

COMA GIRL

an original web series by

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FADE IN:

1 INT. HOSPITAL - NURSE'S STATION - EVENING

1

An energetic motherly type, PATSY (early 60s) is chatting with a no-nonsense nurse, KATE (early 30s), who's sitting behind the desk, and a slouchy, skater type orderly MIKE (early 20s) who's leaning against the desk. Patsy is fussing with a bouquet of lilies in a vase.

KATE

Those are so pretty, Patsy.

PATSY

They aren't they? They're one of Stella's favorite flowers. She loves the smell.

Mike leans in for a sniff.

MIKE

Nice. She's gonna love 'em.

Patsy smiles, a hint of sadness at the corners of her eyes.

PATSY

I know!

2 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

2

A deathly quiet room. The only sounds are the beeping of a heart monitor and the very quiet breathing of a pretty young woman, STELLA, 31, who is lying abnormally still on the bed, asleep. Her hair is long, her eyebrows bushy, and her skin extremely pale, almost waxen.

Music from a small CD player on the nightstand plays. It's one of those meditation tunes complete with pan flutes, the sound of ocean waves and the faint call of birds. In short, horrendous.

CLOSE ON Stella's hand, which is lying curled at her side. Suddenly, the baby finger on her left hand begins to twitch. Then her eyes begin to flutter and finally they open. She turns her head and the room comes into focus.

It's a strangely homey hospital room with a throw rug, inspirational posters on the wall, a fake Tiffany lamp set on a small table along with a collection of teddy bears, a vase of drooping rose, a framed photo of Stella with her two best friends (LEANNE and JAY) and a younger Stella with her parents.

By the window is an overstuffed recliner flanked by a small table that has a china mug, reading glasses and a crafting magazine on it.

Stella, looking very confused, struggles to sit up in bed. She looks down at herself. She's wearing a high-necked flannel nightgown covered in roses. She opens her mouth, and a croaky voice emerges.

STELLA

Oh my god, I'm freaking Laura Ingalls Wilder.

With shaking hands, she throws back the covers. She does a double-take. Her toes are painted bubble gum pink and her thin legs are super hairy.

STELLA (CONT'D)

Holy shit!

3 INT. HOSPITAL - NURSE'S STATION - EVENING -- MOMENTS LATER 3

Patsy continues to visit with Kate and Mike.

KATE

So I told him, Tugwan, you better get it together boy, you know what I'm saying?

Mike nods.

PATSY

I told Stella's father the same thing. Not in that exact way of course but my tone was very, very similar.

Kate nods sagely.

4 INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS 4

CLOSE ON feet in fuzzy bedroom slippers taking halting steps.

Pan up to reveal Stella walking through the hallway, dragging her IV bag with her. Just a little walking dead...

SFX: A laugh from O/C

Stella stops, excited. She disappears around the corner as fast as her IV bag and stiff legs allow.

5 INT. HOSPITAL - NURSE'S STATION - EVENING -- MOMENTS LATER 5

Mike is telling his story now.

MIKE

Marcy, dude, I said, you know I'm totally into you, but you gotta let me be me, right?

Patsy and Kate nod. Then, Kate catches sight of something behind Patsy. Her eyes widen. Mike turns to look at what she's reacting to. His mouth drops open. Stella is standing behind Patsy.

PATSY
What? What's wrong?

Kate and Mike shake their heads, still in shock. Patsy turns to face Stella, holding the vase of flowers.

STELLA
Hey mom.

Patsy screams and drops the vase to the ground. It shatters.

STELLA (CONT'D)
Wow, do I look that bad?

Patsy swoons in shock. Mike catches her in a dead faint.

6 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- EVENING

6

Stella sits in bed, talking with a distinguished neurologist DOCTOR WU (late '50s). He's just finished checking her eyes.

STELLA
Is my mother going to be okay?

DOCTOR WU
She suffered a shock but we've got her sedated. She'll be fine in the morning.

STELLA
I guess I must have been out of it for a while for her to react like that - huh?

DOCTOR WU
Ms Petrov, what is the last thing you remember before you woke up?

STELLA
It's fuzzy, but I remember I was driving to meet my friend Jay. It was the day before my 30th birthday.
(shudders)
And there was a patch of ice and then --
(thinking)
Nothing. I got nothing.
(beat)
So did I get a concussion or something? I must have been out a week, judging from my legs.

DOCTOR WU

Ms Petrov, you were indeed in an accident and you suffered head trauma. But it was more serious than a concussion.

(beat)

This may be difficult for you to comprehend but you have been in a coma state for nearly 14 months.

Stella screams.

STELLA

14 months? So that means I'm 31?

7 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- EVENING

7

Stella sits in the easy chair in her room, staring into space. She picks up the crafting magazine, flips through, starts to read and then realizes what she's doing and slams it shut.

LEANNE

Stel!

Stells jumps up.

STELLA

Lee!

LEANNE, 30, wiry and boyish, grabs her in a bone-crushing hug.

STELLA (CONT'D)

(gasping for breath)

Wow, strong. You've been working out.

Leanne lets go and wipes away tears.

LEANNE

I can't believe you're awake.

STELLA

I can't believe I was in a coma. I feel like a freak. Or that guy in that Sandra Bullock movie.

LEANNE

Peter Gallagher. *While You Were Sleeping*! The eyebrows on him. Classic.

Stella sits down on the bed.

STELLA

What happened to me?

LEANNE

It was bad. You had the accident and then you didn't wake up. Your mom basically moved into the hospital. Me and Jay visited you like every week. Your mom was sure you'd wake up one day if we kept talking to you. And playing the Zamfir tapes.

STELLA

Pan flutes - yuck.

LEANNE

She knew you hated it - so she figured if she kept it on - you'd wake up just to let her know.

Stella tears up.

STELLA

My mother is in shock and sedated, and I feel like I'm in Black Mirror episode. I guess I don't have a job anymore?

LEANNE

Nope.

STELLA

My apartment?

LEANNE

We moved all your stuff to your mom's.

STELLA

So I'm homeless, have no muscle tone and I'm 31. Do I own a multitude of cats?

LEANNE

Not yet, but there's always time.

They laugh.

LEANNE (CONT'D)

Is there anything you need?

STELLA

That's a loaded question.

LEANNE

I can hook you up with whatever you want - Fritos, moon pies, Netflix?

STELLA

What I really need is some supplies -
a razor, waxing strips, tweezers.

She pulls up her nightgown to reveal her legs.

STELLA (CONT'D)

I'm practically Sasquatch.

LEANNE

You got it.

STELLA

You're the best. I mean it.

LEANNE

(mimics Arnold
Schwarzenegger)

I'll be back.

Stella rolls her eyes. Leanne dashes out of the room.

8 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- LATER

8

Leanne sits on the recliner, her leg bouncing up and down with pent up energy. Stella emerges from the bathroom. She twirls.

STELLA

How do I look?

LEANNE

Like Holly Hobbie's cuter sister.

STELLA

Shut up. But I am hairless thank
you very much. And I managed to do
my eyebrows. Which hurt like a mo---

JAY

Stella!

JAY, 29, cute in a John Krasinski kind of way, grabs Stella in a hug. Then backs off like she's on fire.

JAY (CONT'D)

I'm not hurting you am I?

Stella shakes her head. Jay hugs her again. A mushy look crosses Stella's face. She catches Leanne watching her. Leanne grins.

JAY (CONT'D)

I can feel your ribs. You're so
skinny.

They let go.

STELLA
I've always wanted someone to tell
me that. Maybe the coma diet could
be the next big thing.

Jay is shaking his head, overcome with emotion. Stella looks
at him concerned.

STELLA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

JAY
The day of your accident you were
coming to meet me. I feel terrible.

LEANNE
He's been on a such a guilt trip.

STELLA
Stop it! From what I remember I
asked you to meet me.

JAY
You remember! Do you remember what
you wanted to talk to me about?

STELLA
(beat)
Ah, that's a bit fuzzy. But I'm
sure it'll come back to me.

A pretty over-made blonde, MARGOT (30) comes dashing into
the room on high-heeled boots.

MARGOT
You are awake! We were hoping and
praying. You're a miracle. Isn't
she a miracle, Jay?

STELLA
(stunned)
Margot? What are you doing here?

Margot puts her arm through Jay's possessively.

MARGOT
You didn't tell her?

STELLA
Tell me what?

MARGOT
We're together! And we have you to
thank.

Stella looks at Leanne who looks contrite and mouths "I was going to tell you".

JAY

When you were asleep, Margie was one of the people who read to you.

MARGOT

And then one thing led to another!

STELLA

Wow, I did all that in a vegetative state. I guess I am a miracle.

9 INT. HOSPITAL ROOM -- NIGHT

9

Stella is wide awake, brooding. She sits up and looks over at the bed next to her. In it her mother is sleeping soundly. Quietly, Stella gets up and puts on a fuzzy robe with patchwork flowers on it.

She sighs and reaches in the pocket, surprised. She pulls out a little packet. A post-it note on it reads "Super Secret Supply. xo L." She opens the packet and pulls out a joint and a lighter. She grins and shakes her head.

STELLA

Lee, you naughty girl.

Stella slips on her fuzzy slippers and tiptoes out of the room.

10 INT. HOSPITAL ENTRANCE -- NIGHT

10

The elevator opens and Stella steps out and directly into a crush of REPORTERS and PEOPLE who start snapping pictures and yelling to her.

VARIOUS PEOPLE

It's her! It's the miracle girl!
Coma Girl, give us a smile!

A stunned Stella is blinded by the flashes that go off in her face.

THE END