

THE FORMATIVE YEARS

by

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SETTING — Bedroom.

CHARACTERS — FATHER and MOTHER. (Or: MOTHER 1 and MOTHER 2.) Young parents-to-be.

AT RISE — FATHER and MOTHER are in bed, their hands on MOTHER's very pregnant belly.

FATHER

...So, Harvard, definitely.

MOTHER

Oh, without question.

FATHER

And can we please stop putting this off? We need to figure out his extracurriculars.

MOTHER

Her extracurriculars, I think you mean?

FATHER

It's strange. You keep saying "her" when you know for a fact that it's going to be a boy.

MOTHER

Girls have a higher life expectancy.

FATHER

Boys are privileged. They have it easier.

MOTHER

Privilege breeds sloth. Entitlement.

FATHER

...I think living in America does that.

MOTHER

We're going to need a plan. If we're just prepared for all the things that will stand in her way...

FATHER

But how can we possibly prepare for everything?

MOTHER

Because we have to! Just... one thing at a time, okay? Let's parse this step by step, otherwise we're... going to get overwhelmed.

FATHER

(deep breath)

...Okay. Well. Harvard has a preschool program; that could be an excellent "in."

MOTHER

She could make connections there.

FATHER

Exactly. Valuable connections. And so early on!

MOTHER

But then we can't slouch. Elementary, middle, and high school all need to be just as good.

FATHER

Or better. Private, naturally. That's not even a question. And tutors. Many, many tutors...

MOTHER

This is going to cost a lot of money.

FATHER

No price is too high. We're going to need better jobs.

MOTHER

The best jobs.

FATHER

But you'll be staying home for the first year, of course.

MOTHER

Absolutely not.

FATHER

Are you kidding me? What about the... effects of breast milk on cognitive ability! There is so much research.

MOTHER

Pump and dump, baby.

FATHER

(makes a face)

...Okay, let's move on.

END OF SAMPLE

To request the whole script, email brandon.crose@gmail.com.