

After the Tone  
Drama

Cast of Characters

1 Men:

All male roles

1 Women:

All female roles

Scene

Hospital Room

Scene 1

*Lights up on a woman in a hospital bed (Director's option).*

*Voicemails are presented one after another downstage with the recording tone transitioning into each recording.*

VOICEMAIL FATHER

Hi Steph, it's your father. Your mother told me to call you to tell you to call her.

*Beat.*

Okay, oh- okay. And are you going to bring her baking sheet back this weekend?

*Away from the phone.*

Yeah, I asked!

VOICEMAIL JESSICA THOMAS

This message is for Stephanie. We wanted to call you in for an interview. We've reviewed your resume and would like to meet with you for an initial interview. Please give us a call at your earliest convenience.

VOICEMAIL JIM

Steph...it's Jim. You left your jacket at the gym last night. I'll bring it to class today. Hey, uh, let me know if you want to grab flunch or something. I mean, uh, lunch, just lunch. I mean, it's not just lunch...but it's not weird or anything. It's...Jim.

VOICEMAIL MOTHER

Stephanie, it is your mother. I'm just going to come out and say it, you don't call me as much since you moved. It's been 2 hours! Is this about a boy? It's a boy, isn't it? I-

VOICEMAIL RICK

Hello Stephanie, this is Rick from Riverside Apartments. We checked into your leak in the kitchen, and it should be all set now! Give us a call if you have any other problems.

VOICEMAIL MOTHER

I think I got cut off. Anyway, I don't know if you're visiting this weekend, but can you bring my baking sheet with you? Your grandmother is in town this weekend and you know how she loves those sugar cookies I make. And maybe this time my cookies won't turn out, what was it, "just like when I was a kid"? I just love when she's in town. You are visiting this weekend, right?

(CONTINUED)

*Beat.*

What? Yeah, I asked her!

VOICEMAIL ROB THYNE

Stephanie, this is Ron Thyne from the dealership, and I wanted to follow up on your visit with us. We appreciated you test driving the Prius, and we can confirm that we have a used one available. As you requested, I wanted to let you know that we can finance it with no money down. Give us a call back, and we can set up an appointment for you to take it home today!

VOICEMAIL MAGGIE

Stephie, it's Maggie. Mom says you are coming over this weekend. And who is that guy writing on your Facebook wall all the time? He likes all your statuses and posted the definition of flunch from Urban Dictionary. What's flunch? Whatever it is, let's get some this weekend.

VOICEMAIL FATHER

Stephanie, it's your father. I need you to give me a call back. Your mother has a question about a band, and I refuse to accept any musician as credible besides Journey.

VOICEMAIL MOTHER

Stephanie, it's Mom. What's that song that goes, "Tonight's gonna be a good night"...it's the band with Fergie Ferg, right? Is Ferg her last name? I only hear her referenced as Fergie Ferg.

*Beat.*

She didn't answer!

VOICEMAIL JIM

Steph, it's...Jim. I really enjoyed the movie tonight. And I'd love to see you tomorrow. I mean, I'd like to see you tomorrow. I wouldn't love to. Love is a big step. I mean, it's a step I'd like to make someday with...people. I hope to take many steps in the future. I mean, I've taken lots of steps with people in the past. Nothing crazy. Anyway, I will talk to you when we talk again..

VOICEMAIL JESSICA THOMAS

Stephanie, this is Jessica Thomas from Global Communication, Inc. I wanted to follow up on our last conversation about the opening. We would like to see you for a second interview with our senior vice presidents. You'll be meeting with Dane and Chris on Thursday if that works for you. Please give me a call at your earliest convenience.

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## VOICEMAIL FATHER

Stephanie, hey, congrats on the new job. You make your father proud.

## VOICEMAIL MELISSA

Hey, it's Melissa, from work! We're all getting together for Happy Hour Friday night if you want to join! It's great to have you on the team.

## VOICEMAIL JIM

Steph...it's Jim. I know you're probably asleep. I kinda just wanted to hear your voice before I went to sleep. I can't stop thinking of you. You probably don't know this, but you help me so much. I liked what you said about fears. You know, you're right. You just have to accept what you can't control. And I get so scared that...that....hold on. Sorry, I wrote down notes to talk about and I'm just scrambling for words. Ah, here we go. I get so scared that I'm going to end up like my dad. He's alone and he's angry. And is that caused from fear? When I'm with you, it's like I'm not afraid of anything. I can do anything, and everything will be okay whether I can control it or not. I guess I wanted to say thank you. And I like you...a lot. Call me in the morning. I always love to receive your calls.

## VOICEMAIL MOTHER

Stephanie, I think we got disconnected. Is everything okay? There was a loud sound in the background. I know you're on your way here, but I wanted to clear the air. I just want to see you happy, and the news just caught me off guard. I mean, I haven't even met this boy! I didn't mean what I said. I think you're capable of making decisions and I think you're intelligent. I do. I'm sorry about the things I said. I love you.

## VOICEMAIL FATHER

Stephanie, your mother and I are on our way right now. Everything is going to be okay.

## VOICEMAIL MAGGIE

Stephie, are you okay? Can you give me a call as soon as possible? I'm so worried. I just heard about what happened!

## VOICEMAIL JIM

Steph! I just heard about the accident. I'm on my way to the hospital right now. God I hope you're okay. I'll be right there. You mean so much to me. Steph...I love you.

## VOICEMAIL JESSICA THOMAS

Stephanie, this is Jessica Thomas from Global Communication. We haven't seen you at the office, and we wanted to give you a reminder that no-call, no-shows are unacceptable at our office. Please give me a call at your earliest convenience.

## VOICEMAIL ROB THYNE

Stephanie, Ron Thyne from Bob's Auto. Sales are hot, hot, hot right now. We have to get you in a Prius this weekend. Call me back and we'll set something up for you.

## VOICEMAIL MOTHER

Stephanie. I don't know why I called. I know you won't answer. I just wanted to hear your voice again.

*Beat.*

I feel like all of our lives paused with you. I've never experienced such an emptiness that forms like when I cried in your unresponsive arms the other night. All I could do is beg for you to come back to us. I'm lost without you. I keep going through your social media, my photos, and my old voicemails to feel like you're in my life again. What's the point to live this life without the one person that knew me best? Sometimes I can't bring myself to leave your side, because I'm so scared that I'll lose you forever. I wake up crying every morning, because the surreal reality sets in after a night of dreaming we are together again. Every good memory has turned to a painful one. I can't stop thinking about the last thing you heard from me. None of it matters anymore.

*Beat.*

I just want you to find peace soon.

*The following voicemails are said quickly with beeps in between cutting into each other faster and faster until the last message.*

## VOICEMAIL FATHER

Stephanie-

## VOICEMAIL MAGGIE

Stephie-

## VOICEMAIL JIM

Steph-

## VOICEMAIL MOTHER

It's your mother-

VOICEMAIL ROB THYNE  
It's Rob Thyne-

VOICEMAIL JIM  
It's Jim-

VOICEMAIL MAGGIE  
It's Maggie-

VOICEMAIL RICK  
Rick from Riverside Apartments-

VOICEMAIL JESSICA THOMAS  
We wanted to call you in for an interview-

VOICEMAIL ROB THYNE  
Test drive-

VOICEMAIL MELISSA  
Happy Hour-

VOICEMAIL FATHER  
I need you to give me a call back-

VOICEMAIL JESSICA THOMAS  
at your earliest convenience-

VOICEMAIL ROB THYNE  
Call me back-

VOICEMAIL MAGGIE  
as soon as possible-

VOICEMAIL MOTHER  
I love you-

VOICEMAIL JIM  
I love you-

*A long, drawn-out tone is heard.*

*End of play.*