

In Utero

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INT. SERENE'S BEDROOM/BATHROOM

SERENE sits edge on the bed, dressed very simply in a robe. A television is playing in the background with a news report of the impending doom blaring. Frowning, SERENE stares at the report for a minute, then walks over and turns the set off. Water can be heard running in the tub of the adjoining bathroom. A knock is heard at the bedroom door.

MARLENA sticks head inside the bedroom. TENE walks very shyly inside. SERENE turns sharply towards the door.

MARLENA

I thought you'd be ready by now.

SERENE

I know.  
I've just --

MARLENA steps inside of the room and shuts the door behind her. TENE looks at her and sighs.

MARLENA

Just what?

Serene, we don't have much time.

SERENE

(sharply)  
Don't you think I know that?

TENE

(Shakes her head )  
Mar, none of us have much time now.

MARLENA

Then why aren't you ready?  
We all agreed we would be together  
when it... when it happens.

SERENE

I never agreed to that.  
And it's not what I want.

MARLENA

You don't want to be with us?  
With your family?  
(Incredulously)  
At this time, you want to be alone.

SERENE

Marlena --

TENE

Marlena --

MARLENA

(Shaking her head)

No... no.

We're all going to die and you want to spend your last hours in a bathrobe, staring out of your window.

(whispers angrily)

How will you ever forgive yourself?  
How can you ever make your peace?

TENE

And when will you make peace with yourself?

When will you stop making Serene the source of all of our issues?

SERENE walks over to MARLENA and TENE and takes their hands.

SERENE

I've made my peace with all of you. You, Mom, Damien -- you've been my entire world for as long as I've had breath.

I've spent my life loving everyone but me.

SERENE walks back to the window, looks out for a moment, then back at MARLENA.

SERENE (CONT'D)

So the peace I've got to make now is with myself --

I'm just lucky there's still time for me to try.

And I want to leave this world the same way I came into it.

Free, surrounded by dark, and warmth and peace.

In Utero -- back in the womb.

No tears, no worries, no regrets.

MARLENA

(Crying softly)

Is that what you truly want?

SERENE

(Nods sadly)

It is.

Goodbye, Marlena.

Tene walks over to Serene and takes her hand tentatively.

TENE

I'll make the peace with you -- if  
you'll let me.

SERENE

Really?

TENE

Yes

(Turns and looks at  
Marlena)

I want to be with the people who  
loved me best.

(Turns back to Serene)

That's always been you.

Serene hands her a robe. Tene hugs Serene briefly, takes the robe and goes to the bathroom.

MARLENA observes this, slowly turns and leaves the room.  
SERENE sighs, and walks toward the bathroom.

MARLENA walks out of the hotel room. The hallway is deserted.  
As she walks away, she stops, pauses for a minute, turns  
around, and heads back to the room.

Serene and Tene slowly step into the tub together. They hug  
each other and, outside the bathroom, Marlena is watching  
them, standing by the door, crying. Marlene walks into the  
bathroom, sits on the side of the tub, and joins hands with  
Serene and Tene, as the sonic boom is heard in the  
background.

Immediately, Serene and Tene engulf themselves in the tub  
water. Marlena looks at Serene and Tene with tears. The three  
ladies grabs each other's hand tighter.

FADE TO BLACK.