

PRINCIPAL BARNES

I'm so sorry, Kate. I haven't told many people this, but when I was young -- younger than you...I lost a child too.

KATE

I'm...I'm really sorry.

PRINCIPAL BARNES

It's okay. It was a long, long time ago. Still hurts sometimes. But eventually...you move on. You have to.

PRINCIPLE BARNES (CONT'D)

I got a phone call from a very upset parent. That's actually how I found out. I was surprised that you didn't feel that you could come to me

KATE

You know, one of the kids asked me why I wasn't getting fat and then another one asked me if I killed my baby and I didn't know what to do

PRINCIPLE BARNES

I'm so sorry that you had to go through that, it must have been very painful for you

KATE

Oh my god, I feel awful.

PRINCIPLE BARNES

I know that this is a hard time but you have to keep going, you have to be strong.

KATE

It's so awful, I can't keep doing this.

PRINCIPLE BARNES

Take a day off, maybe a couple of days, maybe through the weekend...

KATE

No. You don't understand.
I need to be honest with you.

PRINCIPAL BARNES

Okay..

KATE

Principal Barnes...I was never pregnant.

PRINCIPAL BARNES

But...you vomited in class.

KATE

I lied -- to the class and to you -- because I was scared. And when that happened I didn't know what to do because the truth is --

PRINCIPAL BARNES

Oh, my god -- are you really ill? Is it cancer?

KATE

No, well, yes. I have a disease, but, um... ...i'm an alcoholic.

PRINCIPLE BARNES

You're an alcoholic.

KATE

I'm an alcoholic, but I've been working on it. I'm onehundred days sober. When that happened I'd been out drinking and I wasn't feeling too well--

PRINCIPAL BARNES

You vomited in front of children because you were hung over?

KATE

Yes.

PRINCIPAL BARNES

And lied, saying that you were pregnant?

KATE

Well, a student asked if I was pregnant -- and "yes" just kind of fell out of my mouth.

PRINCIPLE BARNES

Oh, naturally, of course. Well that makes perfect sense. I am.. I don't even know what to say. This is sickening. I'm extremely disappointed in you.

KATE

I'm really sorry. I am. I've been wanting to tell you the truth because honesty has become really important to me. I'm in AA now and doing the steps and working with a sponsor and everything.

PRINCIPLE BARNES

Do you know what you have done? Do you realize how humiliating this is? What you have done is completely and utterly irresponsible and I'm afraid that I Can't have you here at the school any longer.