

Almost Certain – Kim Wiltshire

A beach on a Greek island. It is around 1am. Simon is sat with Jules.

In the distance Mark can be heard calling Simon's name.

The first call, Simon shoos Jules into the bushes, silently.

Mark finds Simon.

Mark Fuck's sake! (Pause) I've been looking all over.

Simon ...

Mark I finally guessed you'd be here.

Simon ...

Mark I woke up.

Simon No shit?

Mark What are you doing?

Simon Looking.

Mark What at? It's freezing,

Simon No it's not.

Mark It fucking is.

Simon No it's not. (Beat) Out there. (Beat) You look out there, and you think, god, it's no wonder the ancients thought this was all there was to their world. It's no wonder that they thought there were monsters and gods hanging around. How else would you explain that? How else could you make sense of that? Listen.

They both listen for a moment.

The waves crash.

Mark Yeah, yeah, it's beautiful. Amazing. Gorgeous. Can we go back to bed now?

Simon I brought the Ouzo. Straight from the freezer. Want some?

Mark No. God, no.

Simon It's delicious.
Mark Are you off your tits?
Simon Hmm.

There is a pause as the waves crash.

Simon swigs from the bottle.

Simon It's so amazing. (Pause) And it's like, well, it's like life isn't it?
Mark No. (Beat) Yes, I don't know, what's like fucking life?
Simon You think you'll go on forever and then you start to realise you won't.
Mark Eh?
Simon You won't, I won't, none of us will.
Mark What're you being so fucking morbid for? Christ!
Simon Sometimes it wouldn't hurt you to think, you know that?
Mark And sometimes it wouldn't hurt you to turn it off for five minutes, you know that? (Pause) OK, what the fuck is this?
Simon (Beat) Just go back to the house, go to bed, it's fine.
Mark Oh, OK. I'll just leave you here shall I?
Simon Yep.
Mark Yeah, course, cos that makes complete sense. Spent an hour or more searching fucking everywhere for you, but no, let's just leave you here. Yep. No worries. OK, see you later.

Mark makes to go.

Simon See you hon.
Mark Are you fucking mental? I'm not going anywhere. Not without you. Come on now, back to bed.

There is silence.

Jules appears. She is heavily pregnant.

Mark What the fuck? Have you been eavesdropping love?

Simon This is Jules.

Mark Right?

Simon I was here with Jules.

Mark Right.

Simon I love you, remember that.

Mark Right.

Simon But... that's my kid.

Pause for a moment.

Simon Well, say something.

Mark Congratulations?

Simon No.

Mark You going to make an honest woman of her?

Simon No.

Mark She fucking speak?

Simon No. Not much.

Jules Hi.

Mark Yeah, hi.

Pause

Mark Well, I'd best get back to *our* house, I'll leave you two lovebirds alone.

Simon No, it's not like that.

Mark Seems fucking like that to me.

Simon She's... Jules, tell him?

Jules ...

Simon She's with someone too, they can't... so anyway we got chatting and then, this happened, and I thought that would be that, but then ... well that isn't that. We've got some sorting to do.

Mark Have you now?

Simon No, we, you and me. I was going... in the morning, when you'd slept, I thought that would be better... but now... well, I thought maybe, well we can talk about it now.

Mark Talk about what now.

Simon About us?

Mark Us, or us. (Indicates couples)

Simon Us. Becoming parents.

Mark OK, now I know you've finally fucking flipped into lala land.

Simon What?

Mark At our age?

Simon It's not... I mean, we might still... you know.

Mark OK, this is what is going to happen now. I'm going home. I'm going to sleep. In the morning, you will be by my side in bed, and we will never, never, never talk about this again. Nice to meet you love.

Simon Mark! Mark! Don't be like that love. Mark!

Mark exits.

Jules walks and sits by Simon.

A moment.

Simon He'll come round. He will. He'll come round.

Jules Yeah?

Simon Yeah. I'm almost certain of it love, almost certain.

The End.