

The animal clinic, late afternoon. Andy and Piper are in the middle of an argument, after Piper came to visit Andy to discuss their relationship.

PIPER: So, Andy, what you're saying is that this relationship has no future?

Silence

ANDY: Look, Piper, I'm sick, my life isn't going anywhere. You still have your whole life in front of you -

PIPER: I don't care about that! I love you, Andy. And I love Australia. All I want is to stay here (pause) and take care of you.

ANDY: Your life is set on the most amazing course, don't get stuck here with me. If you stay here, I would just be a huge burden for you. I'm not going to let you do this.
Besides, what about Harry??

PIPER: What about him..?

Piper looks down, embarrassed.

ANDY: Do you really think I don't know you were cheating on me with him? And then you come here saying you love me.

Andy starts getting frustrated.

PIPER: I only did that because I thought you didn't love me anymore, I thought we'd broken up.

ANDY: It doesn't matter. How could you betray me like that, Piper? And with a fucking coal mining guy, no less.

PIPER: I'm sorry, it was a mistake. But just so you know, Harry's helping us save the forest, he's not a bad guy.

ANDY: Wow, the situation is even worse than I thought... I can't believe you bought into his propaganda.

PIPER: It's true Andy, he's helping us save the tiger quoll.

ANDY: No! He's gonna ruin the forest with his mining. You can't trust him.

PIPER: Harry is trying to make a change ... [Gets interrupted by Andy]

ANDY: [Aggressively interrupts Piper] Bullshit! It's lies and bullshit, mate.

PIPER: please listen to me!

ANDY: Whatever. I can't do this anymore. You should go. Just leave me alone.

Andy looks down. Piper doesn't leave and just stands there staring at him.

ANDY: You're gonna miss your flight to New York, anyway...

PIPER: And what's going to happen when I get back? You know I'm only leaving for a week to visit Beast before his surgery.

ANDY: Which is very stupid, if I may add.

PIPER: It is not!! How could you say that? He is just sick- much like you.

ANDY: He is also very old. And much like me, he probably can't be cured. He should just be put out of his misery. A sick animal doesn't deserve to be kept alive suffering, it is only *human* to end his misery.

PIPER: You mean kill him? Like you did the tiger quoll? I could never do that. That's just too cruel.

ANDY: It's not as cruel as letting him live, and then die a horrible, painful (pause) death. Trying to save him will just lead to sadness, Piper.

PIPER: [Frustrated] Andy, Beast is like my brother, and I am never going to give up on him. Just like I'm not going to give up on you.

ANDY: Well, too bad it's not up to you. Can't you see I am a lost cause? There's a better chance for you to save the tiger quoll species than saving me. Plus, they're almost extinct because of me, remember? It's not like I deserve anything more than the quoll I've killed...

Short Silence

Besides, I don't want you to stick around here and see how this disease changes me. It's not going to be pretty.

PIPER: Andy, please, I can't just leave...

ANDY: Yes, you can, Piper. This is where this ends. I won't let you be a part of it. You're better off without me, anyway.

Andy walks out. Piper is left completely alone.

WRITTEN EXPLANATION

In our script, the two starring characters are Andy and Piper Ross. We are performing a dialogue in which the two characters are having an argument about the future of their relationship, while also bringing up other topics of disagreement they have had over the course of the play. It is taking place after Piper already knows Andy is sick and is just about to leave to New York, and she is trying to save their relationship. We focused on Piper's strong maternal and caring emotions, and her refusal to give up on the ones she loves, even when it is pointless or when she continuously gets rejected. Meanwhile, we attempted to bring out Andy's gloomy feelings about his disease, and his belief that he would only ever be a burden on those he cares about. The purpose of my piece is to explore the complexity behind the seemingly trivial issues segregating Piper and Andy. For example, to bring out how Andy's opinions on suffering and euthanizing animals are reflected by how he views his own chronic illness, and how he would want his doctors to treat him.

We chose to include lots of interruptions, frustration and anger to highlight the negative and almost aggressive tone of the interaction and Andy and Piper's opposing views. We have included the way both of the characters speak, Andy uses casual language and words like 'Mate', 'Bullshit' while Piper had an apologetic tone through the whole dialogue she was the one who would feel guilty 'please listen to me!'. We attempted to show that neither of them is enjoying Andy's rejection, and tried to express Andy's inner struggle through his body language and his will to be left alone because he cannot stand hurting Piper. We opened the scene with a sentence similar to the one from the original text, where Piper was slowly coming to the conclusion that her relationship is lost. We also included some quotes, such as Andy saying to Piper "your life is set on the most amazing course, don't get stuck here with me" and "it will just lead to sadness".