

BABY IN A DRAWER

By Sara Page

INT. POST-APOCALYPTIC HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Fertility posters cover the waiting room walls. PATIENTS in everyday clubbing attire wait to see the doctor. There's a disco ball on the ceiling, casting sparkles everywhere.

LIN-D, mid-twenties, scrawny and blonde, dressed in a black party dress and feather boa, waits to see the doctor. She is doubled over in pain as she sits on a bench in the hospital waiting room.

Lin-D purses her lips and blows her hair out of her face.

She notices a leaflet display on reproduction and grabs one, using it to fan herself.

P-TAY RO, one of the office doctors, is part man and part bird. He whizzes through the waiting area with a bunch of papers and notices Lin-D groaning on the bench.

P-TAY RO

Hey! Are you okay?

Lin-D groans loudly as the doctor moves her to a lying down position on the bench and props her head up with a towel.

Lin-D spreads her legs a bit in agony. The doctor gasps.

P-TAY RO

Oh my God! I think you're having a baby!

LIN-D

What, I'm pregnant?

PATIENT #1

What? She's having a baby?

It's time to party!

The party-crazed patients dance and play music on a portable boombox.

P-TAY RO

Do you identify as a Party Person  
Or a Birdman? Is there anybody I can  
Call for you?

LIN-D

Party Person, duh. My boyfriend, but  
he's not picking up.

P-TAY RO

Nurse! Get a stretcher over  
here, stat!

P-Tay Ro rushes off to get the stretcher with the nurse.

The partying people dance around Lin-D, yelling and having  
a good time.

Lin-D squeals loudly and out pops an egg between her legs  
into the hands of one of PATIENT #2.

Patient #2 looks at the slimy bloody egg.

PATIENT #2

Ew, gross!

They throw the egg at Lin-D, who takes it gently in her  
arms.

The patients stop and stare at Lin-D with her egg. They  
slowly back away.

P-Tay Ro returns with the nurse. He stops and gasps,  
pointing.

P-TAY RO

Oh my, it's a baby bird!

Lin-D gingerly comes to a sitting position, wipes mucus  
off the egg, and cradles it.

The egg reflects the disco colors of the room, and Lin-D stares down at it, falling in love.

LIN-D

Baby. You're beautiful.

EXT. PARTY PEOPLE DISTRICT - NIGHT

Lin-D wheels her new egg baby home in a hot pink stroller decked out with glitter and sequins.

Other PARTY PEOPLE in the street give her a wide berth, noticing the egg in the stroller.

An OLD PARTY GRANNY gives her a look of disgust.

Lin-D doesn't care, she's enraptured by her egg baby.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

TAY-TAY, Lin-D's boyfriend, is asleep in their cardboard box bed on the floor. He is tall and super thin, decked out in black leather, fishnets, and candy necklaces.

He pokes his head out from under a blankie and looks around sleepily.

Tay-Tay notices one leg of the baby stroller.

He slowly ascends out of the box, and raises his arms up over his head as if he were performing a gymnastics trick.

He turns and gives Lin-D a smile and stomps towards her.

TAY-TAY

Yo! Babe! Whazzap?

Lin-D, hair now fresh in cute pigtail braids, is making a nest of crazy colored socks around her egg. She's turned the sock drawer into a sort of shrine bed. The egg is surrounded with glowing lights, baby toys and an egg timer.

LIN-D

Where've you been? I called you  
a thousand times! You're gonna  
be a daddy!

Lin-D points excitedly at the egg.

Tay-Tay stares at it, bringing his chin to rest over  
Lin-D's shoulder. He looks puzzled.

TAY-TAY

An egg? Are you sure it's yours?  
Do you even know how to take care  
of it?

LIN-D

Of course I do. I'm a mom now. It's  
'instinct'.

TAY-TAY

Whatever. I'm gonna par-tay!  
Catch ya later, babe!

Tay-Tay rolls his eyes and prances off down the stairs.

Lin-D looks after him in dismay, then shrugs and turns  
back to the egg.

She sets the egg timer and puts it on a ribbon around her  
neck. It ticks loudly.

Lin-D lies down in the box bed to go to sleep, watching  
the egg.

BEGIN MONTAGE SEQUENCE, featuring the egg timer ticking  
and crazy 80's synth.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Lin-D wears an ancient 80's workout leotard. She does  
lunges, punching a rubber chicken tied to a pole between  
reps.

The egg is visible in the background.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Lin-D is dressed in a rain parka and a feather boa. She jogs down the alley with the egg in a baby stroller.

INT. BEDROOM -NIGHT

Lin-D assembles a box castle.

She drinks chocolate milk and daydreams of what her baby might look like when it hatches. She turns to look at the egg.

In the background, Tay-Tay looks at dating apps on his phone.

Lind-D gives him a look, but he ignores her.

Lin-D resumes painting.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Lin-D wears jogging clothes. She runs with the egg in a baby stroller, now in the opposite direction.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The egg shrine is in total shadow.

The shrine socks pull back from the egg. The world fades away around the egg.

The egg is shown like the moon, the background fades to darkness, and the egg moves as if in orbit.

Lin-D's face reflects on the moon.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Snow falls on the egg.

END MONTAGE SEQUENCE.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Lin-D, in casual business clothes, walks down the alley with the egg in the stroller.

She runs into P-TAY RO, the hospital doctor.

P-TAY RO

Look who it is! How is the little bird baby?

LIN-D

Still incubating away.

P-TAY RO

And you're following your egg hatching guide?

LIN-D

Yeah.

P-TAY RO

Well it was good to see you, I'm glad you're doing ok.

P-Tay Ro waves goodbye to the egg and sets off.

Lin-D waves back, then looks down at the egg.

At that moment Tay-Tay appears. He gasps, seeing P-Tay Ro as he takes his leave. Tay-Tay storms towards Lin-D.

TAY-TAY

Hey! Are you cheating on me?  
That's why it's an egg right?  
You fornicated with a bird!

LIN-D

No I didn't! I didn't even know!

TAY-TAY

Like hell you didn't, you lying duck. Now give me the kid!

Lin-D backs away from Tay-Tay with the stroller.

He approaches her until they are up against the wall.

He tries to wrestle the stroller from her.

Back and forth they butt heads against each other, smushed noses and foreheads, pushing and pulling on the stroller.

The egg rocks precariously back and forth in the stroller between them.

TAY-TAY

I could tell everyone that you're not really a party person anymore but it's already obvious!

LIN-D

No wonder that she hasn't hatched! I hate you! She hates you too!

Tay-Tay backs away, hands up.

TAY-TAY

I'm out, and I'm taking the bed box.

Tay-Tay storms off.

Lin-D cries out with frustration. She is shocked that her voice sounds a bit... crow-like.

Night begins to fall. Lin-D collects herself and heads home.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lin-D carries the egg and stroller upstairs into the bedroom.

She puts down the stroller and looks at the outline on the floor where the cardboard box bed used to be.

DING!

Lin-D pulls the egg timer out of her pocket and looks at it.

It's broken, the spring popping out.

She throws it in the trash can.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Sounds of bubbling water.

Lin-D sits with the egg next to a pot of boiling water on a camp stove.

Lin-D takes a deep breath, then plunges the egg in the pot.

Darkness.

A spoon hits the egg shell, followed by a cracking sound, the sounds of the removal of the egg's shell.

INT BEDROOM - LATER

Lin-D begins to eat the cooked egg.

After a bite she licks the spoon and yolk runs down her face.

She licks her lips.

Lin-D puts down her spoon and pauses.

Slowly feathers sprout from her hair.



She laughs and laughs.

Her laughing turns into bird cawing sounds.

Lin-D turns into a bird.

End.

FADE OUT.

Sara Page ©