

LOVE IS SUBJECT

by

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INT. HOME - AFTERNOON

A typical 1980s home.

The room is divided into two sides by a curtain, the living room is on the right, and the desk and chairs are on the left. There is a mirror in the living room, and there is a photo of a man and a woman on the table. The sunlight directly lighting the curtain.

A MAN is smoking outside the window of the office, and the sunlight creates a shadow of him on the curtain.

A WOMAN enters the living room.

WOMAN

[Sigh] I am here just to say that, I think we might need to talk.

The woman sits on the sofa.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I went to the hospital for a checkup last week. Do you want to know what doctor said? [Pause] The doctor said I was pregnant. How long have we known each other? I can't remember the days. If it was in the past, you would have taken my hand and told me 'Everything will be fine'. Will you?

The woman picked up the frame and stroked the photo.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

It was as if the two were another couple. [Pause] When we first met each other, you took my hand like crazy and ran down the river. I was out of breath because I was so happy. I look at your back and our holding hands. I was thinking about what our future would look like.

The woman stands up and walks to the mirror.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I might be old. I said that washing dish is tiring, so you bought a dishwasher at home. But lately it seems that I don't even have the strength to put the dishes in. I don't know what's wrong, and I don't know when the wrinkles on my face appeared.

The woman starts yelling at the figure on the curtain.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

What happened to me? What is happening to our lives? How long has it been since you talked to me? Every day you come back when I fall asleep, and you leave after I finish cooking in the morning. Do you still have this home in your heart? What to do after having a child?

The woman picks up the frame, ready to throw it at the figure. But she holds up the frame and cries slowly. She puts the frame back in place.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

What's wrong, what's wrong with me.

Woman looking in mirror.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

When did I become such a person?
When did my life become like
this? When did I get so old?

The man opens the door of the living room and sees the woman crying in the mirror.

MAN

What's the matter with you,
darling?

WOMAN

I have no idea. I don't know
what's wrong with us. I'm old.

MAN

It's okay, it's okay. I still
love you no matter what.

WOMAN

I don't know, I feel, everything
has changed.

MAN

They will change. But I am here.

WOMAN

If only you were the same as
before.

MAN

I have always loved you.

WOMAN

True love is speechless. True
love is speechless. You said that
in the wedding.

MAN

Yes, true love is speechless.

WOMAN

But how could you do that.

MAN

How could I?

WOMAN

How is our life like this?

MAN

Like what? I have tried my best
to improve our lives. We have a
beautiful home. The night we'd
rather get in the rain than pay
for a hotel stay will never come
again.

WOMAN

No, no, no, not like that.

MAN

I feel guilty for you. Our wedding couldn't be magnificent. We didn't have a diamond ring. We slept in a motel. I really feel guilty.

WOMAN

What about now? Are you still feeling any guilty now?

MAN

What's so bad about it?

WOMAN

Why don't you just understand? When did you become such a person?

MAN

Where have I changed? What's wrong with me?

WOMAN

After cleaning the house every day, I just sit there and watch TV.

The man interrupts the woman.

MAN

There's a lot of people I know they can't afford this house and watch TV!

WOMAN

Can you shut up! You are really unreasonable. Do you even care about me?

MAN

I don't care about you? Last time my boss asked me to go on a weekend business trip, I turned it down because I went out with you to see the nature park.

WOMAN

So now am I a burden? When did I become a burden? Didn't you say care?

MAN

I didn't say that! You still think I don't care about you?

WOMAN

Stop talking! You don't understand me at all.

MAN

You need to calm down, maybe we can go to the movies tonight.

Woman interrupts man

WOMAN

I say you stop talking!

Silence.

WOMAN

The old life will never go back. [Pause] Why. Why, tell me, what happened to our lives? Even let you talk you can't make any sense, and you don't care much about this family. What to do when you have kids. What do you propose. [beat] Say it, Say it!

MAN

We don't have children yet, when did we have children? Even if I have children, how can I be careless?

Woman interrupts man

WOMAN

What! I said no talking, can you shut up!

The man was very helpless. He looks at the woman for a while, then leave the room and goes outside to smoke again.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Always like this. Our conversations are always this way.

The woman sat on the sofa. The shadow of the man reappeared on the curtain.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I remember we used to fight too, and you always comforted me. You are always so gentle. Isn't it?

The woman puts down the frame and looks at the figure on the curtain.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I think you probably remember the time before we got married. We saved a lot of money and went to Venice. But it rained heavily that night. No one knew that the rain would last all night.

[laughs] You put your arms around me and I fell asleep. When I woke up in the morning and saw that you were soaking wet, but my clothes were all dry. I knew then that you are not a man who is going to let me down.

The woman looks at the shadow on the curtain.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

I love you.

THE END