too tired to close the door, to even start the car. I've never felt this tired before. Is it from Ellie? I'm cold, too. Am I peeing myself? Wet between my legs, wet and sticky. Oh my God, it's red, it's blood. Miscarriage, am I losing Ellie? Three holes in my belly, three wounds. He didn't punch me, he stabbed me - me and Ellie. That flashing was a knife. It was the boning knife I gave him last Christmas.

The car's not on, I'm freezing, I'm too tired to even turn the key. I remember his taunt, "If you won't have my kid, you won't have any kid, ever"

I need help now. Flakes are covering the windshield. All the others are gone. Why can't I lift my hand, start the car. I'm so cold now, everything seems hazy, is this nightmare a dream?

He'll come back in a minute to help me, he always has, he loves me. I'll be patient, I'll play the Baby Name Game until he comes back. Annie, Bobbie, Carrie, Donnie, Ellie...

Snow kept falling.

Occasionally, snow still falls over Jen and Ellie but they don't mind now because they're together sharing a soul.

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