

**Context: Elias is staying at Mertis's bed and breakfast with his estranged girlfriend Jenny. Mertis's mysterious friend, Genevieve, listens to them silently from the corner.**

ELIAS

How did you and George meet?

MERTIS

Oh my. That's a long boring story that Genevieve has heard many times before.

*(short pause, to Elias)*

The short version is that we wrote each other letters for two years. And then the day we met we got our marriage license. I remember him walking towards me in the Baltimore airport. I'd never met him before and I'd never even seen his picture.

ELIAS

Did he look like you expected?

MERTIS

He looked the same and he looked different.

I imagined it was what it would be like if you cut me open and showed me my heart or liver for the first time.

ELIAS

Is he gonna be okay?

I mean, is he gonna get better?

MERTIS

I don't know, Elias.

I honestly don't know.

*Pause.*

MERTIS

I will say that meeting him was like walking out of a dark wood. He's not perfect and I'm not perfect and we have our hard times but I remember moving towards him through Terminal 4 and it was like emerging from the cold and into the sun.

Like waking up from the bad dream that was my life before him.

And all the confusion and fear and self-hatred that I'd always felt in the presence of other people...

I was shedding it like a skin.

The spell had ended.

And I remember thinking: everything is possible.

If this is possible, anything is possible.

*After a while:*

**MERTIS**  
Let's listen to some music.