

B

by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A murky forest, so thick with trees that their branches are all knotted together.

A young GIRL (10) shovels soil onto a small mound of dirt.

The girl wears a pretty dress. The colors of her striped stockings match the colored ribbons in her long dark hair.

She looks like the sort of girl you would find in a fairy tale, or sitting on Granny's knee.

Two sticks lashed together form a cross that marks the dirt mound as a grave.

The girl wipes the sweat from her brow. Clearly she has worked hard to make this grave.

Satisfied with her work, the girl turns her back on the grave and walks away.

Nailed to the cross is a piece of cardboard- a crude attempt at a plaque.

Written on the crude plaque in red crayon is: R.I.P. The late Lilina Ridley. 1999-2009

EXT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The girl sneaks across the front lawn, checks and double checks to see if anyone is watching her.

No one is.

She hides the shovel in the garden.

INT. FRONT DOOR - DAY

The front door opens. The girl is home.

MOTHER (O.C.)  
Lilina Ridley! It's twenty  
minutes past your home time girl!

The girl, who will now be known as LILINA, displays her annoyance pantomime style.

LILINA  
Sorry mum.

MOTHER (O.C.)  
Don't sorry me. Go wash your  
hands. Your dinner's on the  
table.

Lilina does as she is told, stomps down the hall in a huff.

INT. LILINA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

SUPER TITLE ON BLACK: NEXT DAY

A girly girl's room with a princess theme.

Lilina admires herself in a mirror, pleased with her new look.

She looks sharp and classy, the cool girl in the cool designer clothes. Her hair is pulled back tight in a sleek pony tail.

For the final touch, she places a plush toy dog in her handbag that matches the color of her shoes.

Now she is good to go.

INT. FRONT DOOR - LATER

Just as Lilina heads for the front door, this happens . . .

MOTHER (O.C.)  
Lilina Ridley!

Lilina scowls, peeved and displeased.

LILINA  
(Mutters to self)  
Lilina Ridley is dead mum.

MOTHER (O.C.)  
Don't forget to take out the  
garbage.

Lilina pulls a face of utter disgust.

EXT. HOUSE - LATER

Lilina holds the bag of trash as far away from herself as is possible.

She lifts the lid on the garbage bin, drops the bag of yuk into it.

NEIGHBOUR (O.C.)  
 Hey Lilina. Look at you. Very  
 classy.

Lilina rolls her eyes.

LILINA  
 Do I look like Lilina Ridley to  
 you Mr. Back?

NEIGHBOUR (O.C.)  
 Huh?

She strides off- she ain't got time for this.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Jared cruises along the road on his scooter.

He is ten, his long shorts reach to his shins. Not a single worry is attached to his name.

Something on the footpath grabs his attention. His mouth opens wide in shock.

JARED  
 Lilina?

He follows Lilina on his scooter. She struts along like someone important.

JARED  
 Lilina! Oh wow it is you! Why are  
 you dressed like that?

Lilina stops, spins around to snub her nose at Jared.

LILINA  
 Lilina Ridley is dead.

Jared is dumbfounded.

JARED  
 No you're not.

LILINA  
 Not me! I'm talking about Lilina  
 Ridley. She was a weirdo and a  
 freak, so I killed her with a  
 karate chop.

Lilina chops at the air with her hands.

LILINA  
 Pow! Just like that! Then I  
 buried her in a forest.

JARED

Why have you got a toy dog in  
your handbag? Why have you got a  
handbag?

LILINA

Look, all you need to know is  
that Lilina is dead. I'm new and  
improved . . .

Lilina spreads her arms wide, strikes a pose.

LILINA

I am B.

JARED

B?

LILINA

Yes B. As in me.

JARED

Like the letter B?

Lilina stamps her foot, frowns at Jared.

LILINA

What's wrong with you Jared! You  
should be amazed. I'm so cool,  
I've got one letter for my name.

JARED

But . . . but you've already got a  
name.

Lilina skips off backwards, waves farewell to Jared.

LILINA

Sorry Jared. Too slow. I ain't  
got time to wait for you to catch  
up.

She swings around the pole of a street sign.

LILINA

Got to go. I've got people to  
impress.

Jared shakes his head in disbelief as he watches Lilina skip and twirl down the street.

JARED

Crazy.

INT. LILINA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

SUPER TITLE ON BLACK: AND THE DAY AFTER THAT.

A girly girl's room with a princess theme.

Asleep above the sheets of the bed is a blonde girl aged ten. She wears a beautiful regal gown and a sparkling little crown. Gloves up to her elbow complete the outfit.

She is like a true fairy princess.

MOTHER (O.C.)

Lilina Ridley! Are you going to stay in your bed all day?

The girl's eyes snap open. It is Lilina but not in the flesh. We will call her B.

B gasps at the sight of her dress. She leaps out of bed, stands in front of the mirror.

She is in a total panic at the sight of herself in the mirror.

HALL

B bursts into the hall, hikes up her gown as she bolts for the kitchen door.

B

Mum! Mum!

KITCHEN

B is greeted by a high pitched scream.

B

Mum! It's me!

More screams as B ducks to dodge a mop bucket that slams into the wall.

B

I'm Lilina mum!

HALL

B scrambles into the hall as a mop hits her in the back of the head.

MOTHER (O.C.)

GET OUT OF MY HOUSE!

B makes a break for the front door.

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

B stumbles out on to the front lawn.

The front door slams shut.

B

Mum! I don't know how I got like  
this-

MOTHER (V.O.)

I'm calling the police.

B runs up to the front window.

B

Mum! No!

INT. LOUNGE ROOM - MORNING

Outside, B presses her face to the glass of the lounge room window.

B

Mum!

She slaps her hands against the glass.

B

Mummy!

EXT. HOUSE - MORNING

B is distraught, close to tears.

B

Mummy, I'm Lilina. I can prove  
it.

NEIGHBOUR (O.C.)

Hey! That's not your home. Get  
away from there!

The sight of a familiar face brings relief and hope to B.

B

Oh Mr. Back! It's me Lilina!  
Please you've got to help me!

NEIGHBOUR (O.C.)

You look nothing like Lilina you  
dumb kid.

B is devastated by her Neighbour's harsh treatment.

NEIGHBOUR (O.C.)  
It's not Halloween! Buzz off  
before I call the police!

The HOWL of police sirens flips B's panic into hysteria.  
She makes a hasty retreat.

EXT. STREET - DAY

B, the most miserable princess you will ever see.

So heavy is B's sadness, she doesn't even notice Jared ride past her on his scooter.

JARED  
Hey Princess dork! Go kiss a frog.

B snaps out of her mood. Oh boy is she pleased to see Jared.

She runs off down the road after the boy.

B  
Jared! Jared!

Being chased down by a Disney princess freaks out Jared. He stumbles off his scooter.

B  
You got to help me!

JARED  
Hey, if you know me. Why don't I know you?

B  
It's me, Lilina!

JARED  
No you're not. You look nothing like her.

B  
I can explain-

JARED  
Get away from me.

Jared runs behind a parked car.

B chases Jared around the car.

B

I'm Lilina.

Jared stops, looks through the passenger window at Lilina on the other side of the car.

JARED

Ha! So that's why Lilina was being a weirdo yesterday.

B

I was not.

JARED

She's trying to trick me. And you're part of the trick.

B

Hey! I would never- oh yeah, I would.

Jared runs off, snatches up his scooter.

JARED

That's it! I'm mad! I'm gonna find Lilina and then I'm gonna kill her.

He zooms off on his scooter, leaves B all alone.

STREET

B wipes away her tears as she wanders the streets, nowhere to go, no one to turn to.

People passing by turn to look at her as a curiosity, but that's about it.

HOUSE

B sits in the gutter across the road from her house.

Her knees are pulled up under her chin, tears slide down her cheeks as she stares at her home.

WIFE (O.C.)

Look dear, A princess in the gutter.

HUSBAND (O.C.)

By Jeeves, you're right! Now that's just weird.

B looks up at the couple, deeply hurt by their remarks.

She jumps up, hurries along the footpath crying, her arms wrapped round herself.

B  
(to self)  
What will I do?

She stops, a flower garden has caught her attention.

The plastic arm of a doll sticks up out of the dirt.

B bends down, digs around in the garden between the flowers, pulls a naked Bratz doll up out of the soil. Dead leaves and muck clings to its long blonde locks.

She gasps, excited as she is hit by a sudden realization.

B  
I know what to do!

She lifts up her gown as she speeds off down the street.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

B runs through the murky forest.

She carries a shovel.

Abruptly she halts in front of the grave Lilina had dug earlier.

She stabs the shovel into the mound of dirt, begins to dig up the grave.

B grunts as she dumps shovel loads of soil onto the forest floor, digs deeper into the grave.

A peek of red through the dirt.

B drops the shovel, squats down in the hole to grip the red something.

She has it, holds it up in triumph. It is a red, love heart shaped box.

B hugs the box close to her chest.

B  
I am Lilina.

The blonde, regal princess reverts back into the odd girl in a pretty dress and ribbons.

Lilina grins, ecstatic. She twirls and prances around the dug up grave with glee.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Lilina's joy gives her extra bounce as she skips along the footpath.

The red box is tucked under her arm.

JARED (O.C.)  
Hey Lilina!

Jared speeds towards Lilina on his scooter.

JARED  
Where you been? I've been looking  
for you.

Jared jumps off his scooter, crosses his arms as he frowns at Lilina.

JARED  
Why did you trick me?

One look at the red box and Jared's anger dissolves into curiosity.

JARED  
What's you got there?

LILINA  
I'll show you.

She sits down in the gutter, box on her lap.

She pats the cement next to her.

Jared sits down beside Lilina who passes the box to him.

He removes the lid, Looks inside the heart shaped box.

Dozens of photos of Lilina with family and friends.

Jared picks up a photo, grins.

JARED  
I remember this. Wendy's birthday party. You came dressed up as a cat, chased their dog round the house.

LILINA  
It was suppose to chase me.  
That's what dogs do to cats.

Together they laugh. Ah the memories.

Jared looks at another photo, delighted by the memories it conjures.

JARED

You still got Barry the sock  
puppet?

LILINA

Don't you remember? Someone  
grabbed him off my hand.

Jared chuckles.

JARED

Setting up a stall in a shopping  
centre and selling cookies with a  
sock puppet. Man, that was your  
best idea ever.

LILINA

Gee thanks.

The two children sit in the gutter, laughing and talking  
about good times as they look through the photos.

THE END

FADE OUT.