

Scene 10

Allisyn continues working furiously. The food sits untouched on her desk. It's late. She has transcribed all the testimony. The screen behind her shows her secured line to the NY Times site for automatic upload. Her files are all uploading.

She texts EDWARD:

"Please call as soon as you are awake and have reviewed uploads."

There are several different windows open on her computer, shown on the screens, that she's navigating: the NY Times upload, some information on law of Diyat, preparation of questions for the police officers for Ben's interview in the morning. She looks at the time again. The screen turns to Skype. She then Skype's Melissa. Skype rings until Melissa picks up. It is morning in the US.

MELISSA:

Ally?

ALLISYN:

Did I call too early?

MELISSA:

No, I'm up. I'm so glad you called. Is everything ok?

ALLISYN:

~~Yes~~ I just thought I'd check in. See how you are.

MELISSA:

Well.... The baby is now squatting directly on my bladder so I have to pee every 30 seconds, I just got my first hemorrhoid and I have hives all over my back- but other than that we are status quo! *(beat)* Mom and Dad called. I didn't tell them you'd gone back. I felt kinda weird about not mentioning it, but I understand that you don't want them to worry and... they didn't ask, so.

ALLISYN:

Thanks, Mel. I appreciate that.

(beat)

I'm sorry I'm not there.

MELISSA:

You're staying because of what happened to that girl in Lahore, right?
(Allisyn nods.)

Start

MELISSA (*cont'd*):

Ally. How long are you going to keep doing this?

ALLISYN:

Keep doing *what*?

MELISSA:

I'm sorry, Ally... but enough is enough.

ALLISYN:

What the hell are you talking about?

MELISSA:

Listen to me very carefully, please. You have got to let this go.

ALLISYN:

Let it go?

MELISSA:

Yes. It was 20 years ago.
Stop punishing yourself. Just- stop.

ALLISYN:

Melissa- this is my job.

MELISSA:

For God's sake, look at yourself. You're putting your life at risk.
You need to ask yourself why you are doing that. Really truly, *why*.

ALLISYN:

I know why.

MELISSA:

All right, *why*?

ALLISYN:

This is one thing I *can* do.

MELISSA:

Honey. It is not your job to fix it.

ALLISYN:

How can you say that?

MELISSA:

You have got to stop punishing yourself and forgive them.

ALLISYN:
What, like you did?

MELISSA:
Yes.

ALLISYN:
Well, I'm sorry if I'm not as evolved as you are, Melissa.

MELISSA:
You think that was easy for me?

ALLISYN:
Who am I supposed to forgive? Mom and dad? The boys?

MELISSA:
All of them. And me. And *yourself*.
(beat)
It's getting old, Ally. *We're* getting old; we are not little girls anymore.

Allisyn cries.

MELISSA (cont'd):
There was nothing you could've done.
(beat)
~~Is it because of the baby? Is that why you left now?~~

End

ALLISYN:
No.

MELISSA:
Are you sure?

ALLISYN:
No.

MELISSA:
Cause I think it is. I think its part of it, Ally.
You didn't need to be there for the delivery. I would've understood if that was too much for you.

ALLISYN:
I want to be there for you, Mel. I really do.

MELISSA:
Just come home. We'll figure it out.