

Last Light
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Last Light

Bubbles, rainbow coloured, float against blue sky.

The view grows fuzzy..

..becoming clear again - it's confetti.

The sounds: CHURCH BELLS ringing, glasses clinking, laughter, happy chit chat, all a bit muted, all the while watching confetti in the air.

It falls on hair - LAUREN's.

She's smiling, a beautiful young bride. Car horns toot to celebrate the wedding, she looks round, as if in slow-motion, her bright white smile caught on video.

INT. LIVING ROOM

In the darkened room, dust flecks float in the beam of a film projector. Someone sits in the darkness watching.

VIDEO TAPE - Lauren's wedding.

The film begins to flicker and, as the projector reel ends, white vertical lines running through the footage, merge into...

White lines in the centre of the road speed towards us, seen via the wing mirror as a car drives.

A car's headlight up ahead flash, almost blinding light.

LAUREN (V.O.)

Light always travels in a
straight line.
Yes, that's it. Is that what he
says?

INT. CAR

A blinding beam of sunlight streams through the window, reflecting off Lauren's engagement ring, multi-coloured specks mirrored on the glass, and inside of the car.

ANNA (6) sits in the car blowing bubbles out the back window. The bubbles blow in the breeze.

Tom (35) folds down the sun-shield, looks in the rear-view mirror, speaks to his daughter Anna as she studies a bubble's rainbow colours.

TOM (V.O.)
 Light travels in a straight line,
 except when diffracted through a
 prism, then the seven colours,
 beautiful colours, become visible
 and they remain true...
 no matter what...

LAUREN (33), looks at TOM, proud of his manner with Anna.
 Lauren, relaxes, turns from him and looks out at the view.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Concentrate on the countryside views.

LAUREN (V.O.)
 We are driving on the motorway,
 going somewhere...

ANNA (V.O.)
 Daddy?

LAUREN (V.O.)
 Must be summer.

ANNA (V.O.)
 Daddy?

The countryside is lovely, fields green, sky blue, she
 watches a bubble float in the air.

LAUREN (V.O.)
 We must be on our way to the sea,
 because Anna is not here.

At this point, the previous images are rewound, rapidly,
 until the bubbles return to the point where Anna was
 blowing one, and then Anna disappears from view, the back
 seat empty, her things, bag, toys, gone.

LAUREN (V.O.)
 Gorgeous little Anna isn't born
 yet.

Video footage - Lauren, slightly younger (hairstyle, make-
 up) looks out the open window. The fields are filled with
 tall yellow flowers - rape seed. Lauren is enthralled. Tom
 zooms the camera in on her face.

LAUREN
 They're beautiful.

Lauren, embarrassed, covers the camera lens with her hand.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

ANNA
You're so beautiful.

Lauren stands in front of a full length mirror, wearing her bridal gown.

Pull back to show this same image, only it's a photo in the wedding album, which Anna's looking at.

There follows a mixture of photos/random possessions, ribbons, postcards, theatre tickets, moving across the screen, like a jigsaw puzzle showing pieces of Lauren's life, childhood, school, graduation.

OLD WOMAN (V.O.)
Beautiful.

Photo of wedding, the happy couple, holiday, baby born, Under sounds of church organ, coughs, a baby crying.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Lauren, the bride, at the aisle.

TOM
I do.

Photo in album - Tom kisses Lauren.

LAUREN (V.O.)
It's the happiest day of my life

TOM (V.O.)
"Our" life.

Sun rays flicker, and the loaves and fishes seem to swim in the light of the stained-glass window.

Photos of Lauren and Tom: in the aisle below that window; cutting the cake; dancing; driving away after the wedding under sounds of tins rattling, pulled by the car, cheers, champagne being popped.

OLD WOMAN (V.O.)
Beautiful, dear, it was just so beautiful.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
You've made us all proud.

A baby's cry over a photo of Lauren and a newborn Anna.

ANNA
 Are you crying? What are you
 crying about?

Anna and Lauren look at a photo of her holding baby Anna.

LAUREN
 I'm crying because I'm so, so
 happy.

INT. CAR - DAY

The beam of a headlight, colours reflect off Lauren's ring.
 She look at his eyes, Tom's kind, serious eyes.

LAUREN (V.O.)
 The light shines, and they remain
 true no matter what.

Tom looks back at her with true love.

TOM
 No matter what.

ANNA
 Daddy?

Lauren looks out the window at the scenery, the rape-seed
 fields, the blue sky, the bubbles floating,dancing in the
 air

ANNA
 (most urgent)
 Daddy!

A sound of brakes screeching, a lorry horn's continuous
 blasting, then a crash, and shattered glass, the world
 spinning.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE

Lauren lies on the grass.

Someone shines a light in her eyes. She looks dazed.

LAUREN
 The light.

TOM
 Don't.

She searches for meaning in his eyes, then sees Anna next to
 him. Anna,looks at Lauren with his same, kind, serious eyes.

ANNA

Daddy?

Tom's on the phone. Lauren tries to listen but his words sound blurred, or from afar.

TOM

(urgent)
Hello?

Lauren, injured from a crash, looks pretty out of it.

LAUREN (V.O.)

What is he saying?

TOM

Hello? Can you hear me?

LAUREN (V.O.)

Are you there? Is anyone there?

An orange ambulance light reflects in the background.

A light from a torch shines straight into Lauren's eyes. They fail to react.

AMBULANCE ATTENDANT

We're losing her.

TOM

Don't. Don't go.

The medics continue to try to revive Lauren using CPR..

LAUREN (V.O.)

What is he talking about?
Who is he talking to? Go Where?

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Anna crawls in bed beside Tom and Lauren. Lauren hugs her.

LAUREN

Go to sleep.

INT. ROOM

Lauren sits in the darkness watching a video of her wedding.

OLD WOMAN (V.O.)

You are so beautiful.

Video footage - Lauren holds baby Anna.

OLD MAN (V.O.)
You've made us all proud.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE

A long beep sounds - as Lauren's heart stops.

Lauren lies on the ground, her eyes looking vacant, blank, lifeless, yet skyward.

Bubbles, many, rainbow coloured, float against blue sky.

Then the screen grows fuzzy fades to white.

LAUREN (V.O.)
I see. I see.
I am so,
so
happy.