

Snowing at Delphi

Catherine Butterfield

Scene: Upstate New York

Dramatic

Brenda: a woman 9 months pregnant, 20s

Brenda and her friend Allan have traveled to Nick and Sara's upstate home for Christmas. Sara is shocked to discover Brenda's pregnancy is the result of rape. When she asks Brenda if she's angry about her situation, she receives the following philosophical reply.

○ ○ ○

BRENDA: [Yeah, but so what else is new?] I've been angry since about 1972. It feels pretty normal to me. Did Allan ever tell you how we met?

[SARAH: No.]

BRENDA: They were wheeling me into Roosevelt Hospital. I'd tried to off myself, razor blades, you know? It was after the rape thing, I lost my job and they were evicting me, so I kinda thought razor blades was the best way out. But the landlord spoiled my plans and the next thing I knew I was in Roosevelt. Only once I was there they didn't know what to do with me, nobody knew me, no insurance, blah blah. They were going to send me someplace cross town, let me bleed over there. Just about that time Allan walks by. He was just visiting a friend and on his way out he sees what's going on. So he walks over and tells them he's my husband, can you believe that? That he just heard and rushed right over. So they admitted me, and the next day I woke up and there he was. He'd been there the whole time. When I asked him why he did it, he just said, "You needed help." That was it. "You needed help." I've been staying with him ever since. In my book, he's like a god. I know people think he's kind of weird but he's godlike to me.