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# *ugly but good*

## **Synopsis:**

Learning to be at peace with eventualities and things you know you can't ever know.

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## **Dialogue List:**

you called it time to process  
self-discovery  
falling into your own  
a period of experimentation  
romantically viewing  
infinite potentiality  
the projects you'd start  
the movies you'd watch  
the trips you'd take  
the spring of youth  
they're always talking about it  
the stuff of dreams

it was easy to lose steam  
your pace felt slower  
time felt faster  
you got distracted  
you felt foreign  
people moved forward  
and social media made you feel behind

they moved across the country  
and leased apartments  
to live the dream and do that thing  
they fell in love

some got engaged  
and bought a television  
most of us stayed home  
to figure out how to exist in the world  
you called it support  
and spending time with your family  
but it was mostly fear

searching for a job was  
strange and uncomfortable  
hands perspired and  
bowels were irritated and  
minds went blank and  
voices cracked and  
doubt set it and

you breathed in  
and out

you devised answers to “how are you”  
and asked about the weekend  
and learned about route talk  
you gave pieces of yourself to your coworkers  
working made time stand still  
or speed up  
it depended on the day

you fought over priorities and  
lack of communication and  
pet peeves  
you got belligerent and petulant  
when you didn’t feel heard  
you called off the engagement  
and chose sides

you talked a lot about it  
or not at all  
thinking you could have done more  
or less or  
anything  
you wished you didn’t feel like a slow-motion train wreck  
that could get jealous and anxious and sad

the solitary darkness felt nice  
and understanding  
and natural  
because there weren’t people to bubble wrap you  
or say things would get better  
or talk about the future

you found it hard to trust  
happy people  
the ones that do that thing

where they share food  
and invite you to things  
and are patient  
and kind  
and say stuff  
and breathe

when you got lonely  
you adopted a cat and  
played persona 4  
changed your hair and  
read fanfic  
you developed your first real crush  
which was exciting  
but ultimately disappointing

you listened to podcasts  
for stories that made you feel heartache  
or really anything, to be honest  
it helped a little  
but not really

you felt absent  
and trapped in the past  
to stay in the darkness a little while longer  
to not be fine a little while longer  
to avoid frustration and  
responsibilities and existentials and  
communication and fallibility and  
family and finances  
to be in an abyss  
incapable of  
misconstruing you or  
abandoning you or  
eating your clearly labeled food or  
breaking your things or  
leaving you with a little scar you get  
whenever you let your guard down  
for the possibility of hope  
only for it to snap back at you in disappointment

people change  
but  
they don't change

but

it's a blessing to remember  
spending all night to move out of that disgusting apartment with you  
it's a blessing to remember  
mourning on phone with you over your loss  
it's a blessing to remember  
every late night thai food cry for help with you  
it's a blessing to remember  
coming out to you and validating my identity as a human being  
it's a blessing to feel  
pain  
empathy  
reminisce  
forgive  
let go

to keep doing that thing that you do  
just trying to get by and  
maybe it's supposed to not make sense and  
be uncontrollable and  
not easy and  
cold and  
shameless and  
ugly  
but  
good

so don't hold your breath