

**ON YOUR OWN**

From *The Inconvenient Miracle*

Book by Emily Claire Schmitt

Music and Lyrics by Emily Rose Simons

Story by Emily Claire Schmitt and Ria T. DiLullo

VANESSA

A BUNCH OF CELLS AND A BUNCH OF GOOP,  
ARE GROWING IN MY UTERUS.  
I'VE BEEN MAKING A DIARY  
OF MY SYMPTOMS AND FEELINGS  
SO I CAN BE STUDIED BY SCIENTISTS.  
THAT WOULD BE PRETTY COOL.  
I MEAN, THIS THING IS KINDA NEAT!  
I MIGHT BE THE NEXT STEP IN EVOLUTION  
TO FINALLY MAKE MEN OBSOLETE!

FLORENCE

Ha!

VANESSA

BUT THEN WHO WOULD I BE?  
WHAT WOULD PEOPLE MAKE HIM BECOME?  
CHOOSING TO HAVE THIS BABY  
WOULD BE DELUSIONAL, SELFISH AND DUMB

FLORENCE

Not dumb.

VANESSA

I COULD NEVER DO THIS ON MY OWN  
THERE'S NO WAY I ALONE  
COULD LIMIT ALL THE INSANITY  
I HAVE FAILED TO CONTROL.

FLORENCE

You shouldn't have to.

VANESSA

MAYBE THIS THING COULD DISPROVE IT ALL  
ONCE IT'S FULLY GROWN.  
I THINK I WANT TO DO THIS,  
BUT I KNOW I CAN'T DO THIS  
ON MY OWN.

FLORENCE

AFTER ALL THESE SIGNS, AND ALL THESE YEARS,  
I KNOW THIS IS MY SECOND CHANCE.

I'VE BEEN TENDING A GARDEN,  
PLOUGHING AND PRAYING  
WAITING FOR MEANING.  
~~BUT MEANING IS SUPERFLUOUS  
WHEN THERE'S MORE IMPORTANT THINGS IN STORE  
A LIFE OF PLACIDLY WAITING IS POINTLESS  
IF THIS IS WHAT I WAS WAITING FOR.~~

VANESSA

HEY, THIS THING CAN'T BE YOUR "MEANING"  
THIS THING CAN'T BE YOUR SIGN  
IF THIS THING BECOMES A PERSON,  
THEN THEIR LIFE IS THEIRS TO DEFINE.

FLORENCE

THEN I CAN'T DO THIS ON MY OWN  
THERE'S NO WAY I ALONE  
COULD LIMIT ALL MY BELIEFS  
THAT WOULD TAMPER WITH THEIR SOUL.  
I WILL NEED YOUR INFLUENCE,  
THAT ATTITUDE OF YOURS,  
I SHOULDN'T USUALLY CONDONE  
I TRULY WANT TO DO THIS,  
BUT I KNOW I CAN'T DO THIS  
ON MY OWN.

VANESSA

But you do know you're like- old right?

FLORENCE

Young Lady. It is the year twenty-twenty-two. Sixty-seven is the new forty. And forty is the age for babies.

*(Beat.)*

I'm a spring chicken.

VANESSA

YOU CAN'T GIVE THEM A BAPTISM

FLORENCE

YOU CAN'T STOP THEM FROM HAVING FAITH

VANESSA

I REFUSE TO LET THEM THINK THEY'RE JESUS

FLORENCE

I WON'T LET THEM FALL FOR ANY NONSENSE.

VANESSA

LET THEM BE A CONTRADICTION

FLORENCE  
LET THEM LOVE THE UNANSWERED UNKNOWN

VANESSA  
LET THEM LIVE A LIFE OF THEIR CHOOSING  
BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY...

FLORENCE/VANESSA  
DON'T DO THIS ON YOUR OWN  
THERE'S NO WAY YOU ALONE  
COULD MAKE  
THEIR LIFE FEEL WHOLE  
YOU WILL NEED MY INTELLIGENCE - MY HUMILITY  
AND MORE LOVE  
THAN YOU AND I HAVE EVER SHOWN  
IF I DO THIS,  
I CAN NOT DO THIS  
ON MY OWN.

BUT IF I'M WITH YOU,  
I PROMISE YOU  
YOU WILL NEVER BE ON YOUR OWN.

*(They embrace.)*